

Minutes of the Staffordshire Police, Fire and Crime Panel Meeting held on 3 July 2023

Present: Bernard Peters (Chair)

Attendance	
Charlotte Atkins	Gill Heesom
Adrian Bowen	Angela Loughran
Richard Cox (Vice-Chair)	Dan Maycock
Jo Elson	Keith Walker

Also in attendance: Ben Adams, Helen Fisher, Katharine Ross, David Greensmith, Victoria Farrar and Emily Blandon Selsby.

Apologies: Michael Fitzpatrick and Roger Lees

Part One

1. Declarations of interest

None were made at the meeting.

2. Consideration of proposed appointment to the post of Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer)

The Secretary to the Panel's report explained that the Panel was required to hold a Confirmation Hearing following receipt of formal notification by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner of his wish to appoint his preferred candidate for the post of Director of Finance Section 151 Officer.

The report explained that guidance on the role of the Panel, recommended that through questioning of the candidate they should consider the 'professional competence' and 'personal independence' of the individual. To assist, the Panel had been provided with the preferred candidates CV in advance of the meeting and a job description/person specification was attached to the agenda.

Presentation by the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner

The Commissioner reported on the detailed and lengthy process followed by him to recruit a new Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer for the Commissioners Office.

The Commissioner reported that Katharine Ross was his preferred candidate.

Presentation by and questions to Ms Ross:

Ms Ross briefly summarised her career, work experience and achievements to date.

The Panel questioned her on various issues including her experience of managing change, delivering results, working with partners, agencies and the public and measuring performance.

The Panel adjourned at 12:55 pm to consider their decision.

The Panel reconvened at 13:00 pm. The Commissioner and Ms Ross were re-admitted to the meeting and informed of the Panel's unanimous decision.

RESOLVED – That the Staffordshire Police Fire and Crime Commissioner be informed that this Panel recommends that he proceed with the appointment of Ms Ross as the Director of Finance and Section 151 Officer.

Chair