**Item 2**

**Friday, 13th June 2025**

**The Old Court Room, Town Hall, Wakefield**

**Police & Crime Panel Membership 2025/26**

**1. Purpose**

* 1. The purpose of this report is:
* Inform the Panel of Police & Crime Panel Membership for 2025/26
* Prompt the Panel to consider and confirm Local Authority Co-optees.

**2. Background**

2.1 The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 made provision for the establishment of Police and Crime Panels. The Act made detailed provision on the composition of Police and Crime Panels.

2.2 Where a force area consists of less than ten local authorities, as is the case for West Yorkshire, the number of Panel members is ten, not including the co-opted members.

2.3 Additional councillors may be co-opted onto the PCP, as long as two lay co-optees (independent members) are also included and the Secretary of State approves the co-options.

**3. West Yorkshire Position**

3.1 The West Yorkshire Leaders previously agreed in 2012 that in order to achieve geographical and political balance within the sub-region, a panel of 12 elected members should be sought.

3.2 The Secretary of State agreed to a request for a further local authority co-opted member in 2019 and on the basis that additional local authority membership would provide greater geographical and political balance, bringing the number of local authority members on the Panel to 13.

3.3 It was agreed that the following Councils should hold the following number of seats:

Calderdale 1 + 1 co-optee

Kirklees 2 + 1 co-optee

Wakefield 2

Bradford 2 + 1 co-optee

Leeds 3

3.4 Following annual local elections, political proportionality is reviewed and agreed by the West Yorkshire Local Authority Leaders prior to appointments being made by the local authorities.

3.5 Co-optees are nominated by the local authority and agreed by the Police and Crime Panel at the Annual Meeting, subject to their appointment meeting the balanced appointment objective.

3.6 No local elections were held across West Yorkshire on May 1, 2025, so both the apportionment of PCP places to meet political balance across West Yorkshire and the decision that the third additional balancing place was not required remains the same and as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Authority | Local Authority Appointment | | | Places for LA to nominate PCP to appoint | | | |  |
| Lab | Cons | Lib Dem | Lab | Cons | Lib Dem | Green | Total Places per authority |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bradford | 2 |  |  |  |  |  | 1 | 3 |
| Calderdale | 1 |  |  |  | 1 |  |  | 2 |
| Kirklees | 1 |  | 1 |  |  |  |  | 2 |
| Leeds | 2 | 1 |  |  |  |  |  | 3 |
| Wakefield | 2 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Totals** | 8 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 12 |

3.7Independent Co-opted Panel Members are recruited by the Panel through a process of open recruitment. Independent Panel members were recruited in October 2024 for a period of 4 years in line with the term of office of the Mayor of West Yorkshire.

3.8 All members of the Panel, including local authority co-optees and independent co-optees, have equal rights on the Panel.

**4. Panel Membership for 2025/26**

4.1 Local Authority Membership for 2025/26 has been put forward as follows

Bradford: Cllr Chris Hayden (Lab), Cllr Nussrat Mohammed (Lab)

Calderdale: Cllr Ann Kingstone (Lab)

Kirklees: Cllr Gwen Lowe (Lab), Cllr Anthony Smith (Lib Dem)

Leeds: Cllr Eileen Taylor (Lab), Cllr Oliver Edwards (Lab),

Cllr Andrew Carter (Cons)

Wakefield: Cllr Jackie Ferguson (Lab), Cllr Maureen Cummings (Lab)

4.2 Local Authority Co-opted Membership has been put forward for Panel approval as follows:

Bradford: Cllr Celia Hickson (Green)

Calderdale: Cllr Geraldine Carter (Cons)

4.3 Independent Members are:-

Mr Trevor Lake

Mrs Jo Sykes

**5.0 Recommendations:**

5.1 The Panel is asked to:

* Note the 10 local authority appointed members
* Note the 2 independent co-opted members
* Consider and approve the 2 local authority co-opted member nominees set out at 4.2.