



CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
Confirmation Hearing

THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2012, 2.00 PM
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Peterborough, PE1 1HG
Contact – Alexander.daynes@peterborough.gov.uk, 01733 452447

AGENDA

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Membership:

Councillors: M McGuire, J D Ablewhite, M Curtis, G Elsey, N Khan, J Palmer, B Shelton, T Bick, I Walsh, R West and K Wilkins

Independent Co-optees:

Christine Graham
Raja Ali

Officer Support:

Adrian Chapman and Mike Davey



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CAMBRIDGESHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL Confirmation Hearing	Agenda Item No. 5
6 December 2012	Public Report

Report of the Head of Neighbourhood Services

Contact Officer(s) – Adrian Chapman, Head of Neighbourhood Services, Peterborough City Council

Contact Details – adrian.chapman@peterborough.gov.uk, 01733 863887

NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED APPOINTMENT - DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report is presented to the Panel in accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 so the Panel can give its recommendation on the notification of a proposed senior appointment.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Panel approves the proposed appointment of Mr Brian Ashton as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

3. TERMS OF REFERENCE

- 3.1 This report relates to paragraph 3 of the Panel's terms of reference: "To hold a confirmation hearing and review, make a report, and recommendation (as necessary) in respect of proposed senior appointments made by the Police and Crime Commissioner."

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 In accordance with the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 the Police and Crime Commissioner is entitled to appoint a deputy.
- 4.2 The Police and Crime Panel must meet to consider the proposed appointment and give its recommendation to the Commissioner within three weeks of receiving notice of the appointment.
- 4.3 The notice to appoint Mr Ashton was sent to the Chairman of the Police and Crime Panel on Tuesday 27 November 2012 with a press release being issued on Wednesday 28 November. The Panel therefore has until Tuesday 18 December to give its recommendation to the Commissioner on the proposed appointment.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Panel is requested to consider the suitability for the role of Mr Ashton, to consider whether he meets the criteria and expectations for the role and to determine whether to recommend that the appointment goes ahead.
- 5.2 This appointment falls under Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and therefore the Panel has no power of veto over the appointment. Should the Panel recommend that the appointment does not go ahead, the Commissioner can still appoint Mr Ashton.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The post of Deputy Commissioner role will receive a salary of £28,000 per annum. This payment has been calculated on the basis of 80 per cent of the salary of the Police and Crime Commissioner, prorated at 50 per cent.
- 6.2 The appointment will end when the current term of office of the appointing Police and Crime Commissioner ends (i.e. the sixth day after the day of the poll at the next ordinary election in 2016).

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 N/A.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The Panel will advise the Commissioner of its recommendation and publish its decision up to five days following the meeting.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
- 9.1 Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011,
<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2011/13/contents/enacted>.

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 Notification of appointment letter including candidate information, person specification and personal statement.



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

Cllr Mac McGuire
Chair of Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Panel
c/o Adrian Chapman
Head of Neighbourhood Services
Peterborough City Council
Town Hall
Bridge Street
Peterborough
PE1 1HF

28 November 2012

Dear Cllr McGuire,

NOTIFICATION OF PROPOSED APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

I am writing to you as Chairman of the (Shadow) Police and Crime Panel regarding my proposed appointment of Mr Brian Mark ASHTON as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. Please find enclosed details of the proposed appointment as required under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

I understand our respective officers have been in contact and made provisional arrangements for the Panel to meet on 6th December in order to undertake a confirmation hearing. I am grateful for your support in taking this matter forward.

I believe you are aware that the requirements of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 on the appointment of staff on merit do not apply to this post (although it does to other posts in my office) and that this post is not politically restricted.

I firmly believe that Mr ASHTON has the experience, skills, knowledge and abilities to perform this role to the high standard required for the people of Cambridgeshire. The attached information provides additional detail on this.

I look forward to receiving the Panel's recommendations on this appointment. Following receipt of your report I will notify you of my final decision.

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Sir Graham Bright
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner



CAMBRIDGESHIRE DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PROPOSED APPOINTMENT INFORMATION FOR POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

1. Name of candidate	Brian Mark ASHTON
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2. Criteria used to assess his suitability
Please see attached person specification, in particular section 5.

3. How the candidate satisfies the criteria
<p>I have known Brian ASHTON for many years. This has allowed me to see at first hand Brian's dedication to duty and commitment to public office.</p> <p>Brian has demonstrated the highest levels of integrity and transparency, always ensuring his actions are open to public scrutiny. He also brings specific business skills which he can deploy to ensure the duties of the office are discharged in the best way.</p> <p>He shares my commitment not to interfere in the operational independence of the police and will be working with me in our office at Cambourne.</p> <p>The personal statement attached demonstrates the skills and experience Brian will bring to this role.</p>

4. Terms and conditions on which the candidate is to be appointed
<p>The Deputy will be required to work flexibly, equating to 2-3 days per week. The role will attract a payment of £28,000 per annum. This payment has been calculated on the basis of 80 per cent of the salary of the Police and Crime Commissioner, prorated at 50 per cent. The appointment will end when the current term of office of the appointing Police and Crime Commissioner ends (i.e. the sixth day after the day of the poll at the next ordinary election in 2016). The post holder will be asked to</p>

sign the Official Secrets Act. The post will be based at the Police and Crime Commissioner offices at Cambourne but the Deputy will travel around Cambridgeshire and beyond as required by the role.

5. Additional Information

The candidate is eligible to be appointed as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire (i.e. the candidate is not disqualified under Section 18(6) or Paragraphs (8)(2) and (8)(6) of Schedule 1 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011).

Registerable interests

Director – A.E. & N. Ashton Group Ltd., A. E. & N Ashton Co. Ltd., Spero, Vineyard Way, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4QQ

Land – fully developed site owned by A.E. & N. Ashton Group Ltd in Lisle Lane, Ely and currently occupied by Travis Perkins. House at “Spero”, Vineyard Way, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4QQ

Securities – A.E. & N. Ashton Group Ltd; A.E. & N. Ashton & Co. Ltd. At any one time Brian may own or have a duty of care in relation to any number of share/land holdings in any quoted company that exceeds a “nominal” value of £25,000 but at no time will any such holdings exceed 1% of the total of any particular class of holding.

Trustee – Bishop Laney’s Charity.

President – South East Cambridgeshire Conservative Association. Subscribing member of a variety of local community bodies without personal responsibility.

Sir Graham Bright
Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

28 November 2012



Cambridgeshire
Police & Crime
Commissioner

CAMBRIDGESHIRE DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Reports to: Sir Graham Bright, Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner

Job Purpose

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 enables a Police and Crime Commissioner to appoint a Deputy and to delegate certain functions and responsibilities to that person. The Act also outlines certain functions which cannot be delegated.

2. The role of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner, working with the Commissioner's other staff, is to deputise and support the Commissioner in carrying out his functions including:

- a. acting as a local link between communities and the police
- b. assisting in setting the force budget and the precept, and deciding how other crime reduction budgets are spent
- c. assisting in the development of the Police and Crime Plan
- d. entering into collaboration agreements as necessary
- e. holding the Chief Constable to account
- f. working co-operatively with community safety and criminal justice partners.

3. In accordance with section 18 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the following functions may not be delegated:

- a. issuing a Police and Crime Plan
- b. determining police and crime objectives
- c. attendance at a meeting of a Police and Crime Panel in compliance with a requirement by the Panel to do so
- d. preparing an annual report to a Police and Crime Panel
- e. appointing the Chief Constable, suspending the Chief Constable, or calling upon the Chief constable to retire or resign
- f. calculating a budget requirement.

4. The role will include:
 - seeking and representing the views and concerns of the people of Cambridgeshire through a range of means including attending relevant meetings on behalf of the Commissioner
 - representing these views to the Commissioner and staff so that they may be reflected in the work of the Commissioner
 - reporting back to the people of Cambridgeshire on behalf of the Commissioner
 - ensuring effective monitoring of the budget.

5. The oath made by the Commissioner for how he will carry out his role also defines the personal attributes required to carry out the role of Deputy, namely a demonstrable ability to:
 - a. Serve all the people of Cambridgeshire in the office of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner
 - b. Act with integrity and diligence in the role
 - c. Execute the duties of the office to ensure that the police are able to cut crime and protect the public
 - d. Give a voice to the public, especially victims of crime
 - e. Work with other services to ensure the safety of the community and effective criminal justice
 - f. Take all steps within their power to ensure transparency of their decisions, that they may be properly held to account by the public
 - g. Not interfere with the operational independence of police officers.

6. For the absence of doubt, in the event of vacancy or incapacity of the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Deputy would not automatically assume the role. In accordance with section 62 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act, the Police and Crime Panel must appoint a person to act as Police and Crime Commissioner. That person must be a member of the Police and Crime Commissioner’s staff at the time of appointment.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

BRIAN MARK ASHTON

In the next few paragraphs I hope to give a snapshot of my experience.

I have been an active member of the Conservative Party for 45 years. At the age of 22 I was Chairman of the Isle of Ely Young Conservatives when we had 5 branches and 650 members. During the 1970 election campaign I was “warm up” speaker for Sir Harry Legge-Bourke at many of his village meetings. Since then I have held Association office for almost the entire time including nine years in the last twenty-four as Association Chairman in South East Cambridgeshire. I chaired the selection committee that chose Jim Paice after Francis Pym’s decision to stand down.

I also took an active role in the Conservative Policy Centre and was a Vice President in Eastern Region serving, for a while, on the national committee.

For more than forty years I have been at the centre of both the growth and planned decline of a family owned group of companies. None of the businesses, individually, ever employed more than 45 people and they were largely in the manufacturing sector. Only one small business remains.

When my brother and I decided to sell two of the businesses over twenty years ago I decided to put my spare energy into other activities including becoming a member of the City of Ely Council. I was instrumental in establishing an equity share local needs housing scheme comprising 54 homes without spending any tax-payers money. It continues to be a success to this day whilst providing a net income which finances the City Council’s grants programme.

During my Mayoral year in 1991 I took on the challenge to lead the campaign for the transfer of the RAF Princess of Wales Hospital into the NHS achieving success after many, many months of activity in which we developed commercial, charitable and tax-payer funded models for its future service to our local community. I was then appointed as Vice Chairman of Lifespan Healthcare NHS Trust where I served on most of the Board Committees, including chairing the Audit and Charitable Funds Committees for a total of seven years. I was then invited by the local GPs to establish and chair the Primary Care Group in East Cambridgeshire (one of only six lay chairmen in the UK) which I did for four years until its enforced amalgamation.

In 2010-2011 I was delighted to serve a second term as the Mayor of the City of Ely.

As a matter of policy the local Conservative Association had not fielded candidates in East Cambridgeshire: this policy was changed when the representatives of another national party took control. In the 2003 elections the Conservative Association selected 27 candidates and won 15 seats. The Council was in no overall control although; with the support of a number of Independents we managed in three years out of four to approve balanced budgets with below RPI Council Tax increases. In 2007 we took control with 24 seats out of 39. I served as Leader of the Conservative group between 2003 and 2008, chairing various Committees including Policy and Resources and Transport and Environment. I was a joint Leader of the

Council from 2003 and after the elections in 2007 became Leader of the Council until the following year.

Since school I have always been involved in voluntary, charitable action. I have held a wide range of roles such as school governor (10 years, responsible for the budget), Trustee of a very long-established local charity that provides support to about 150 young apprentices and students each year, President of the Elysian Riding for the Disabled (18 years+), Chairman of the Ely Citizens Advice Bureau,(6 years), five years as a member of the Council of St John Ambulance in Cambridgeshire when I took the lead in raising the funds and managing the design and construction of a special 60 foot long river boat to take disabled and infirm people on river trips. I was especially delighted when the British Red Cross in Cambridgeshire made me an Honorary Vice-President at the end of my first Mayoral Year for raising funds for the Ely Red Cross Centre, although I would proudly acknowledge that I believe that was more in recognition of my wife's dedicated lifetimes voluntary work on behalf of the British Red Cross.

I hope that this outline of my experience provides a suitable synopsis of my activities in public and voluntary life.