



CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

Friday 25 April 2008

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CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY SEARCH FOR NEW INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Cumbria Police Authority launches a recruitment campaign today (24 April) aimed at attracting a new External Independent Member for its Standards Committee.

The Police Authority's Standards Committee advises the Authority on all matters regarding the standards of conduct of Authority Members. The Committee consists of 8 members: comprising 4 External Independent Members who are totally independent of the Authority and 4 Members of the Authority itself. The Committee is chaired by one of the External Independent Members.

The Authority wishes to appoint a new External Independent Member to the Committee. Whilst no particular qualifications are required, applications cannot be considered from anyone who:-

- is a local authority officer or member (whether on County or District Councils)
- has been a member or officer of the Police Authority within the last five years
- is a relative or a close friend of a member or officer of the Police Authority
- is currently actively engaged in politics.

No salary is payable, but the Authority will pay an attendance allowance (currently £75.15 for an absence of up to 4 hours and £150.30 for an absence in excess of 4 hours) together with reasonable travel and subsistence expenses incurred in attending meetings, which are usually held in Penrith.

Cumbria Police Authority's Chief Executive, Clive Alcock (who is also its Monitoring Officer, advising members on conduct issues) said: "Modern Police authorities are playing an ever stronger role in holding the police to account on behalf of local people for the policing they deliver. In such a sensitive role, Police Authority members must themselves be *"like Caesar's wife"* and above reproach. That's why the work of the Authority's own Standards Committee is so important to ensuring high standards of member behaviour are observed. Whoever we recruit to serve there in this vacancy will be integral to that aim."

"It's also important that police authorities reflect the different communities they serve, so we welcome applications from people from all groups within Cumbria. This is an important role and a great opportunity to help ensure high standards of behaviour in public life."

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An application form and further information can be obtained by writing to The Monitoring Officer, Cumbria Police Authority, Police Authority Offices, Police Headquarters, Carleton Hall, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 2AU, or telephoning Stuart Edwards on (01768 217732); or e-mailing stuart.edwards@cumbria.pnn.police.uk.

Closing date: 12 noon, Wednesday 21 May 2008.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

- For further information please contact Stuart Edwards by telephone (01768 217732) or e-mail (stuart.edwards@cumbria.police.uk).
- Police authorities, along with the Home Secretary and chief officers of police, make up the tripartite relationship responsible for the governance of policing in England and Wales.
- Police authorities are made up of local people: a mix of local councillors, magistrates and independent members (selected from the community) represent the views of local communities.
- The job of police authorities is to:
 - **appoint (and, if necessary, dismiss) chief constables and senior police officers**
 - **consult with local communities to find out what they want the local police to do**
 - **set the budget for their police force, and decide how much local people should pay for policing in the local council tax**
 - **set the strategic direction for policing locally and decide what the police should focus attention on locally based on their consultations with local communities**
 - **make sure the police force is continuing to do a better job**

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