



CUMBRIA POLICE AUTHORITY

Monday 30 October 2006.

RECORD RESPONSE TO AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

In response to the recent advertisement seeking applicants for the five Independent Member places on Cumbria Police Authority the Authority is pleased to report that by the closing date (4.30pm on Friday 27 October) it had received a record number of applications.

These applications will now be considered by an independent Selection Panel that will draw up a longlist of 20 applicants for submission to the Home Secretary. The Home Secretary will in turn reduce the longlist to a shortlist of 10 from which the Police Authority will appoint the five new Independent Members. The appointments will take effect from 1 April 2007.

By the final deadline, some 263 people had requested information on these vacancies, out of which as many as 110 followed up with an application. Authority Chief Executive, Clive Alcock, said "Not just the number, but also the sheer range and diverse qualities of applicants for the chance of serving as a member of what is - after all - the key oversight body for policing in Cumbria, has been excellent; definitely the best we've ever had. It just shows that more and more people are becoming aware of the complex but important role which a Police Authority plays in providing strategic levels of accountability for policing in their area. Whoever the independent panel appoints, I'm sure this process will give us five people whose contributions can make a real difference towards the Authority meeting the policing challenges of the future successfully".

Ends.

Editors' note:

Cumbria Police Authority is made up of local people - a mixture of councillors, magistrates and independent members - and acts as the bridge between Cumbria Constabulary and all communities across the county in policing matters. Legally, it owns the buildings and land in the police property portfolio and is responsible for:

- *setting the budget for Cumbria Constabulary, including raising local council taxes for policing;*
- *consulting and engaging with local communities in Cumbria to find out what they want the local police to tackle;*

Maintaining an efficient and effective police service



News Release

- *setting the strategic direction for policing in Cumbria; deciding local priorities for policing and setting the Constabulary challenging targets to drive performance higher*
- *appointing (and, if necessary, dismissing) the Chief Constable; Deputy Chief Constable, and Assistant Chief Constables;*
- *monitoring and managing local police performance.*

Further information: Clive Alcock, Clerk & Chief Executive; or Stuart Edwards, Deputy Clerk to the Authority, at the Cumbria Police Authority office, Carleton Hall, Penrith CA10 2AU.

Tel. (01768) 217734

Website: www.cumbriapoliceauthority.org

Maintaining an efficient and effective police service

