

COUNCIL

DATE: 1ST NOVEMBER 2017

POLICING AND CRIME ACT 2017

REQUEST FROM POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHUMBRIA

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle - Planning Housing and Resilience

Purpose of report

To consider a request from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria to be co-opted as a member of the authority for the purposes stated in the report under statutory amendments brought into effect earlier this year by the provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2017

Recommendations

To consider the request from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria to be co-opted as a member of the authority for the purposes stated in the report under statutory amendments brought into effect earlier this year by the provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2017

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the Stronger Communities and Families priority included in the NCC Corporate Plan 2013-2017

Key issues

Request received from the Police and Crime Commissioner to be co-opted as a member of the authority

Council must consider request and gives reasons for agreement or refusal of request

Background

1. The Policing and Crime Act 2017 contains a range of measures to the current policing system in this country which include measures designed to achieve closer collaboration with other emergency services and to enhance the democratic accountability of police forces and fire and rescue services.
2. The provisions within the Act relating to governance arrangements provide for a Police and Crime Commissioner either to take on responsibility for the governance of fire and rescue in their area, and thus become the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner where a local case is made and the Secretary of State is agreeable or, alternatively, a Commissioner may make a request of a fire and rescue authority to be permitted to attend, speak and vote at meetings of the authority in respect of items of business which relate to fire and rescue matters.
3. A request to that latter effect has been received by the Council from the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria. The Council are now required under the 2017 Act to
 - (a) consider the request,
 - (b) give reasons for their decision to agree to or refuse the request, and
 - (c) publish those reasons in such manner as they think appropriate.
4. In her request, the Commissioner states that *“By fulfilling the spirit of the legislation we are showing the communities of Northumberland that we are serious about working together, collaborating on initiatives to bring savings to both organisations and of course to secure the continued excellent service that both Northumbria Police and Northumberland Fire Authority provide to our communities”*
5. If the Council agrees to the request, the PCC is therefore treated as a member of the Council in the case of a meeting of the authority which relates to its functions as a fire and rescue authority

Implications

Policy	N/A
Finance and value for money	None significant
Legal	These are set out in the body of the report
Procurement	N/A
Human Resources	N/A

Property	N/A
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	N/A
Crime & Disorder	N/A
Customer Consideration	N/A
Carbon reduction	N/A
Wards	All divisions

Background papers:

Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Policing and Crime Act 2017

Circular 001/2017 Policing and Crime Act 2017

	initials
Finance Officer	n/a
Monitoring Officer/Legal	LH
Human Resources	n/a
Procurement	n/a
I.T.	n/a
Executive Director	PH/DL
Portfolio Holder(s)	JR

Author and Contact Details

Liam Henry - Monitoring Officer
Telephone - 01670 622324
Email: liam.henry@northumberland.gov.uk