

# HAMPSHIRE AND ISLE OF WIGHT POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

## Report

<b>Date considered:</b>	20 October 2023
<b>Title:</b>	Legal Support to the Panel
<b>Contact:</b>	Democratic Services Officer to the Panel

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### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this paper is to inform the Panel of an upcoming review of the legal support arrangements to the Panel. This report further recommends that the Panel appoints a representative to support key stages of the procurement process.

### Recommendations

2. **That the Panel notes the review of legal support arrangements, which will be led by the Democratic Services Officer.**
3. **That the Panel appoints a Panel Member as the representative of the Panel, who will support key stages of the procurement process as required.**
4. **That a report be brought back to the next meeting of the Panel confirming the outcome of the procurement process.**

### Legal Support to the Panel

5. The Panel has received legal support from Portsmouth City Council's legal services team since its inception in 2012. A report was brought to the Panel on 4 October 2019, proposing that the legal contract be re-tendered for the period April 2020-March 2024. Following due process, the contract was awarded to Portsmouth Legal Services.
6. The Chairman was informed that the contract for legal support would be re-tendered for the period from April 2024-March 2028, and six-months' notice was given to Portsmouth Legal Service in September 2023, in accordance with the agreed terms of business.

7. The tender process for legal services to the Panel will be made in accordance with Hampshire County Council's Contract Standing Orders (acting as the Panel's lead Authority and legal body). Due to the annual value of legal support to the Panel, set at £10,000 per annum this will be an officer led process.
8. It is proposed that an appropriate member of the Panel is involved in and consulted at key stages of the procurement to represent the views and needs of the Panel and its Members. As it is envisaged that local authority legal services teams within Hampshire and the Isle of Wight area are most likely to be in a position to submit a tender to the Panel, consideration will need to be given to any potential conflict of interest for Panel Members putting themselves forward.
9. It is further proposed that a report be brought back to the next meeting of the Panel, confirming the outcome of the procurement process.

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

**The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)**

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
N/A	N/A