

Mr M Ellis
Police and Crime Commissioner for
Staffordshire

Councillor Frank Chapman
Chairman of Staffordshire
Police and Crime Panel
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Date: 25 January 2017

Dear Mr Ellis

Staffordshire Police and Crime Panel – Confirmation Hearing re Proposed appointment of Bopin Bhakri to the post of Director of Finance and Performance (incorporating the role of Chief Financial Officer) in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire

As required under Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to inform you of the Staffordshire Police and Crime Panel's recommendation with regard to your proposal to appoint Bopin Bhakri as Director of Finance and Performance in the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire. You had sought a Confirmation Hearing by us as the post incorporates the role of Chief Financial Officer.

The Panel held a Confirmation Hearing on Monday 23 January 2017. We heard from you about the recruitment process and two stage interviews that you'd held prior to selecting Mr Bhakri as your preferred candidate, and noted your comments on the strong field of applicants. You explained why you wished to appoint Mr Bhakri to the post and your views on his knowledge and experience and the qualities which he offers.

We had received prior information on Mr Bhakri's qualifications and experience and questioned him on his knowledge of public sector financial management. We were aware of the external auditors report which had suggested that high staff turnover had affected financial management and arrangements for planning finances effectively and received your assurances on action taken to address these issues.

The Panel's role is to recommend that an appointment be made or that an appointment not be made. In this instance we decided to recommend that an appointment be made and we wish Mr Bhakri well in his new role. We also ask that you closely monitor the measures taken to address the Auditor's report.

This letter will be published at 4.00 pm today and there is no embargo on it.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Frank Chapman', followed by a horizontal line and a small dot.

Frank Chapman
Chairman – Staffordshire Police and Crime Panel