

Information and advice provided to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria

Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) change of status to company limited by guarantee

1. Introduction and background

ICVA is a voluntary organisation that promotes and supports the effective provision of custody visiting nationally, raising public awareness on the rights and entitlements, health and wellbeing of people held in police custody and the conditions and facilities in which they are kept. A national resource on custody visiting, ICVA advises on best practice for local schemes and provides training, publicity and ongoing support to Police and Crime Commissioners, visitors and all those involved in the process. ICVA receives annual subscriptions from its membership and works closely with and receives funding from the Home Office.

The former Police Authority has been a member of ICVA, and its predecessor, since 1992. The ICVA membership subscription, currently £750, has remained at the same level since 1996.

The former Cleveland, Durham and Northumbria Police Authorities also agreed a regional representative on the ICVA Executive Committee.

2. Issues for consideration

ICVA has considering key options available in relation to its future structure and strategy taking into account the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners and the impact of funding restrictions. ICVA raised £25,000 of its income a year from the former police authority membership. ICVA has looked at whether it continues as a membership organisation, and if so who will be its members; if it's not a membership organisation, how it intends to be accountable for its activities and if it loses membership, how it will operate and raise income for its services.

ICVA is, therefore, proposing to cease to be a membership organisation and become a company limited by guarantee and a memorandum of association has been produced.

All Police and Crime Commissioners in England and Wales, Police Authorities/Joint Boards in Scotland, Northern Ireland Policing Board and other Authorities in Membership are being asked whether they agree or disagree with the change in ICVA status from an unincorporated organisation to a company limited by guarantee. If agreed, ICVA will seek representation from existing regions for members who will act as Directors.

3. Financial considerations

The current ICVA annual membership subscription is £750 and ICVA has indicated that this will be the same for 2013/14.

4. Legal considerations

The Chief Executive has considered the memorandum of association and has no issues with its terms from a legal perspective.

5. Equal opportunities implications

It is considered the report has no equal opportunities implications.

6. Background and supporting papers

Memorandum of association for a company limited by guarantee attached.

POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR NORTHUMBRIA

Key Decisions

Title and Reference

Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA) change of status to company limited by guarantee

(PCC/04/2013)

Summary

ICVA is proposing to cease to be a membership organisation and become a company limited by guarantee with the memorandum of association produced. All members of ICVA are being asked whether they agree or disagree with the change in ICVA status

Recommendation/ Findings:

It is recommended that the Commissioner agrees to ICVA changing its status to a company limited by guarantee.

Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner

I hereby approve the recommendation above.

Signature



Date 29.01.13