



North Eastern Region Police & Crime Commissioners

Northumbria, Durham, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside

Legally Qualified Chairs (LQC's) Protocol for Requesting an LQC

The seven local policing bodies ie Police and Crime Commissioners for each of the seven police areas comprising the North Eastern Region, Northumbria, Durham, Cleveland, North Yorkshire, South Yorkshire, West Yorkshire and Humberside, have appointed legally qualified persons to a list of Legally Qualified Chairs (LQCs).

LQCs are responsible for Chairing misconduct cases brought against police officers under Regulation 25 Police Conduct Regulations. This will include reading the papers in advance of any hearing, chairing the proceedings in accordance with the Regulations and the provision of full reasons in writing for the decision reached by the misconduct hearing.

Selections of legally qualified chairs and independent members to particular misconduct hearings are required to be made on a fair and transparent basis.

This document sets out how the seven Police and Crime Commissioners for the Region will select the legally qualified chairs referred to above to particular misconduct hearings.

The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Northumbria holds and administers the lists of legally qualified chairs on a day-to-day basis.

When an OPCC from the North Eastern Region requires an LQC, a request is made to the Northumbria OPCC by email to enquiries@northumbria-pcc.gov.uk requesting the contact details of the next Chair on the list.

Upon receiving the request the OPCC for Northumbria will at the earliest opportunity (Monday – Thursday within 1 working day) or Friday (by the next working day), supply the contact details to the requesting OPCC and it is then the responsibility of the requesting OPCC to make contact with the LQC to discuss availability and appointment.



When requests for legally qualified chairs are received, the Northumbria OPCC will provide names by working down the list and once a LQC has been appointed they will move to the bottom of the list.

Legal Indemnity for LQCs and Independent Members

Following discussions that have taken place between the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners (APCC) and the National Association of Legally Qualified Chairs (NALQC) regarding the Legal Indemnity provided to LQCs and Independent Members in their role. PCCs have agreed to amend the legal indemnity temporarily for a six month period (May 2021) or until a more formal indemnity wording is agreed nationally by PCCs. This temporary indemnity is as follows:

“In respect of the case of which is to be held on I (in my role as Police and Crime Commissioner) agree to indemnify you as the Legally Qualified Chair in respect of any liabilities arising (including reasonable costs in connection with responding to legal proceedings) for anything done or omitted to be done by you in the discharge of your functions unless, having received representations or submissions by or on your behalf, you are proved in a court of law or other tribunal with appropriate jurisdiction to have acted in bad faith. Furthermore, in the event of your being held to have any liability for anything done or omitted to be done by another member of the Panel of which you are part, I agree to indemnify you in full in respect of any such liability”.