



West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel

Press Release

'Police and Crime Panel Confirm the Appointment of West Yorkshire's Next Chief Constable'

Today, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel confirmed the appointment of John Robins to the post of Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police.

The Police and Crime Panel, made up of elected and independent members from across West Yorkshire, had the power to either ratify or veto the Police and Crime Commissioner's proposed candidate as part of the arrangements for policing that have been in place since November 2012.

At the public 'Confirmation Hearing' Panel Members asked John Robins a series of questions to enable them to assess his professional competence and personal independence.

On the basis of John's responses at the Hearing and the supporting documents provided by the Commissioner, the Panel unanimously felt assured that the candidate was fully able to take on the permanent position of Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police.

Chair of the Police and Crime Panel, Cllr Mohammed Iqbal of Leeds City Council, said

"I am delighted to confirm John Robins in the substantive role of Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police. We were impressed by John's commitment to neighbourhood policing, improving the confidence of and outcomes for our communities, and his strong record on diversity. The Panel also wishes to acknowledge the progress already made under John's leadership during the last 6 months and look forward to working with him as Chief Constable in the future".

Mark Burns-Williamson, West Yorkshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, (PCC) said "I am pleased that the Police and Crime Panel have supported my appointment of John Robins as West Yorkshire Police's Chief Constable.

"John demonstrated in his interview his extensive understanding of the complexities facing West Yorkshire, both in terms of the different issues facing different districts and the financial challenges we bear, while dealing with ever complex crimes.

"He has worked in West Yorkshire since 1990, first as a Police Constable, working his way up to Chief Superintendent before becoming an Assistant Chief Constable and Deputy Chief Constable, so can relate to officers and staff just joining the force as he started on that path.

“John will come to this role with a huge amount of knowledge and experience of the diversity, opportunities and challenges facing West Yorkshire, a place he has always called home, and has come through the ranks to be the current Temporary Chief Constable.

“He underwent a rigorous recruitment process and really impressed us with his passion and commitment to policing in West Yorkshire, which he has demonstrated not only through this process, but in how he has ensured strong leadership which is borne out of a varied and successful career serving our communities across the county.”

Commenting on his appointment, West Yorkshire Police’s Chief Constable John Robins QPM said:

“I am extremely proud and honoured to be the next Chief Constable of West Yorkshire Police. Having spent my whole policing service in West Yorkshire, this is the culmination of an incredible and fulfilling journey for me from Police Constable to Chief Constable. My enthusiasm for policing and for West Yorkshire is as keen today, as it was on the first day I joined.

“I am looking forward to continuing to work with our Police and Crime Commissioner to keep our communities safe and feeling safe, by reducing crime, protecting vulnerable people and providing reassurance to all of our communities..

“From my operational experience over many years, I know and understand first-hand the high standards of service that individuals and communities expect and quite rightly deserve.

“I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the officers and staff of West Yorkshire Police for their continued hard work, professionalism and dedication to the communities of West Yorkshire.”

A full report outlining the Panel’s decision will be published on the Police and Crime Panel’s website (www.westyorkshire-pcp.gov.uk)