

**WEST MIDLANDS POLICE
AND CRIME
COMMISSIONER**

NON-CONFIDENTIAL

NOTICE OF DECISION

[019-2023]

Contact Officer: Andrea Gabbitas

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midlands.police.uk

Title: Appointment Chief Finance Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In decision WMPCC 013 2023, dated 30 June 2023, the Commissioner proposed the appointment of Jane Heppel (the proposed candidate), as Chief Finance Officer.

Following consideration of the proposed appointment by the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel on 17 July 2023, the Panel recommended that the Commissioner appoint the proposed candidate as Chief Finance Officer.

DECISION

To appoint Jane Heppel as Chief Finance Officer from 20 July 2023

West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

I confirm that I do not have any disclosable pecuniary interests in this decision and take the decision in compliance with the Code of Conduct for the West Midlands Office for Policing and Crime. Any interests are indicated below.



Signature.....

...

Date.....18 July 2023

NON - CONFIDENTIAL FACTS AND ADVICE TO THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. Decision WMPCC 013/2023 ([PCC Decision - 013-2023 - Proposed Appointment of the Chief Finance Officer - West Midlands Police & Crime Commissioner \(westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk\)](#)) includes information on the process for the appointment of a Chief Finance Officer to the office of a police and crime commissioner. This post is required by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011.

A report was submitted to the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel in support of the consideration of Jane Heppel as the proposed appointment. This was published on the Panel's website: [Meeting 17 July 2023 Confirmation Hearing Agenda Pack | West Midlands Police and Crime Panel \(westmidlandspcp.org.uk\)](#)

2. The Panel recommended the appointment of Jane Heppel and was satisfied that the selection process was robust. The Panel's letter to the Commissioner to this effect is at Appendix 1. The Commissioner has since replied to the Panel.
3. The CFO has a signed contract setting out terms and conditions associated with the appointment.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

4. Salary and other costs for the post are met from the agreed budget for the office of the police and crime commissioner.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

5. Schedule 1 of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires police and crime commissioners to appoint a Chief Finance Officer (responsible for the proper administration of the commissioner's financial affairs, a role for which the post holder must be suitably qualified).
6. The post is classed by the Elected Local Policing Bodies Specified Information Order 2011 (as amended) as a senior appointment, thereby requiring the publication of job title, responsibilities, salary and name of post holder.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

7. The post was recruited via an open, competitive selection process.

Appendix 1 – letter from Police and Crime Panel



WMPCP Office
Scrutiny Office
Birmingham City Council
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Simon Foster
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner
Sent via email

18 July 2023

Dear Commissioner

Confirmation Hearing: Proposed Appointment of Jane Heppel as Chief Finance Officer to the Police and Crime Commissioner

In accordance with Schedule 1 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to inform you of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel's recommendation regarding your proposed appointment of Jane Heppel as Chief Finance Officer.

I would like to thank you both for attending yesterday's public confirmation hearing and responding to Panel Members' questions. **Confirmation Hearing**

The confirmation hearing was held at Wolverhampton Civic Centre on Monday, 17 July 2023. The following Panel Members were present: -

Councillors: Shabina Bano, Heather Delaney, Sabina Ditta, Alan Feeney, Sam Forsyth, Jasbir Jaspal, Syeda Khatun, Ed Lawrence, Garry Perry and Tersaim Singh

Independent members: Adele Brown

The Panel considered the information you provided the Panel as required by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011. Members were assured that a fair and transparent process had been conducted and the successful candidate was selected on merit.

Panel members carefully considered the responses provided by Ms Heppel to their questions and concluded that she possessed the professional competence and demonstrated the personal independence to undertake the role.

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Panel Recommendation

Having considered the responses to the Panel questions, the Panel agreed unanimously to recommend the Police and Crime Commissioner's preferred candidate Ms Jane Heppel be appointed as Chief Finance Officer to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Ms Heppel for her attendance at the Confirmation Hearing and wish her well in carrying out her new role.

I shall arrange to publish this letter on the Panel's website on Monday 24 July 2023. Yours

sincerely

pp 

Councillor Jasbir Jaspal

Chair of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

c.c. Jane Heppel

Jonathan Jardine – Chief Executive OPCC