

Release



13 March 2018

For immediate release

PCC's new Chief of Staff with 13 year Force background unanimously approved by Panel

Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Kathryn Holloway, has chosen a former call handler and radio dispatcher, a criminologist who has spent more than 13 years with the Force, as her new Chief of Staff.

Clare Kelly, 32, received the unanimous support of the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel at her formal Confirmation Hearing at Bedford Borough Hall today (12 March 2018) after being questioned by each member present

"For some 11 months since I became Police and Crime Commissioner, Clare has worked for me - both as my interim Chief of Staff and in a Force Liaison role, especially created for her to enable me to benefit from her professional force 'memory'," said Commissioner Holloway.

"Clare is understated, modest, a high achiever who hits every single deadline and a manager who genuinely tries to understand and support her team to be the best that they can be. Her promotion to the permanent role of Chief of Staff is not only hugely deserved, but should reassure everyone that Clare will always support me in trying to achieve what is best for Bedfordshire Police and the public we serve," added the PCC.

Clare is a familiar face in a new role – having had a 13 year history working within Bedfordshire Police. After graduating in Criminology, Clare spent her first five years with the Force at the sharp end of directing Response officers, as what was then called an FCR "operative," first as a call handler and then working on the radios, liaising with officers. She moved on to become Staff Officer to a Chief Superintendent, before completing postgraduate studies in police-related research and data management.

Clare worked extensively as a Project Manager within the Force, including a role driving the vital £25m savings programme which helped to secure a future for Bedfordshire Police, before taking on the Head of Corporate role. In this post, she was pivotal in helping the Force to understand how better to recruit a workforce which looks and sounds more like our public, in terms of diversity.

“After being questioned by every member of the Police and Crime Panel who hold me to account, at her Confirmation Hearing today, her appointment was unanimously approved. Quite an achievement at 32 and a sign that the Force and I are genuinely working shoulder to shoulder to create an ever brighter future for Bedfordshire Police,” said the Commissioner.

Paul Cain, Chair of the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel said, “The Panel met to hear from Clare Kelly regarding her appointment as Chief of Staff for the Bedfordshire Police and Crime Commissioner. The Panel unanimously supported this appointment, and look forward to working with Ms Kelly in the future.”

ENDS

Please find picture attached.

Attachments

- PCC & Clare Kelly.jpg [PCC & Clare Kelly.jpg](#)

For further information or to request an interview with the Police & Crime Commissioner please call Julie Maddocks on: 01234 842064 or email: PCC@bedfordshire.pnn.police.uk

Kathryn Holloway was elected Bedfordshire’s Police Crime Commissioner on 5 May 2016. As the PCC she has a hands-on approach in order to understand the challenges faced by the police, and to help find practical solutions. Kathryn spends time out on the frontline with Bedfordshire Police, in the custody suites and cells, accompanying officers on emergency response patrols and in the Night Time Economy vans, and attending 999 events across the county.

The Bedfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner Police and Crime Plan can be viewed at: www.bedfordshire.pcc.police.uk

