

Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel

For Immediate Release
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BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL'S SUPPORT FOR CHIEF CONSTABLE'S APPOINTMENT

The Bedfordshire Police and Crime Panel have unanimously recommended the appointment of Jon Boutcher as Chief Constable of Bedfordshire.

The recommendation was made to Bedfordshire's Police and Crime Commissioner, Olly Martins, following a confirmation hearing which took place at Borough Hall, in Bedford, on 15 September 2015. Jon Boutcher, who was appointed Temporary Chief Constable in August 2015 following the retirement of Chief Constable Colette Paul, joined Bedfordshire Police in June 2014 as Deputy Chief Constable. At the hearing, he was questioned about his proposed appointment and the knowledge, skills and experience he would bring to the role.

Commenting after the hearing, the Panel's Chair, Councillor Fiona Chapman MBE, said: "Jon Boutcher will continue to be an asset to the force in his new role. With 31 years' police service, he has gained the necessary skills establishing new law enforcement techniques. The Panel gave their unanimous support to his appointment, you cannot ignore the successes and achievements surrounding his work which has earned him a second to none reputation."

A copy of the Panel's report and recommendations can be found at:
www.bedford.gov.uk/bedspcp

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Notes to the Editor

The Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 requires Police and Crime Panels to hold public confirmation hearings for certain senior appointments, to be made by Police and Crime Commissioners, including those of Chief Constables, before submitting a report and recommendation about the proposed appointment. Commissioners may choose to accept or reject the Panel's recommendation, but the appointment cannot be made until the end of the confirmation process.

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