

# The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire

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**Marc Jones**  
**The Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire**

## **STATEMENT ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A DEPUTY POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER FOR LINCOLNSHIRE**

The decision to establish the posts of Police and Crime Commissioner and Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner was made by Parliament when the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act was passed in 2011.

Over the past seven months I have travelled far and wide speaking to many people about the role of Police and Crime Commissioner and almost without exception PCC's who were in office from 2012 fell into one of two camps when it came to the matter of a Deputy. They largely regretted not appointing one or were totally convinced that they had made the right decision in appointing one. There are a vast array of duties that often clash leading to many important meetings and briefings being delayed and in some cases not happening at all. The role is growing too as Government have made clear their intention to continue to enhance the PCC's remit further and the size of the task is very clearly underestimated by a great many people.

During the election period I was honest with the public about my intention to appoint a Deputy and that I had someone in mind with the skill set and ability I needed to work closely with me on a proactive crime prevention agenda. I was clear that I wanted a Deputy to not only deputise for me in the general sense although with the geographical nature of Lincolnshire that is hugely important. They would specifically oversee rural issues as well as leading on community engagement work to ensure that people of all ages from across the whole county have an input into the type of policing they receive. During the election I chose not to discuss the name of the person I had in mind for two main reasons. Firstly, the election was for a PCC not a PCC and named Deputy. I felt it was totally appropriate that I should be judged on my ability to deliver in the role to which I hoped to be elected. Secondly, I believed that it was respectful to the Police and Crime Panel to confirm with them officially the name before making it public knowledge.

When deciding on an appropriate remuneration for the position I first looked at the pay of other Deputies around the country. I'll be honest and say that I did not expect to see some of the sums that have been paid in some other areas although I'm sure they have their reasons for paying them. I decided to look closer to home to ensure value for money for the taxpayers of Lincolnshire and I have based the figure directly on the special responsibility payment received by local Executive Councillors at £18000, which is vastly less than others I have seen. There will be no additional staff employed to support the Deputy role. I also made a commitment during my election campaign that I

would identify from existing budgets a way of funding the Deputy position without making it an additional cost to the public. I can confirm the costs will be met from existing budgetary provision.

As I have said, I was clear during my election about appointing a Deputy and the fact that I had someone in mind as well as the role they would carry out. Undoubtedly this was the correct way to approach things as it provides a clear mandate for the appointment. The criteria set out in my formal notification to the Panel sets out in broad terms why I know Stuart Tweedale to be the appropriate choice but it does not cover some of his personal qualities, which I will address now.

I have known Stuart as a Councillor and a community champion since 2013. We are not what I would call friends; we have never met up socially other than by chance in a very large group situation and do not have any previous history of working together or even speaking before that point. What I have observed in Stuart in the last three years is a warm, friendly disposition, a quiet relaxed competence that people trust and an integrity of character that is greatly admired. Stuart will offer me support, challenge and a strong work ethic to aid my delivery for Lincolnshire of a robust Police and Crime Plan. I have chosen Stuart because I know of his skills, temperament and commitment to deliver to the highest standard.

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