

COLETTE PAUL

CHIEF CONSTABLE

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE



Colette hadn't considered joining the police until her last year at Keele University studying English and Psychology, but has since enjoyed what she describes as 'an immensely rewarding' career.

She joined the Metropolitan Police Service after graduating, first walking the beat in Edmonton, North London.

Colette soon progressed into the CID and has since spent a large part of her career as an operational detective, including work within the Vice Unit, Murder Squad, and the Race and Violent Crime Task Force.

She took a career break in 1998 and ventured across the pond to work for the British High Commissioner in Ottawa, Canada.

On her return to London two years later she was appointed as the Detective Superintendent of the MPS Anti-Terrorist Branch and set up the MPS War Crimes Unit and the Counter Terrorist Intelligence Cell. She also acted as the Senior Investigating Officer in a number of terrorist investigations.

When Colette was promoted to Chief Superintendent in 2004, she served as Staff Officer to Lord Stevens, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, before becoming Borough Commander for Ealing Borough, covering Ealing, Acton and Southall, West London. She thoroughly enjoyed working with very diverse communities.

Colette went on to hold responsibility for all operational strategy in the MPS before joining South Wales Police as an Assistant Chief Constable in 2008, responsible for Protective Services, Serious & Organised Crime, Counter Terrorism, Firearms, Roads Policing and other operational policing specialism's.

Upon promotion to Deputy Chief Constable in South Wales Colette oversaw the [Professional Standards](#), [Corporate Communications](#), and Performance and Inspection departments; in addition to line managing the ACCs for Specialist Crime, Territorial Policing and Support and the ACOs for Finance, HR and Corporate and Legal Services. She is also the strategic lead for corporate planning, organisational change and collaboration. Nationally, Colette is the ACPO lead for International Affairs, SRO for JOA Schengen, and vice chair of Media and Communications.

In July 2013 Colette joined Bedfordshire Police as the new Chief Constable.

Colette is passionate about public service, and says policing is the job of her dreams – she wouldn't want to do anything else.