

# **DEBBIE SIMPSON**

## **CHIEF CONSTABLE**

### **DORSET POLICE**



Debbie Simpson joined Bedfordshire Police in 1984, serving in uniform, CID and on secondment outside the force area. She rose through the ranks to become Head of CID during which time she also led and coordinated the work of the Force's hostage negotiators.

Debbie transferred to Devon and Cornwall Constabulary in June 2008 on appointment as Assistance Chief Constable. In this role she held the Crime and Criminal Justice portfolio which included criminal investigations, counter terrorism, major investigations, serious organised crime, public protection, custody and restorative justice. Debbie was also Accountable Manager for the Police Helicopter and Devon Air Ambulance, chaired the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements Strategic Management Board and was the Force Diversity Champion for religion and belief. She chaired the South West Region Assistant Chief Constables' meeting and was South West lead for Emergency Procedures, as well as taking the lead in a number of areas of regional collaborative work.

In October 2011, Debbie was appointed Deputy Chief Constable with Dorset Police performing the role of Designated Deputy and ACPO on-call and Gold/SFC for both public order and firearms. Her key areas of responsibility included Force Strategy, Strategic Performance and Productivity, Policy, Public Confidence and Strategic Diversity, Professional Standards and Contact Management.

On 1 October 2012, Debbie became Acting Chief Constable for Dorset Police responsible for leading the force to provide the highest levels of service to all Dorset's communities. During this period she also ensured the Force was in a position to adapt to the necessary changes during the transition between Police Authority and the introduction of the Police and Crime Commissioner. During the initial stages of working alongside the PCC she supported him in formulating priorities in order to set the strategic direction and objectives of the Force and provided professional advice as necessary.

On 22 January, following a two day selection process, the Police and Crime Commissioner announced Debbie as his preferred candidate for the role of Chief Constable of Dorset Police and this was duly ratified at a Confirmation Hearing by the Police and Crime Panel on Thursday, 7 February.

Debbie is currently the ACPO Emergency Procedures portfolio lead for Disaster Victim Identification, and the ACPO Forensic Science portfolio lead for Pathology. She is one of 30 National Accredited Counter-Terrorist Commanders operating across the UK, and leads for the South West Region for ACPO Terrorist and Allied Matters (TAM). Debbie is also the South West Regional lead for Senior Women in Policing.