

WMPCP Office
Scrutiny Office
Birmingham City Council
Victoria Square
Birmingham
B1 1BB

Simon Foster
West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner

26 July 2022

Dear Commissioner

Confirmation Hearing: Proposed Appointment of Craig Guildford as Chief Constable of West Midlands Police

In accordance with Schedule 8 to the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, I write to inform you of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel's recommendation regarding your proposed appointment of Craig Guildford as Chief Constable of West Midlands Police.

I would like to thank you both for attending the public confirmation hearing on 25 July 2022 and responding to Panel Members' questions.

Confirmation Hearing

The confirmation hearing was held in the Council Chamber at Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council on Monday, 25 July 2022. The following Panel Members were present: -

Councillors: Alex Aitken, Pervez Akhtar, Raqeeb Aziz, Paul Bradley, Alan Feeney, Zahir Hussain, Jasbir Jaspal, Abdul Salam Khan, Gareth Moore, Kamran Razzaq, Suky Samra

Independent members: Kristina Murphy, Lionel Walker

The Panel considered the information you provided the Panel as required by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 and the report provided by the Independent Member. Members were assured that a fair and transparent process had been conducted and the successful candidate was selected on merit.

Panel Members then put a number of questions to Mr Guildford to determine whether he possessed the professional competence and personal independence for the role.

Panel Recommendation

Having considered the responses to the Panel questions, the Panel agreed unanimously

to recommend the Police and Crime Commissioner's preferred candidate Mr Craig Guildford be appointed as West Midlands Police Chief Constable.

Comments

In reaching the decision Panel Members reflected that Mr Guildford demonstrated his experience of building community policing, collaboration with local partners, and improving the diversity of the force. Members further commented on his reflective approach, his plan for engaging with staff and his aspirations for taking forward and delivering a better Police Service for the residents of the West Midlands.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Panel, I would like to thank Mr Guildford for his attendance at the Panel Confirmation Hearing and to wish him well in carrying out his new role.

We shall publish this letter on the Panel's website on Wednesday 27 July 2022.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Suky Samra', written in a cursive style.

Councillor Suky Samra

Chair of the West Midlands Police and Crime Panel

c.c.

Craig Guildford

Jonathan Jardine – Chief Executive OPCC