

MEDIA RELEASE MEDIA RELEASE

Police Authority decision over new Chief Constable

[18 Dec 09] Leicestershire Police Authority today interviewed three candidates for the position of Chief Constable of Leicestershire Constabulary. The position of Chief Constable has not been offered to any of the candidates.

Making the announcement, Byron Rhodes, Chairman of the Police Authority said:

“We have followed a rigorous recruitment process for this appointment. The first stage included community participation and feedback on Monday of this week, followed today by a formal interview. As a result of both of these stages, the Authority has decided, after much discussion, not to appoint on this occasion. All three candidates were of a high calibre and no doubt will be appointed to a post of Chief Constable within their careers. This has been a very difficult decision to make and the Authority regrets not being able to make an offer to one of the three candidates.

“We have a strong team of senior officers who will continue to ensure that Leicestershire Constabulary maintains the safety of the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. A new recruitment process will be undertaken as soon as reasonably practical”

Chris Eyre has undertaken the role of Temporary Chief Constable since the departure of Matt Baggott, who moved to become Chief Constable for the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) earlier this year.

No further comment will be made.

ENDS

Notes:

1. Mr Rhodes' photograph can be downloaded from the Leicestershire Police Authority website: http://www.leics-pa.police.uk/about_members.php
2. Leicestershire Police Authority's role is to ensure Leicestershire Constabulary provides efficient and effective policing in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
3. Police Authorities are independent bodies made up of local people. Police Authorities hold the Police Force to account on behalf of local communities. One of their duties is to appoint senior officers to the Constabulary, such as the Chief Constable.
4. Local Police Authorities along with the Home Secretary and Chief Officers of Police make up the tripartite relationship which is responsible for the governance of policing in England and Wales.