

PRESS INFORMATION

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REF: 205- Keith Robinson



Police Authority Appoints New Standards Chair

Keith Robinson of Hull has been appointed as the Chair of Humberside Police Authority's Standards Committee. This Committee is the Authority's internal 'watchdog', with a remit to promote and uphold the highest standards of conduct and behaviour from the seventeen members of the Police Authority who, together, are responsible for ensuring that Humberside Police is efficient and effective.

As a completely independent member of this committee, Mr Robinson is not a member of the full police authority. The Standards Committee has two independent 'lay' members to guarantee total impartiality in its work. One of its key terms of reference is to monitor the Authority's Code of Conduct for members.

Mr Robinson, who has lived in Humberside since 1971, explained that he responded to an advertisement for independent members of the Standards Committee a couple of years ago as he undertakes a similar role as a member of Hull City Council's Standards Committee and finds the work particularly interesting.

He said after his appointment as chair this week: "It's important to make sure that the various public bodies have a code to which they work and adhere and it's important that someone polices this. The Standards Committee is that someone.

"Although there has never been a complaint made against a member of the Police Authority, we need to have everything in place regardless so that we can react quickly should a complaint be made. It's interesting and rewarding."

Chair of the Authority, Alene Branton MBE, said that it was important that people know that the Police Authority is regulated in this way. She added: "I also think it's important that the public know that if they want to make a complaint it is considered by a completely impartial body.

"The Standards Committee not only promotes the highest standards of member conduct, it looks at wider aspects of ethical governance so that we can continually improve our own performance.

Further details about the Standards Committee, the Code of Conduct and the Complaints procedure can be found on the Authority's website: www.humberside-pa.org.uk.