

## Tim Godwin appointed deputy commissioner of Metropolitan Police

Adam Fresco, Crime Correspondent -From Times Online July 16, 2009



Alan Johnson, the Home Secretary, praised Mr Godwin's "exceptional career" A former merchant sailor was appointed to the second most powerful role in British policing today. Tim Godwin, 49, has been confirmed as the new deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

The senior officer has been working in the role since Sir Paul Stephenson was appointed commissioner in January.

He beat Merseyside Chief Constable Bernard Hogan-Howe at the last hurdle after the two men made the final shortlist.

Godwin's appointment was agreed by the Queen after an interview earlier this week with Alan Johnson, the Home Secretary, and Boris Johnson, the Mayor of London.

He was the favourite after Sir Paul said that he supported his bid and senior police authority members said that Sir Paul had the final word. Alan Johnson said that Mr Godwin has had an "exceptional career" and has played a key part in reforming the police.

He said: "I know that he will bring a really vigorous commitment to the vital responsibilities of his new role."

Sir Paul said: "Tim Godwin is an outstanding police officer who has contributed much to policing nationally and in particular to the Metropolitan Police.

"It was always going to be a difficult choice from a field of strong and able candidates. I am very pleased that Tim will be my deputy and look forward to working closely together over the coming years."

Boris Johnson, who is chairman of the Metropolitan Police Authority, said that Mr Godwin has done an "outstanding job" in the past few months.

He said: "We interviewed outstanding candidates for the post, but Tim impressed us with his enormous experience of policing."

Mr Godwin left school aged 16 and spent six years in the merchant navy becoming a second mate, responsible for navigating his ships.

He joined Sussex Police in 1981 and rapidly rose through the ranks working in intelligence, drugs, scientific support and major inquiries.

During this time he continued his education with further studies at universities in Portsmouth and Cambridge, as well as undertaking the police strategic command course.

Mr Godwin transferred to the Metropolitan Police in 1999 where he has served in South London and as head of the force's territorial policing division.

His work has focused on updating the force's forensic work, countering robbery and overseeing an overhaul of the way sex offences are investigated.

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### From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Metropolitan Police Service Common name The Met Abbreviation MPS

Employees 50,000 Volunteers 797 Annual Budget £3.5bn

police area Size 1,578 km<sup>2</sup> (609 sq mi) Population 7.4 million

Legal jurisdiction England & Wales (Northern Ireland and Scotland in limited circumstances)

Headquarters New Scotland Yard Police Constables 31,460 Police Community Support Officers 4,000

Borough Operational Command Units 32 Stations 180 Boats 22 Helicopters 3 Dogs 250

The Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) is the territorial police force responsible for law enforcement within Greater London, excluding the City of London which is the responsibility of the City of London Police.

In the period 2007/08, the MPS employed 31,460 police officers, 2,510 Special Constables, 14,085 police staff, and 4,247 Police Community Support Officers. This makes it the largest police force within the United Kingdom. The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, known commonly as Commissioner, is the overall head of the force, responsible to the Metropolitan Police Authority.

**Right the Traditional 'Blue Lamp' outside Bow Street Police station**

