

To: The Chair and Members of the Police and Crime Panel for North Yorkshire

Personal Statement – Appointment as Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire

*Will Naylor
27th September 2016*

I am very pleased to have been asked to provide a personal statement in advance of the hearing on 3rd October 2016.

My personal statement comes having been selected as the preferred candidate for the role of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner for North Yorkshire. It is an enormous privilege to be the preferred candidate, but the Panel will rightly want to reassure themselves that I am suitable for the role and will be able to support the Commissioner in delivering on the priorities set for North Yorkshire.

Skills and experience

I feel I am in a unique position to ensure the Deputy role is delivered successfully. Having worked alongside the Commissioner over the last three and a half years I am committed to her vision for North Yorkshire, understand well the views of residents and businesses, have built many relationships within North Yorkshire Police and have a comprehensive knowledge of the partnership landscape.

Most importantly, I want to make a difference to the communities of North Yorkshire, supporting and assisting the Commissioner in giving people the voice and means to improve the policing service in our county. With a home and young family in North Yorkshire I am committed to the county and want to do everything I can to impact positively on my community.

Having seen the positive impact a Commissioner can make, I want to fulfil her vision of a safer North Yorkshire being served by a responsive, compassionate

police service. As Deputy I feel I can harness the powers invested in Police and Crime Commissioners to help improve community safety across North Yorkshire.

At its heart, whilst this role is of course about policing and crime, to me it is also about public accountability and community engagement. The defining features of a successful accountability framework are transparency and accessibility, and those are features I intend to put at the forefront of my work should I become the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. The public will always come first.

Working with the Home Office on complaints, health partners on Section 136 provision and lobbying Ministers on the funding formula proves I understand policy development and am able to work with others to influence it. I am also keenly aware that whilst local services are central to the duties of a Commissioner, the issues which will likely have the biggest impact on frontline delivery in North Yorkshire are decided in Westminster. The funding formula for example has the potential to undermine the financial plans in North Yorkshire, and ultimately frontline capacity. The experience I carry means I am in the strongest position possible to assist the Commissioner in influencing these decisions.

As Deputy, I would also increase the Commissioner's coverage across what is the biggest policing county in England. The sheer logistics of ensuring the voice of every community is heard requires an almost daily public commitment from the Commissioner. Supporting the Commissioner with my complimentary public engagement plan, and by deputising for her at scrutiny, public or community meetings, frees the Commissioner up to focus on her other duties as and when required.

My skills and experience to date put me in the best position possible to support the Commissioner in the range of services she provides, both in a personal capacity as the single accountable figure for policing, in developing commissioned services but also fundamentally in improving emergency and community safety services as widely as possible. I don't want to just support the Commissioner in doing more work, but in doing it better.

It is also important to be absolutely clear that I am committed fully to the policing code of ethics, and to uphold the highest professional standards.

Please rest assured that my defining priority as a Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner will be to represent the views of the public of North Yorkshire and ensure that they are influencing policing decisions, getting the service they need and ultimately being and feeling safe.