

Chief Superintendent Dickie Whitehead

Dickie was born in 1965 and was raised in Bradford, West Yorkshire with his two brothers and one sister. At the age of 16 he joined the Royal Navy which saw him travel to the Far East, America, Canada and Europe.

Dickie has three children, two daughters and one son and enjoys sport in general with a keen interest in outdoor pursuits along with his long term partner.



Dickie's career with West Yorkshire Police began on the 10th July 1989 with his first posting as a Police Constable being in his home town of Bradford where he continued to progress up the ranks to Detective Chief Inspector. In 2006 he became the staff officer to Chief Constable Colin Cramphorn. In addition to his West Yorkshire Police duties Dickie devised and delivered the National Maritime Policing Strategy, in partnership with the MOD, UKSF, Home Office, ACPO, DFT and other associated agencies.

On the 10th April 2007 Dickie was appointed Superintendent of Operations in Bradford where he dealt with numerous critical incidents including the illegal use of firearms and community impact issues becoming an accredited Silver and Gold Firearms Commander. He also worked in partnership with the local authority to implement local neighbourhood multi agency teams.

In 2009 as a Detective Superintendent, Dickie became Director of Intelligence within Crime Division. During this time he devised and implemented the Force Intelligence Review and realised savings of £2.5million. With a reduced workforce he extended coverage to 24/7, establishing dedicated intelligence support to critical incident command and central evaluation roles. He provided silver intelligence support to numerous EDL events and supported a review of the Metropolitan Police with regards to the Queens Diamond Jubilee.

On the 22nd July 2013 Dickie was promoted to Chief Superintendent and became the lead for Viper, Cultural Shift and Ethics. He was responsible for embedding a philosophy of policing that maximises, co-ordinates and facilitates a resource synergy from across Districts, Protective Services, HQ and Partners. He introduced a Cultural Audit and response to enhance our attitude and behaviours through Leadership, Health & Wellbeing and System Thinking. Whilst in this post Dickie engaged the service, external partners and communities in order to formulate a response to the Cultural Audit and to create 'Our People Ambition' that sets out our Strategic People Priorities and Plans to fully realise the potential of every individual in order to become a 'World Class Team'.

In May 2014 Dickie was appointed the Commander of Protective Services Operations where he was responsible for the operational command and control of Firearms, Operational Support Units, Dogs, Mounted and Roads Policing. He was also responsible for the Learning & Development portfolio, which includes Leadership Development, training across the service including

Specials, Volunteers and outside agencies. He also had responsibility for the Award Winning Customer Contact Centre (Communications) as the third strand to this portfolio.

On 13th April 2015 Dickie became the Calderdale District Commander where he is now focussed upon continuing the outstanding work of Police and Partner agencies in order to deliver sustained Public Protection through continuous improvement.

Correct as of July 2016