



### **APA CHAIR 2011-2012: Cllr. Mark Burns-Williamson**

Cllr Mark Burns-Williamson was elected Chair of the National Association of Police Authorities in October 2011, having served as Deputy Chair since 2009 and a Board member since 2003. The APA is the national voice of the public in policing, representing police authorities in England and Wales, as well as the Northern Ireland Policing Board, and the Police Authorities for the Ministry of Defence Police, Civil Nuclear Constabulary and the British Transport Police. Please see: [www.apa.police.uk](http://www.apa.police.uk).

Mark has been a member West Yorkshire Police Authority since 1999, and was elected Chair of the Authority in June 2003 and has been re-elected Chair every year since.

He has been a Wakefield Metropolitan District Councillor for over 13 years representing the Castleford Central and Glasshoughton Ward, as a Councillor, Mark is currently Chair of the Castleford Town Centre Partnership, Chair of the Wakefield Labour Group and a member of many voluntary groups. He is also a member of the Local Government Association's Safer Communities Board.

At home in West Yorkshire, Mark is also a long time governor at Wheldon Infants School and Castleford High School & Technology College which is one of the most improved state schools in England and also President of Glasshoughton Cricket Club. Rugby League has been a lifelong passion for Mark; he is a former player and administrator and is a keen supporter of Castleford Tigers RLFC.

#### **Notes:**

1. For enquiries please contact Nathan Oley at the APA via 07714 399 760 or [Nathan.oley@apa.police.uk](mailto:Nathan.oley@apa.police.uk)
2. The Association of Police Authorities (APA) represents local police authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as the British Transport Police Authority, the Civil Nuclear Police Authority, and the Ministry of Defence Police Committee.
3. Local police authorities (through the APA), along with the Home Secretary (the Home Office) and chief officers of police (ACPO), make up the tripartite relationship which is responsible for the governance of policing in England and Wales
4. Police authorities will continue to be active, constructive members of the tripartite governance of policing until the first elections for Police and Crime Commissioners on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2012.
5. Police authorities are currently made up of local people: a mix of local councillors and skilled independent members (selected from the community) of which one must be a magistrate.
6. The job of police authorities is to:
  - ensure that the public are served by an efficient and effective local police service
  - consult with local communities to find out what they want the local police to do
  - set the budget for their police force, and decide how much local people should pay for policing through the 'policing precept' part of council tax
  - set the strategic direction for local policing and decide what police should focus attention on based on consultations with local communities
  - appoint (and, if necessary, dismiss) chief constables and senior police officers
  - make sure the police force is continuing to do a better job