

Protecting the Vulnerable: the new volume demand and looking after our people



Gavin Thomas, President Superintendents Association

Gavin became the President of the Police Superintendents Association for England and Wales in March 2016. Prior to this, for the previous three years, he had been the Vice President of the Association.

He has 34 years' service of which the majority has been as a Detective in Gloucestershire, apart from a period when he was in the US attending the FBI Quantico Programme. He speaks on a number of issues but particularly wellbeing, difference and the vision/future for the service.



Gareth Edwards, Child Protection Abuse Investigation Working Group

Gareth Edwards is a principal policy and performance advisor to Chief Constable Simon Bailey in line with his national policing lead responsibilities for Child Protection Abuse Investigation (CPAI).

Prior to this he worked at the office of the Children's Commissioner for England, supporting their national Inquiries into CSE in gangs and groups and more recently CSA in the family environment. Gareth led on the development and implementation of national data collections utilising the children's commissioners' legal powers to gather evidence from across a range of sectors including health, law enforcement and children's services. Prior to working at the Children's Commissioner, Gareth worked in analytical roles within the Metropolitan Police and Cambridgeshire Constabulary.



Detective Superintendent Tim Martin, Head of Public Protection Investigations

Detective Superintendent Tim Martin is the Head of the Public Protection Investigation Team and Offender Management teams within Staffordshire Police. Having joined in 1992, he has completed over 23 years' service, in both uniform and detective roles throughout Staffordshire.

Tim has worked in many operational roles within the Force and spent 5 years on secondment to the West Midlands Regional Crime Unit where he was involved in both Regional and National Drug and Counter terrorism investigations. Tim has worked in CID, Witness Protection Teams, MID and latterly as Head of the Anti-Corruption and Performance Assessment Unit.

Tim has been instrumental in the professionalisation and development of officers within the Public Protection arena and was heavily involved in the development of the Sexual Assault Referral Centre at Cobridge and Staffordshire Police's response to Child Sexual Exploitation, Operation Garnett.

As Head of Public Protection Investigations, Tim has responsibility for the Child Protection and Adult at Risk Investigation teams, Child Sexual Exploitation Team, Rape & Sexual Offence Investigations team and the Violent & Sex Offender Manager Teams. Tim is the Force lead for all Sexual offence cases and is the Force Champion for Specially Trained Officers.

Tim is a Senior Investigating Officer, Force Lead Negotiator and is on the Critical Incident Command Team rota which responds to Kidnap and Extortion. Also a member of the Panel of Friends for the Superintendents Association.