

Anger over £53k post as police commissioner's deputy



Mark Burns-Williamson, the Commissioner for West Yorkshire, has defended his decision to seek a deputy

Sean O'Neill

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A Police and Crime Commissioner has angered his political opponents by writing to his Labour Party colleagues advertising a vacancy for a £53,000-a-year deputy.

Mark Burns-Williamson, the Commissioner for West Yorkshire, defended his decision, saying that he had been elected on a party political ticket and needed his deputy to operate effectively in the fourth-largest police area in England.

Mr Burns-Williamson said: "PCCs [Police and Crime Commissioners] across the country in forces much smaller and less complex than our own have appointed deputies, assistants and advisers already. I have chosen to conduct a thorough interview process rightly open to Labour Party members in West Yorkshire and will appoint a deputy in due course at less cost than the previous system."

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 **Michael Daventry**

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 **Douglas Rolph** 4 days ago

If you cannot do the job for which you applied and was subsequently appointed, either the job is too big for you, or you are not big enough for the job.

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 **Dr Calum MacInnes** 4 days ago

How on earth!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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 **Peter Evans** 5 days ago

Job creation.

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 **John Bratchell-Hunt** 5 days ago

If this character needs a £53,000-a-year deputy to help him with a non job that was invented by imbeciles he obviously isn't fit for purpose.

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 **Mr. John Crompton** 6 days ago

There is nothing here to indicate what exactly it is that has angered the Commissioner's political opponents . Is it the principle of having a deputy per se , the fact that recruitment seems to be restricted to Labour Party members, the fact that it is Labour Party members in West Yorkshire or the salary? Writing as somebody who was born in the county I think it fair comment to say that if the salary was £5,000 a year rather than £53,000 there would still be many who would complain of it "being a wicked waste of money." It is indeed hard to see how there can be any justification in limiting the pool of applicants so narrowly. How can it be demonstrated that the best person was appointed ?

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Jill 6 days ago



Who is funding this post and what is their equal opportunities policy?

1 Recommend Reply



Mr Robin Kempster

6 days ago

This is utterly disgraceful. It was also utterly predictable. It shows how absurd was the notion of electing PCCs and how gormless and short-sighted were the supporters of the project---not least "The Times". The Police Precept in West Yorkshire for 2013-14 has gone up by 3.8% to enable this clown and his mates to lead the good life, whilst the resources available for effective policing have been reduced.

5 Recommend Reply



Ayo O Odelusi

6 days ago

@Mr Robin Kempster Well said, Robin. This was always a very stupid idea, and it's inevitable that instances of abuse of office like this will occur. Look out for more.

3 Recommend Reply

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