

DCC Bernie O'Reilly appointed interim CEO of the College

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Deputy chief executive to take on role from 1 January 2021 when Mike Cunningham retires from policing

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Deputy Chief Constable Bernie O'Reilly, who joined the College of Policing in 2018, will take over from Mike Cunningham – who is retiring at the end of this year – on a temporary basis while recruitment processes to appoint our next chief executive continue.

"I wish Mike all the best for his well-earned retirement and thank him for the commitment and dedication which he has demonstrated throughout his distinguished policing career," said Christine Elliott, the interim Chair of the College of Policing board.

"Under his leadership the College of Policing has made great progress in improving our connection with officers and staff, particularly those working on the frontline. Mike has also been at the forefront of our work to support greater diversity across the police workforce and help the service prepare for future challenges.

"I am particularly proud that during these last few months, we have designed a blueprint for the College of Policing National Leadership Centre, transformed how the College operates and developed new corporate and digital strategies.

"I am delighted that Bernie O'Reilly will be able to bring his extensive policing experience to the role to provide the strong leadership and continuity needed to ensure the College can support everyone working in policing during this demanding period."

The College of Policing is working closely with the government to recruit Mike Cunningham's successor and further updates will follow.

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