



Media Release

International Association of Women Police – Mentoring Award, 2017 Nicola Flanagan, Staffordshire Police, U.K.

Constable Nicola Flanagan has more than 31-year policing service having joined Staffordshire Police in 1985 as a cadet, becoming a regular officer in 1989, she is a wife and a mother to three children.

Becoming a police officer allowed Constable Flanagan to enhance her love of driving and motorcycles when, through a competitive process, she became a member of the Road Crime Team, something that even today, few women achieve. She became an accredited VIP Defensive Driver and VIP Motorcycle outrider and, for nine years, was involved in the protection of members of the Royal Family and other dignitaries visiting Staffordshire she also escorted the 2012 London Olympics Torch Run. To this day Constable Flanagan is still the only female defensive driver in Staffordshire. She went on to become a member of the Staffordshire Police Driver Training Team.

Later, Utilising her mentoring and training skills, she was appointed as a Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) mentor at Lichfield. She transformed the team from one of low morale to one of the highest performing teams in the force across a number of areas, with PCSOs queuing at Constable Flanagan's door to obtain advice and support in relation to problem solving.

Constable Flanagan's nominator for this award, a sergeant on the Lichfield Neighbourhood Policing Team, describes her as, "...inspirational in her motivation, drive, shows amazing leadership qualities and excels in performance because of who they are and in the past year has demonstrated her outstanding natural ability to coach & mentor 21 Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) at Lichfield Police Station".

Constable Flanagan will be honoured at a formal luncheon during the IAWP's 55th Annual Training Conference due to take place between 17th and 21st September 2017, in Cairns, Australia.

IAWP President Margaret Shorter, "For the past 100 years, IAWP has promoted the role of women in policing. IAWP champions change to enable women to play their full part in delivering an inclusive service to their local communities. Without our annual recognition programme many phenomenal women and men would go unrecognized for their efforts".

The **Mission** of the I.A.W.P. is: To strengthen, unite and raise the capacity of women in policing internationally. The **Vision**: IAWP envisions a world where police reflect the diversity of the communities they serve and where human rights are protected.

For more information about I.A.W.P. visit www.iawp.org

For further information on the 2017 recognition programme or permissions please contact Jane Townsley, media@iawp.org