

CRESSIDA DICK

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER

METROPOLITAN POLICE



Cressida Dick was born, brought up and educated in Oxford. After leaving University, she travelled and worked in a fish and chip shop and in a large accountancy firm. In 1983 she joined the Metropolitan Police serving as a Constable, Sergeant and Inspector in Central, South West and South East London.

In 1993 she was seconded on to the staff of the Accelerated Promotion Course at Bramshill. In 1995 she transferred to Thames Valley Police as Superintendent Operations at Oxford and, subsequently, spent three years as Area Commander at Oxford.

After attending the Strategic Command Course, Cressida took a career break and studied full time for an M. Phil. in Criminology.

In June 2001 she returned to the Met as a Commander. She was Director of the Diversity Directorate and Head of the Racial and Violent Crime Task Force until August 2003.

She then moved to a role in the Specialist Crime Directorate, responsible for Organised and Cross Border Crime. Here she had line command of Operation Trident and the Serious and Organised Crime OCU – which included kidnap/hostage, the Flying Squad and teams tackling threats to life and cross-border drug trafficking.

Cressida trained as a hostage negotiator in 1998 and is the UK police lead for hostage negotiation. She undertook command roles in the UK police response to 9/11, the Tsunami and the terrorist attacks in London in July 2005.

In February 2007 she was promoted to Deputy Assistant Commissioner and moved to Specialist Operations in charge of protective security in London, which includes the protection of individuals, such as Ministers, VIP's and the Royal Family. She was also Deputy to the Assistant Commissioner SO.

In July 2009, Cressida was promoted to be the first female Assistant Commissioner in the Met. She is now in charge of the Specialist Crime Directorate leading all serious crime investigation and is Head of Profession for Detectives across the Met.

Cressida's policing interests include policing ethics, leadership, diversity, hostage negotiation, public order and critical incident management. She regularly delivers presentations and training in the spheres of police leadership, culture and diversity and in critical incident management.

In her spare time Cressida spends as much time as possible in the countryside enjoying walking, running, gardening and various country sports. Holidays are spent coastal and hill walking in Cornwall, Ireland and Scotland.