

# Neil Basu announced as new strategic command course director

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Metropolitan Police Service's head of specialist operations joins the College of Policing

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Assistant Commissioner Neil Basu, of the Met, will be responsible for leading the 2021 [strategic command course \(SCC\)](#), which prepares police officers and staff for promotion to the most senior ranks in the service.

Neil will be taking up the role to ensure the content of the course meets the needs of the service. This includes joining the College in the weeks leading up to the start of the course to ensure the final planning and preparations are completed and, from 20 September to 17 December 2021, he will lead the delivery of the SCC.

This year's SCC course will follow the conclusion of the senior police national assessment centre (SPNAC), which has recently started and will run until the end of May.

The SCC will be run mainly with face-to-face modules at the College of Policing's site in Ryton, but will also include online work to be completed by the candidates.

*We are delighted Neil will be joining us to oversee the SCC, which is policing's most senior leadership development programme.*

*His extensive operational experience across a range of areas of policing and his varied career over four decades in the service means that he has all the qualities and skills needed to lead the SCC.*

**Bernie O'Reilly, interim College of Policing CEO**

Neil Basu, commenting on the appointment, said: 'It is an honour to have been chosen to lead the 2021 SCC as director. Senior police leadership roles are without doubt some of the most challenging in the country. I passed the course in 2012 and I know that it has shaped my approach to senior police leadership ever since. I hope to be able to play my part in inspiring the next cohort

of senior police leaders as they approach this major new stage in their careers.

'I know that I will also gain a lot personally from this role, and look forward to bringing that experience back into the Met.'

Neil Basu QPM became a police officer in 1992, and has spent his whole career with the Metropolitan Police Service. Since March 2018, AC Basu has headed up specialist operations at the Met and is the National Police Chiefs' Council lead for counter-terrorism policing. He is currently the most senior serving British police officer of Asian heritage.

In the 2016 Queen's Birthday Honours list, Neil Basu was awarded the Queen's Police Medal (QPM) for distinguished service.

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