

Commissioner of Police

Mike Bush MNZM

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The Commissioner of New Zealand Police is both Chief Constable, with responsibility for operational matters, and Chief Executive, responsible for assets and budgeting. The Commissioner is accountable to the Police Minister for the administration of Police services, but acts independently in law enforcement matters.

The present Commissioner is Mike Bush, who began his three-year tenure in April 2014. He joined Police in 1978. His operational and administrative positions included South East Asia liaison officer, based in Bangkok, when he was the first New Zealand official to reach devastated Phuket after the 2004 Asian tsunami. He was awarded the MNZM for his achievements in this operation.

As Counties-Manukau district commander he oversaw deployment of an additional 300 officers into New Zealand's busiest Police district and pioneered neighbourhood policing under the Policing Excellence change programme. He retains the Policing Excellence portfolio.