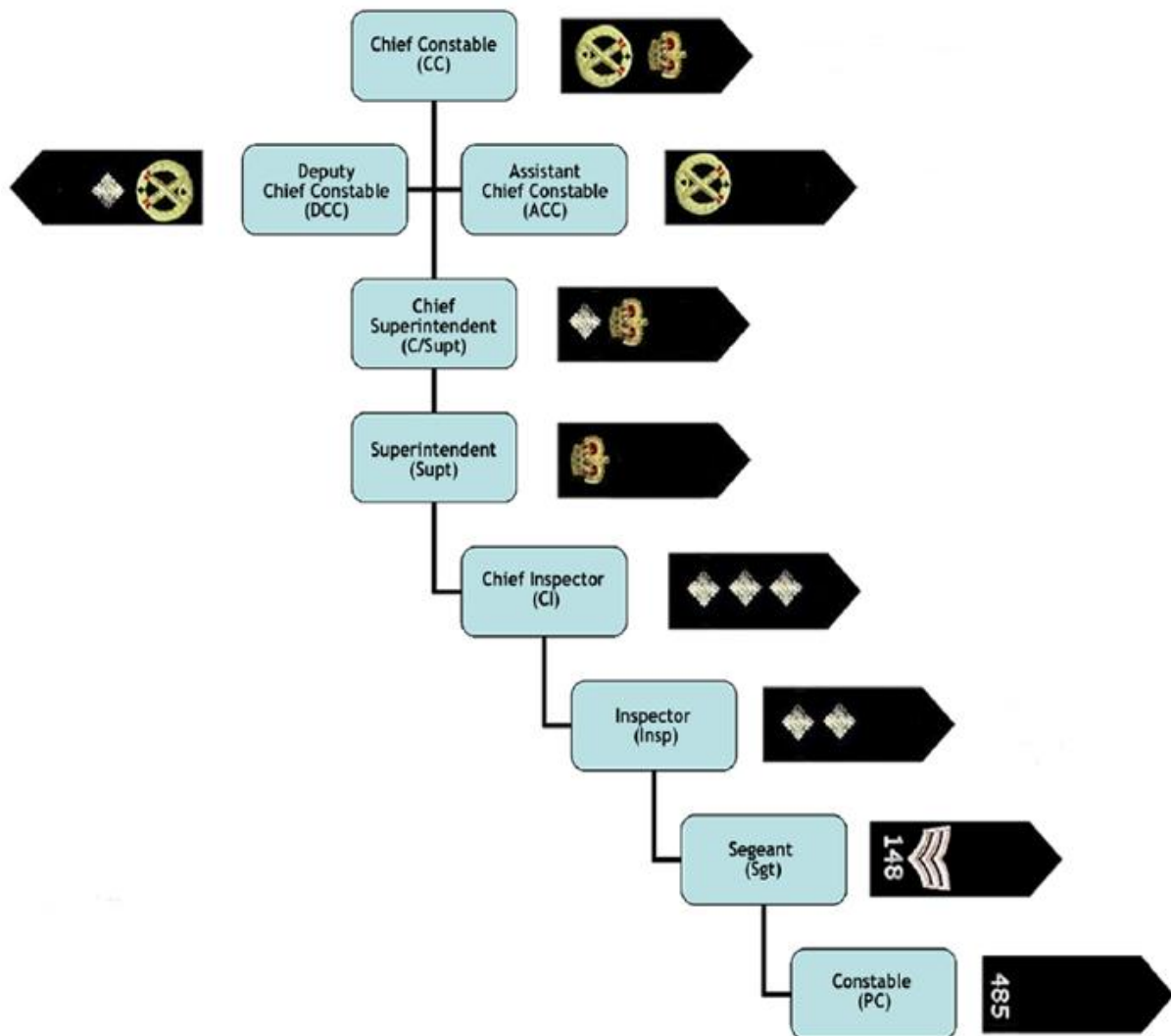


## Police Rank Structure



## Role of the Police

✓ The purpose of the Police Service is to uphold the law fairly and firmly:

- to prevent crime
- to pursue and bring to justice those who break the law
- to keep the Queen's Peace
- to protect, help and reassure the community
- to be seen to do all this with integrity, common sense and sound judgment.



## ✓ Role of a Constable

The office of constable is unique because it is the duty of police officers to:

- (a) protect life and property;
- (b) preserve order;
- (c) prevent the commission of offences; and
- (d) where an offence has been committed, to take measures to bring the offender to justice.

To fulfill these duties, police officers are granted extraordinary powers and a wide discretion with which to exercise them. Therefore, the public and the police service have the right to expect the highest professional standards of behaviour....every police officer must attain these standards. Anybody who falls short of these standards will have his or her conduct examined.

## The Oath

The oath is taken by all constables, which is important to allow the exercising of certain powers such as arrest.

*“I ....( your full name).... of West Midlands Constabulary do solemnly and sincerely declare and affirm that I will well and truly serve the Queen in the office of constable, with fairness, integrity, diligence and impartiality, upholding fundamental human rights and according equal respect to all people; and that I will to the best of my power, cause the peace to be kept and preserved and prevent all offences against people and property; and that while I continue to hold the said office I will to the best of my skill and knowledge discharge all the duties thereof according to law. ”*