

Agenda item

Police and Crime Panel

Meeting to be held on 19th October 2016

MONITORING OF COMPLAINTS

Contact for further information:

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Executive Summary

This report sets out the current position with regard to communications relating to potential complaints received to date in relation to the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Recommendation

That the update in relation to communications and complaints be noted.

Background and Advice

At the AGM meeting on 20th June 2016 the Police and Crime Panel requested a summary of the communications to date which had been initially considered as potential complaints into the conduct of the Police & Crime Commissioner (and formerly the Deputy Police & Crime Commissioner).

Since the commencement of the Panel in 2012 there have been 25 recorded communications which at the outset were described as potential complaints against the commissioner.

Many of these communications however did/do not relate directly to the conduct of the PCC and therefore do not, under the terms of the governing regulations come under the jurisdiction of the Police & Crime Panel.

The jurisdiction of the Panel in relation to complaints is set out in the `Police & Crime Panel Complaints Procedure, most recently updated and adopted at the Panel's meeting on 8th March 2016. (Appendix `A` refers)

Many communications received focus on the alleged conduct of police officers or the chief constable, and these are matters for which there are other complaints processes.

The Secretary will always therefore look to advise complainants of the appropriate avenue for their grievances to be looked into, and addressed.

The Secretary, as the Panel will be aware, regularly provides updates to the Panel on the response to communications/complaints received and provides a short summary.

For this meeting in response to the request at the AGM in June the summary for this meeting includes also the position on all previous communications/complaints noted at previous Panel meetings since the panel was established.

The communications numbered 20-25 are the updates which would ordinarily have been reported to this meeting.

It can be noted that there have been no formal complaints registerable under the Regulations (Approved Procedure) in the last year. Such Complaints would always be reported, after receipt, at the next available Panel meeting.

Since 2012 there have been 4 complaints/concerns which had been registered and considered by the Panel/Complaints Sub Committee. 3 relating to the PCC and 1 relating to the DPCC.

The full summary including the latest update is presented in Appendix ` A `

Consultations

N/A

Implications:

This item has the following implications, as indicated:

Legal Implications

The procedures adopted by the Panel comply with the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 which are issued under the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011 for the handling of complaints and matters concerning the conduct of the holders of the office of Police and Crime Commissioner.

Financial Implications

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. It is proposed the handling of such complaints will be contained within existing resources.

Risk management

The requirement to monitor and record complaints against the PCC and DPCC is in accordance with the provisions of The Elected Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012.

Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985 List of Background Papers

<u>Paper</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Contact/Directorate/Tel</u>
Agenda and Minutes from	November 2012	David Fairclough HR, Legal & Corporate Services 01254 585642
Agenda and Minutes from	July 2014	David Fairclough HR, Legal & Corporate Services 01254 585642
Agenda and Minutes from	March 2016	David Fairclough HR, Legal & Corporate Services 01254 585642