

Police and Crime Panel

5th October 2018

Report of the Chief Executive of the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner

COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER RECEIVED UNDER THE POLICE REFORM AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT

1. The number of complaints received and handled since the PCC's election on 12th May 2016 are shown at Table 1. This paper covers the period up to 19th September 2018.
2. Three formal complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner were received in the last period (22nd May-19th September 2018).
3. A scoping exercise was undertaken by the Chief Executive for the first two complaints and recommendations were sent to the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel for handling the complaints, which were accepted. The complainants were both written to and both complaints are now finalised.
4. The third complaint was submitted anonymously and was in relation to the recent engagement survey on the possible merger with Dorset Police. Within the Independent Police Complaints Commission guidance for Police and Crime Panels under point 6.3.4, it states that a complaint can be disappplied if:

'The complaint discloses neither the name and address of the complainant nor that of any other interested person and it is not reasonably practicable to ascertain such a name or address'
5. A recommendation was sent to the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel to disapply the complaint, which was accepted.

Complaints Reform

6. In June 2018, the Police and Crime Panel were informed of the intention to put on hold the proposed pilot with Dorset OPCC for a new process for handling police complaints. The pilot related to the potential for PCCs to take a more active role in complaints under the Policing and Crime Act 2017.
7. The pilot was due to commence in March 2018 but was paused because of delays in implementing the required provisions of the Policing and Crime Act 2017.

8. The proposed date for a statutory instrument to enact the new requirements remains Spring 2019 and planning roadshows are taking place nationally this autumn. A further update will be brought to the panel regarding the overall timetable and our plans once these have taken place.

Table 1

Dates	Complaints received	Number of Complaint recorded	Number of Complaints unrecorded	Total	Complaints forwarded to IPCC by the OPCC
12 th May – 15 th June 2016	0	0	0	0	0
16 th June– 26 th September 2016	0	0	0	0	0
27 th September -23 rd November 2016	1	1	0	1	0
24 th November 2016 – 23 rd January 2017	0	0	0	0	0
24 th January -31 st May 2017	1	1	0	1	0
1 st June-19 th September 2017	3	3	0	3	0
20 th September – 3 rd November 2017	0	0	0	0	0
4 th November 2018 – 16 th January 2018	1	1	0	1	0
17 th January – 21 st May 2018	1	1	0	1	0
22 nd May-19 th September 2018	3	3	0	3	0
Grand total				10	0

Fran Hughes

Chief Executive

Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon and Cornwall

frances.hughes@devonandcornwall.pnn.police.uk

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