

WEST MERCIA POLICE AND CRIME PANEL 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

COMPLAINTS 2017-18 ANNUAL REPORT

Recommendation

- 1. Members of the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel (PCP) are asked to note the contents of this update report.**

Background

2. One of the Panel's functions under the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 is to deal with non-criminal complaints about the conduct of the West Mercia Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and his Deputy.
3. Complaints that allege criminality must be referred to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC). It is open to the IOPC to refer the matter back to the Panel to deal with.
4. The Panel approved a procedure for handling complaints at its meeting in December 2013 (attached at Appendix 1). In this, the Chairman of the Panel considers all complaints initially, supported by the Monitoring Officer for the Panel (the Monitoring Officer for Worcestershire County Council, which is the host authority).
5. The process is for complaints about conduct, not about policies which the PCC pursues. A separate procedure exists for complaints about police operational matters.
6. The Chairman of the Panel may refer a complaint for consideration by a Sub-Committee of three members of the PCP appointed by him. The Sub-Committee considers whether to take any action in respect of the complaint or to deal with it by informal resolution. The Chairman or Sub-Committee may refer a complaint to the full Police and Crime Panel to deal with.
7. During 2017-18 eight complaints were recorded concerning the conduct of the PCC. All eight complaints related to the sale of car registration mark AB1. Four of these were referred to the IOPC and were returned to the PCP as they did not merit investigation by the IOPC. One complaint was withdrawn and the issues raised by the remaining seven complaints were finalised by the PCP on 6 February 2018 and a report and recommendation issued to the PCC.
8. No complaints were referred to the Sub-Committee.
9. 3 further purported complaints were received but were not recorded as the content did not meet the requirements of the Regulations.

Supporting Information

Appendix 1: Complaints process for the West Mercia Police and Crime Panel agreed December 2013

Specific Contact Points for this Report

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Background Papers

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) there are no background papers relating to the subject matter of this report.

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