



VERA BAIRD^{QC}
POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER

REPORT TO THE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL

4 JUNE 2019

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND MONITORING OFFICER

**COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONER ANNUAL
REPORT – APRIL 2018 TO MARCH 2019**

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide the Police and Crime panel with the annual report about the complaints and purported complaints received and every conduct matter recorded by the Monitoring Officer between April 2018 and March 2019.

2. Background

- 1.2 The Police and Crime Panel has the statutory role of overseeing all complaints against the PCC and informally resolving non-criminal complaints, as well as criminal complaints or conduct matters that are referred back to the Panel by the Independent Office for Police Complaints (IOPC).
- 2.2 The Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) make provision regarding the Panel's powers and duties in regard to complaints made about the conduct of the PCC. The aim of the complaints system is to deliver resolution as quickly and effectively as possible for the majority of complainants through local resolution.
- 2.3 In accordance with the Regulations, the Panel is required to maintain suitable arrangements for handling complaints, recording conduct matters where there is an indication that the PCC may have committed a criminal offence and prescribing the manner in which any complaints alleging conduct which constitutes or involves, or appears to constitute or involve, the commission of a criminal offence and conduct matters are handled. A procedure for dealing with complaints against the PCC was approved by panel members in November 2012 appointing the Chief Executive of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner as the Monitoring Officer
- 2.5 In respect of record keeping the panel agreed in this procedure that the Monitoring Officer will keep records of every complaint and purported complaint received and every conduct matter recorded by the Monitoring Officer. In addition, the Monitoring Officer is to report, on a regular basis, the summary details (such as can be reported in public), on the exercise of any and all of these functions to the Police and Crime Panel for monitoring purposes. This annual report therefore provides a full list of all complaints received between April 2018 and March 2019, none of which were upheld. It is worth the Panel noting that in some cases complainants are historic and correspondence has been taking place for a number of years.

Received	Nature of Complaint	Recorded / Action Taken
2nd May 2018	<p>The Complainant wrote to the Chief Constable, stating that he was complaining about him. The Chief Constable referred the matter to the PCC, as by law it is only the PCC who can deal with such matters.</p> <p>The Complainant disagreed with this action and said that the PCC should never have dealt with the matter as it was a complaint to the Chief Constable.</p>	<p>The complaint was not upheld as it was correctly forwarded to the PCC. The Police and Crime Act 2017 states that all expressions of dissatisfaction are regarded as complaints. The complainant was made aware of the legislation and the reasons behind the decisions taken.</p> <p>Not upheld</p>
20 th August 2018	<p>The Complainant wrote to the Deputy Chief Constable, raising a number of concerns regarding an investigation. The Complainant asserted that there was collusion between Northumbria Police, the PCC and other parties and the evidence was being sourced against the complainant.</p>	<p>The Chief of Staff requested that the Deputy Chief Constable address these concerns and he reported back that there was no evidence or information to support the complainant's allegations.</p> <p>Not Upheld</p>
19 th September 2018	<p>The Complainant referred a complaint to the Home Office which was directed back to the Chief of Staff in her role as Monitoring Officer for the Police and Crime Panel. The complainant made many complaints about various people, electoral fraud and allegations about various people. At face value there are a number of expressions of dissatisfaction, however in relation to the PCC, the complainant merely makes comments about his views about the Commissioner</p>	<p>A response to the complainant has been sent advising him that the complaint has not been upheld and that if he believes any crime has been committed that he should report it to the police.</p> <p>Not Upheld</p>

	and does not provide any substantive complaint.	
30 th January 2019	The complainant has made numerous complaints about Northumbria Police's handling of reported crimes. The complaint about the PCC was that she has ignored forensic experts in relation to investigation.	A response to the complainant has been sent advising that the complaint has not been upheld as the Commissioner is not involved in the investigation of any crime. Not upheld.
6 th March 2019	The complainant alleged that the PCC did not deal with his Subject Access Review (SAR) in a timely manner.	The complainant was informed that due to the vast size of his request, and further subsequent requests it was not possible to meet the deadline. It was clear that the SAR would fall outside of the legal timeframe. The complainant was advised of this and the reasons for the delay on many occasions. Not upheld.