Item 13



Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Via Video Conference

**Complaints Received by the Panel** 

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 Through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel has a duty to record and consider non-criminal complaints made against the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for West Yorkshire and his Deputy.
- 1.2 The Monitoring Officer has authority for filtering complaints and must refer the following to the IOPC:
  - 1.2.1 All Recorded Conduct Matters;
  - 1.2.2 All Serious Complaints (i.e. a complaint that constitutes or involves or appears to constitute or involve, the commission of a criminal offence)

## 2. Conduct complaint, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- 2.1 The Panel was made aware of a potential conduct issue relating to the PCC following a media interview aired on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 and subsequent published media articles.
- 2.2 In line with requirements and due consideration, the matter was subsequently referred by the Panel to the IOPC for consideration on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020.
- 2.3 The IOPC responded to West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel on 27<sup>th</sup> April. Having reviewed the information and evidence provided, the IOPC stated that there was no indication that the PCC's conduct amounted to a criminal offence. The IOPC referred the matter back to the Police and Crime Panel to be considered.
- 2.4 In line with Panel procedures, a Complaints Sub-Panel was established in order to consider the matter. An initial meeting of the Complaints Sub-Panel held by telephone conference took place on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 but it was agreed to rearrange the meeting due to technical difficulties. A further meeting of the Complaints Sub-Panel has been arranged for Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

## 3. Complaint, November 2018

- 3.1 In November 2018, the Police and Crime panel received a complaint regarding the Police and Crime Commissioner's actions regarding the suspension from duty, misconduct investigation and related matters of an individual. A total of 31 elements of the complaint were identified and recorded by the Police and Crime Panel. A referral was made to the IOPC for 3 elements of the complaint and were subsequently referred back to the Panel following the IOPC decision not to investigate.
- 3.2 Following full consideration of all the elements of the complaint, and with additional information and clarification from both parties that was provided, the Complaints Sub-Panel agreed that no element of the complaint be upheld and that no action be taken, other than to request that the PCC review his office practise of welfare contact record keeping.
- 3.3 Following this request, the PCC has written to confirm that the OPCC Suspension from Duty Guidance has been amended to include a formal log of welfare contact in line with the Sub-Panel recommendation.

## 4. Recommendation

4.1 That members note the contents of the report.