

SOUTH YORKSHIRE POLICE AND CRIME PANEL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	South Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel
2.	Date:	31st January 2014
3.	Title:	Update on the Handling of Complaints
4.	Officer and Organisation:	Monitoring Officer, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council – Host Authority

5. Summary

To update the Panel with regard to the nature and level of complaints that have been received and the action taken.

6. Recommendations

That the Panel notes the level of complaints and how they have been considered.

7. Information and Analysis

The following complaints have been received:-

- A complaint that the Police and Crime Commissioner had failed to act in relation to a complaint that had been referred to him and complaints in respect of two members of the staff of the Police and Crime Commissioner

As the complaint against the Police and Crime Commissioner related to the administration of justice, which is not a matter for which the Police and Crime Commissioner has responsibility, it was determined by the Monitoring Officer that the complaint did not fall within the Panel's complaints procedure.

With regard to the complaints relating to the Police and Crime Commissioner's staff, these are not matters that fall to be considered by the Panel and the complainant was referred to the procedures operated by the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner.

The Monitoring Officer consulted the Chair and the Deputy Chair regarding these matters, who both endorsed the proposed course of action.

- A complaint that the Police and Crime Commissioner has been derogatory in his public comments regarding South Yorkshire Police officers.

The complaint was considered by the Monitoring Officer to be a personal comment which did not fall to be considered under the complaints procedure. The Deputy Chair was consulted and agreed with the proposed course of action. The Chair was not consulted as this complaint was dealt with in the period between Cllr Murfin-Boukouris resigning as Chair and Cllr Harpham being appointed.

- Two further complaints have been received, neither of which had any supporting evidence. Whilst extensive detail is not required it is the responsibility of complainants to provide sufficient information to enable a preliminary consideration of the complaint to be undertaken. The Panel has no power to conduct its own investigation.

This position has been explained to the complainants who may, if they wish, submit further details.

8. Finance

None

9. Risks and Uncertainties

None

10. Background Papers and Consultation

Files held by the Monitoring Officer.

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