

**Police and Crime
Commissioner**
for Hertfordshire

MEETING	POLICE AND CRIME PANEL
DATE	11 th June 2015
TITLE OF REPORT	Report of Complaints and Conduct Matters for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015
SUBMITTED BY	Deputy Chief Executive of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Hertfordshire

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to present an overview to the Police and Crime Panel of complaints and conduct matters in regard to the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Under current legislation, the Police and Crime Panel is responsible for the initial handling and informal resolution of complaints against the Police and Crime Commissioner, and any Deputy Commissioner appointed, other than serious complaints or conduct matters which must be referred to the Independent Police Complaints Commission.
- 2.2 The legislation allows some of the powers and duties of the Panel to be delegated to the Chief Executive of the Commissioner.
- 2.3 In the meeting held on 6 December 2012 the Panel decided to delegate its functions with regard to complaints with the exception of the power to informally resolve a complaint.
- 2.4 The Panel also requested the Chief Executive of the Commissioner to provide an annual report on complaints and conduct matters (this report).

3 COMPLAINTS REPORT

2 complaints have been made.

- (1) A complaint was made that the PCC had interfered with a complaint and police investigation involving the complainant and his neighbours. The complaint also alleged that the PCC had improperly made a grant to the charity operated by the neighbours. Initial investigations were made to see if the complaint should be referred to the IPCC or to the panel. **Outcome:** No further action. There was no evidence to substantiate either aspect of the complaint.

- (2) A complaint was made that the PCC had failed to adequately hold the CC to account, that he had failed to log complaints about the Chief Constable, had failed to reply to correspondence and had failed to log complaints about the PCC. **Outcome:** No further action. The complaints about the Chief Constable were not conduct complaints and therefore are not to be dealt with as statutory complaints. The complaint regarding the failure to adequately hold the Chief Constable to account is not a conduct complaint and so does not fall to be dealt with as a statutory complaint. The letter received from the complainant was complex and related to a long-standing issue which needed to be researched. In addition, a meeting took place with the complainant to ensure his allegations were fully explored. A reply was sent with an explanation, albeit the letters did take over 2 months to receive a reply. The issues raised by this complainant were helpful in the PCC's role of oversight of police complaints.

4 RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to note this report.