



# Police and Crime Panel Complaints Sub-Committee

**Date:** Wednesday, 21 June 2023  
**Time:** 2.00 pm  
**Venue:** Committee Room 3, County Hall, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ

## Members (Quorum 3)

Mr Iain McVie (Chairman), Cllrs Patrick Canavan and Les Fry

**Chief Executive:** Matt Prosser, County Hall, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1XJ

For more information about this agenda please contact Democratic Services Meeting Contact 01305 224202 - [elaine.tibble@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.tibble@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting, apart from any items listed in the exempt part of this agenda.

For easy access to all the council's committee agendas and minutes download the free public app called Modern.Gov for use on any iPad, Android, and Windows tablet. Once downloaded select Dorset Council.

## Agenda

Item		Pages
1.	<b>APOLOGIES</b>  To receive any apologies for absence.	
2.	<b>MINUTES</b>  To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2020.	3 - 6
3.	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b>  To disclose any pecuniary, other registrable or non-registrable interests as set out in the adopted Code of Conduct. In making their disclosure councillors are asked to state the agenda item, the nature of the interest and any action they propose to take as part of their declaration.  If required, further advice should be sought from the Monitoring Officer	

in advance of the meeting.

**4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

To receive questions or statements on the business of the committee from town and parish councils and members of the public.

**5. URGENT ITEMS**

To consider any items of business which the Chairman has had prior notification and considers to be urgent pursuant to section 100B (4) b) of the Local Government Act 1972. The reason for the urgency shall be recorded in the minutes.

**6. EXEMPT BUSINESS**

To move the exclusion of the press and the public for the following item in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The public and the press will be asked to leave the meeting whilst the item of business is considered.

**7. Complaint Against the Police and Crime Commissioner**

7 - 76



## **DORSET COUNCIL - POLICE AND CRIME PANEL COMPLAINTS SUB-COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2020**

**Present:** Cllrs Bobbie Dove, Barry Goringe ((11.12 joined the meeting)), Les Fry and Bill Pipe (Vice-Chair, in the Chair)

**Apologies:** Iain McVie

**Officers present (for all or part of the meeting):**

Marc Eyre (Service Manager for Assurance) and Tony Bygrave (Senior Assurance Officer - Complaints)

**1. Appointment of Vice Chair for meeting**

Proposed by Cllr Pipe and seconded by Cllr Fry.

**Decision: that Cllr Dove be elected Vice Chair for the duration of the meeting.**

**2. Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2019 were confirmed as a correct record.

**3. Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Pipe, in the interests of openness and transparency, declared, with regard to item 10 on the agenda, that he had received communications from the complainant as referenced within the file of evidence. He had made no pre-determination on the matter and would step down as Chairman for that item, and the exempt business would be chaired by the Vice Chair.

**4. Public Participation**

There were no statements or questions from Town and Parish Councils or from the public.

**5. Annual Review of the Complaints Protocol**

The Service Manager for Assurance presented the Annual Review of the Complaints Protocol. He explained that the Protocol was based on national guidance with some localised arrangements and enhancements following last

year's sub-committee meeting. This was mainly to ensure greater transparency by making sure the Chairman and Vice Chair were cited on complaints at an early stage.

The Chair asked for an overview on a proposal he wished to put forward to adopt the Dorset Council's policy/protocol regarding vexatious, malicious or repetitive complaints as the host authority for the panel and reference this within the Dorset Police and Crime Panel's Complaints protocol.

The Service Manager for Assurance referred to 2.2 of the document which referenced vexatious behaviours but did not specify what was determined as vexatious or how it should be managed. Dorset Council operates an "Managing Unreasonable Behaviour" protocol.

The Senior Assurance Officer for Complaints advised that unreasonable behaviour could go under many names and could impact staff and councillors. Dorset Council's Policy and Protocol had a very even-handed approach. A panel including The Service Manager for Assurance, the Senior Assurance Officer, a Legal Officer and a Director would sit to determine if the criteria for unreasonable behaviour had been met, against a fair set of principles and a consistent approach.

Proposed by Cllr Pipe, seconded by Cllr Fry

**Decision: that the host authority's Managing Unreasonable Behaviour Protocol be referenced within the Police and Crime Panel's Sub Committee Complaints Protocol.**

Proposed by Cllr Dove, seconded by Cllr Pipe

**Decision: that a dedicated complaints email address be included in the Complaints Protocol.**

**11:12 Cllr Goringe joined the meeting.**

## **6. Terms of Reference**

The Service Manager for Assurance advised that the TOR were slightly updated last year to introduce an annual meeting of the PCP Complaints Sub Committee even if no complaints had been received as an opportunity to review practices and policies.

**Decision: the panel agreed that the TOR were fit for purpose.**

## **7. Update on Complaints**

There were no new complaints to discuss. The one live complaint was discussed as exempt business.

## **8. Urgent items**

There were no urgent items.

9. **Exempt Business**

Proposed by Cllr Pipe

**Decision**

**That the press and the public be excluded for the following item(s) in view of the likely disclosure of exempt information within the meaning of paragraph 3 of schedule 12 A to the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).**

**The Vice Chair Cllr Dove took the Chair for this item.**

The Panel's remit was to determine if The Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer of The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner had administered the complaint correctly and that the decision reached was the correct one. An evidence file of all correspondence received that was relevant to the complaint was considered.

**Decision: the panel agreed that, after reviewing all the information and additional submissions, The Chief Executive and Monitoring Officer had followed the correct legally sound process and adhered fully to the Complaints Protocol. There were no further actions to take. A letter would be sent to the complainant to confirm that the Sub Committee supported the Monitoring Officer's decision and that if the complainant wished to challenge this decision the future recourse would be via the local government ombudsman.**

10. **Exempt Appendix**

**Duration of meeting: 11.00 - 11.54 am**

**Chairman**

.....

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank



By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 1 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank