



## SUSSEX POLICE & CRIME PANEL

**Councillor Christian Mitchell**

Chairman

Sussex Police and Crime Panel

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Dear Commissioner Bourne,

Thank you for your letter dated 13 February. The Panel too looks forward to another year of constructive work with you and your officers.

I note your request regarding the categorisation of complaints. The criteria and categorisation of complaints are not determined by the PCP but by the regulations. Given the nature of the complaint referred to it is not possible to apply a different categorisation to it. Whilst it is correct to say that serious complaints should be referred to the IOPC this is only the case if it is apparent that the complaint requires action or consideration. In this case it was judged that the complaint should be dismissed without such referral.

It is recognised however that the manner of recording the action following dismissal of the serious complaint and the correspondence with the office of the PCC should have been separate from the record of the dismissal of the complaint. This will be attended to in a republished version of the Quarterly Report of Complaints, as shown below:

### **Serious Complaints (allegations of criminal conduct)**

3.1.3 One person contacted the Panel to raise issues regarding the Commissioner's interests. As part of the initial handling role, the Clerk to the Panel was able to undertake basic enquiries with the OSPCC, which established that there was no basis for a complaint, and it was dismissed.

### **Matters arising from complaint enquiries**

3.1.4 During the course of the enquiries made under the action referred to in 3.1.3 it was established that the PCC's published register of interests needed to be updated and that minor inconsistencies with information held by Companies House needed to be corrected. The online record has now been updated and we are advised that Companies House has been notified.

Best wishes,

*Christian Mitchell*

**Cllr Christian Mitchell**

Chairman, Sussex Police and Crime Panel