

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

Date: 7th June 2022

Subject: Annual record of complaints recorded on behalf of the Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel

Report of: Jeanette Staley, Head of Community Safety, Resilience and Neighbourhoods, Salford City Council and Lead support officer to the Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 In line with Panel's forward plan the following report is intended to give panel members a summary of complaints recorded on the Panel complaints record in respect of police and crime matters.
- 1.2. The Panel is required through the Police Reform Act to set out its complaints procedure and the Panels current complaints procedure delegates the responsibility for dealing with complaints to the Lead Greater Manchester Chief Executive for Police, Fire and Crime.
- 1.3 Furthermore the Panel has statutory responsibilities under the Elected Local Policing Bodies (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2012 relating to the recording and determination of complaints against the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and or his Deputy (or equivalent).

- 1.4 The current Panel complaints procedure states it will produce an annual report of complaints for consideration by the Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel.

2.0 COMPLAINTS

- 2.1 Between the 1st of April 2021 and the 31st of March 2022, 9 complaints were addressed to the Panel and all 9 were concerning the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor in respect of police and crime issues.
- 2.2 All 9 of these complaints concerned the outcome of statutory police complaint reviews under Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act 2002. A statutory police complaint is one where a member of the public has made a complaint against the police, they will receive a letter explaining the outcome and their right to ask for a review of that complaint. That letter will state who the Relevant Review Body is and how they can be contacted. If the Relevant Review Body is the Local Policing Body then that request will be dealt with by the GMCA Complaints Review Team, which is independent of Greater Manchester Police. This function falls within the GMCA Police and Crime Team and is delegated to the Deputy Mayor.
- 2.3 Members will recall receiving a report in January 2022 regarding these types of complaints, where the report highlighted that under the statutory obligations the only right of appeal in relation to these types of complaints was via a judicial review and therefore the Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel had no jurisdiction in this regard. The Panel at this time approved amendments to its complaint procedure to make this clear.
- 2.4 Due to the above position all 9 complainants were contacted and advised that the panel had no jurisdiction to act in this regard and were advised to progress to a judicial review if they remain dissatisfied.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 Greater Manchester Police, Fire and Crime Panel members are asked to note the information contained in this report.

Background Papers

- Greater Manchester Police and Crime Panel Complaints Procedure attached at appendix 1

Contact Officer

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