

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE FIRE AND CRIME PANEL

Date: 12th June 2023

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 Panel's 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 2022 and the 31st of March 2023, 4 complaints were addressed to the Panel and all 4 upon initial receipt stated they were concerning the Greater Manchester Deputy Mayor in respect of police and crime issues.
- 2.2 1 of these complaints concerned the outcome of a statutory police complaint review 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, to which they will receive a response explaining the outcome and their right to ask for a review of that complaint. That response 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 framework 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 complaints procedure to make this clear.
- 2.4 Due to the above position the complainant was 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.
- 2.5 2 of the complaints concerned actions taken (or lack thereof) by GMP. As per the GMPFCP complaints procedure under section 3.2, the GMPFCP has no jurisdiction in relation to these complaints. Accordingly, and as per the GMPFCP complaints procedure flow chart the complainants were advised of this position and informed how to make a complaint to GMP.

2.6 1 of the complaints received met the criteria for consideration under the GMPFCP complaints procedure. Accordingly, this complaint is currently being dealt with. At the time of the writing of this report the outcome of this complaint has not been established and cannot therefore be reported to the Panel by way of this annual report. The outcome of this complaint will therefore be documented in the 23/24 financial year annual complaints report.

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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