

**Item 11**

**Friday 13th December 2024**

Samantha Wilkinson

Police & Crime Panel Officer

07920 833358

Item 14

**Police and Crime Panel**

**The Old Court Room, Wakefield Town Hall**

Item 14

**Complaints Received by the Panel**

**1. Summary**

Item 14

* 1. Through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Panel has a duty to record non-criminal complaints made against the Mayor of West Yorkshire when acting in relation to their policing and crime functions, and the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime (DMPC).
  2. Whilst the Panel has a duty to record such complaints, it only has a duty to consider recorded complaints about a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime who is not a Member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. Where recorded complaints are about the Mayor or a Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime who is a Member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority, the Panel has a duty to refer the same for consideration by the Monitoring Officer of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority. The current Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime of West Yorkshire is not a Member of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority.
  3. The Monitoring Officer has authority for filtering complaints and must refer the following to the IOPC:

1.3.1 All Recorded Conduct Matters;

1.3.2 All Serious Complaints (i.e. a complaint that constitutes or involves or appears to constitute or involve, the commission of a criminal offence)

**2. Complaints received by the Panel**

2.1 There have been no new complaints recorded against the Mayor when acting in relation to policing and crime functions or the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, since the last meeting on 8th November 2024.

2.2 As reported to the Panel on 8th November, following a meeting of the Complaints Sub-Committee on 2nd October and their decision not to uphold the following complaint, the complainant requested a full Panel review of the Complaints Sub-Committee’s handling of the complaint. This was undertaken by full Panel in closed session on 8th November 2024.

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| **Substance of Complaint** | **Status** |
| That the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime has failed to exercise proper oversight of the Policing and Crime complaints process by failing to deal with [the complainant’s] complaint about West Yorkshire Police in accordance with due process.  That the Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime falsely accused [the complainant] of harassment resulting in [the complainant’s] arrest by West Yorkshire Police. | * Complaint formally recorded 21st August 2024 * The DMPC was contacted on 22nd August 2024 and asked to provide relevant information regarding the complaint by 13 September 2024. * A Complaints Sub-Committee met on 2nd October. Following full consideration of all the available information, it was agreed that the complaint should not be upheld. Both the complainant and the DMPC have been informed of the outcome. * A full Panel Review was undertaken on 8th November |

2.2 The full Panel reviewed all the information considered by the Complaints Sub-Committee relating to the complaint and considered both the process that had been undertaken to arrive at their decision and the reasonableness of the decision reached.

After considering all the information provided, the full Panel agreed that:

* The Complaints Sub-Committee had followed the Panel’s complaints process correctly in seeking to address the complaint.
* The findings reached by the Complaints Sub-Committee on both elements of the complaint were reasonable.

**3. Recommendation**

3.1 That members note the contents of this report.