

FOI Disclosures February 2024

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This month we have responded to questions relating to the following topics:

- [Complaints about Dorset Police officers, CC and PCC](#)
- [Leicestershire Police investigations](#)
- [Referral of Thames Valley Police matter involving a vulnerable crime victim](#)

If you require a full copy of any of the embedded attachments, please contact Requestinfo@policeconduct.gov.uk quoting the reference number from the relevant response.

<u>Ref</u> <u>5024641</u> <u>Back to top</u>	<u>Complaints about Dorset Police officers, CC and PCC</u>
<u>Request</u>	<p><i>How many times a complaint has been made to the IOPC , about all of Dorset police officers since 2023.</i></p> <p><i>Including the Police Crime Commissioner, David Sidwick, who was elected in 2021 and the Chief Constable since March 2023?</i></p>
<u>Response</u>	<p>It appears to us that you have made your request on the basis that the details of all complaints are notified to the IOPC.</p> <p>Complaints against police must be made to the relevant police force or local policing body who decides whether the complaint should be recorded under Schedule 3 to the Police Reform Act 2002, or if it can be resolved outside of Schedule 3. Most of these complaints are dealt with by the police themselves, or by the local policing body, without any IOPC involvement.</p> <p>Complainants may also send their complaint directly to the IOPC and our role is then limited to passing the matter on to the relevant police force so they can consider whether it should be formally recorded. We record only minimal information about these 'direct' complaints and do not normally track how they are processed under the legislation. Complaints submitted by means of our online complaint form are automatically referred by the system to the relevant police force without any human involvement. The data we hold about this correspondence is therefore of limited value: we do not know whether these matters have been recorded as formal complaints (meaning that only then would they have to be dealt with under the</p>

	<p>legislation) and they represent only some of the matters considered for recording by police forces in any given period.</p> <p>Further information about making complaints is available on this page of our web site.</p> <p>The IOPC publishes quarterly information bulletins for each force which set out how they handle and resolve complaints. The bulletins for Dorset Police are available on our website here. So far we have published three bulletins for 2023 covering the nine months up to 30 September. The data for the 3 months to 31 December is not yet available but we anticipate that this will be published before the end of March. Information about the complaint cases logged in the period covered by the report is in section A1 of each report.</p> <p>We do not publish information about complaints against PCC's and Chief Officers as this is not amongst the data provided to the IOPC. Therefore this information is not held.</p> <p>Complaints against PCC's are recorded by the Police and Crime Panel (PCP) and they may be able to help you with your enquiry about these complaints. Contact details for the Dorset PCP are available on this web page. Complaints against the Dorset Chief Constable are recorded by the Police and Crime Commissioner whose contact details are available on the Association of Police and Crime Commissioners website here.</p>
<p><u>Ref</u> <u>5024652</u> Back to top</p>	<p><u>Leicestershire Police investigations</u></p>
<p><u>Request</u></p>	<p><i>Please could you provide me the following data for open investigations originating from Leicestershire Police:</i></p> <p><i>For each open investigation please include;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>The month and year it started</i> - <i>The rank of the officer or staff member under investigation</i> - <i>whether it is independent or directed</i> - <i>a brief description of the complaint or conduct issue (I believe you have pre-determined categories for these, these will suffice)</i> - <i>the status of the investigation (e.g. awaiting CPS decision, awaiting review by supervisor, legal services, etc.) and</i> - <i>the expected conclusion date if known</i>
<p><u>Response</u></p>	<p>The information is presented below and you should ensure that you consider this data in conjunction with the caveats and notes provided.</p> <p>You asked for the date and month that each investigation started and we have provided both the date that the initial referral was received by the IOPC as well as the investigation start date as recorded on our system. The investigation start date refers to the date that the mode of investigation recommendation was made. You will note that these dates sometimes differ however it is important to note that we use the</p>

referral received date as the starting point when calculating the duration of an investigation for our reporting purposes.

The 'Update type' column has been included where it is available to provide further detail on the case status.

We are unable to provide an expected conclusion date as this is subject to change according to the individual circumstances and complexity of each investigation.

Investigation Type	Referral Received Date	Investigation Start Date	Status	Update Type	Factors selected	Rank
Directed	18/01/2024	22/01/2024	Case is currently active		No Factors Selected	No subject recorded
Independent	10/11/2023	10/11/2023	Case is currently active	Under investigation	Death, Road Traffic incident, Serious injury	No subject recorded
Independent	04/10/2023	12/10/2023	Case is currently active	Under investigation	Death, Mental health, Road Traffic incident, Serious injury, Use of force	Police staff
Independent	20/09/2023	27/09/2023	Case is currently active	Early stage (TOR being agreed)	Body worn camera , Discrimination, Use of force	No subject recorded
Independent	06/09/2023	07/09/2023	Case is currently active	Final report stage	Custody, Death	No subject recorded
Independent	10/06/2022	14/06/2022	Case is currently post final	Post final report - Criminal	Corruption / perjury, Mental health	Police constable
Directed	21/03/2022	24/03/2022	Case is currently active		Corruption / perjury	Police constable
Independent	09/12/2021	09/12/2021	Case is currently post final	Post final report - Criminal	Body worn camera , Corruption / perjury	Special constable

Caveats & Notes

Data is for illustrative purposes only.

This information is taken from live data and as such may differ from previously published data & statistics.

An independent investigation is counted as completed on the date when the final report is approved.

The appropriate authority, as well as other case attributes, is dependent on accurate data recording in Perito by operational teams.

Referrals and Investigations do not have a one-to-one relationship due to re-referrals of matters on the same investigation and linked cases.

Please note that case factors are manually selected by operational staff to help identify the nature of the circumstances of a case. Therefore, they should not be relied on to provide definitive data since application of case factors is reliant on individual discretion.

A factor selected on a case involving a complaint may be relevant to the incident to which the complaint relates but may not be what the complaint is about. Therefore data presented using Case factors should be used for illustrative purposes only.

It should also be noted that a case may include more than one case factor and so the numbers in the case factor tables likely to differ from the number of active independent investigations.

Ref
5024689

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Referral of Thames Valley Police matter involving a vulnerable crime victim

Request

According to the Guardian, you said that Thames Valley Police should have referred a misconduct matter to you concerning two officers who joked about having sex with a vulnerable crime victim:

'The Independent Office for Police Conduct said the case should have been referred to it, which it now has.'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2024/jan/30/police-accused-of-mocking-female-victim-and-ousting-whistleblower>

Please provide information to show that the case in question is of the sort that should be referred to you.

Response

This matter was considered to meet the threshold for mandatory referral to the IOPC because the behaviour of the officers was considered as liable to lead to disciplinary proceedings and was aggravated by discriminatory behaviour on the grounds of a person's sex. This therefore met the threshold of the mandatory referral criteria as per Regulation 7(d) of the Police (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2020.