

December 2025 Disclosure log

Index

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

- Fatalities following police related road traffic incidents
- IOPC call in powers

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.

Ref 5025966	Fatalities following police related road traffic incidents
<p>I understand that the IOPC's annual "Deaths During or Following Police Contact" statistics include police-related road-traffic incidents (RTIs) that resulted in fatalities and fall within the IOPC's remit under the Police Reform Act 2002.</p>	
<p>Accordingly, I am requesting aggregated data for each financial year from 2004/05 to the most recent available, showing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of fatal police-related road-traffic incidents in which a motorcycle (any type) was involved; • The number of fatalities arising from those incidents; and • If held at low effort, a further breakdown by IOPC RTI category (pursuit / emergency response / other police-traffic activity). 	
<p>The Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) is responsible for producing annual national statistics on deaths during or following police contact in England and Wales. The statistics include deaths that have occurred across a number of circumstances that are grouped into five categories. See our guidance document for more information on the definition of these categories. The request was for the number of fatal police-related road-traffic incidents (RTIs) in which a motorcycle (any type) was involved, the number fatalities arising</p>	

from those incidents, and a further breakdown of these figures by RTI type. We have used the data from the 'road traffic fatalities' category of our deaths statistics to compile the data.

The data used for this request covers road traffic fatalities involving motorcycles, mini-motorcycles and scooters/mopeds that occurred between 2012/13 and 2024/25. We record the financial year within which the date of death occurred. The data included in this dataset is taken from deaths that occurred from 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2025. We have not considered deaths before this period as we did not record the type of vehicle involved until 2012/13; therefore, we are unable to provide the data for the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2012.

Similarly, we have not considered more recent deaths as these cases are still in the process of being verified and checked.

Road traffic fatalities include deaths of motorists, cyclists or pedestrians arising from police pursuits, police vehicles responding to emergency calls, and other police traffic-related activity. This does not include deaths following a road traffic incident (RTI) where the police attended immediately after the event as an emergency service. The number of incidents is derived from the number of cases involving road traffic fatalities. Our category definitions of police pursuits, police vehicles responding to emergency calls, and other police traffic-related activity are provided below.

Pursuit related

Incidents are classified as 'pursuit-related' if they involved a pursuit, or situations where officers have begun to 'follow' a suspect vehicle. Not all these incidents will have entered an official pursuit phase as defined in the Authorised Professional Practice (APP) on police pursuits (see College of Policing (2015) Authorised Professional Practice on police pursuits). Incidents where there was a collision involving a vehicle that was recently pursued by the police, but where the police had lost sight of the vehicle, are included. Incidents where the police were driving in the direction of a vehicle before obtaining permission to pursue are also included as pursuit-related.

Emergency response-related

This category includes all incidents that involve a police vehicle responding to a request for emergency assistance.

Other police traffic activity

This category includes RTIs that did not happen during pursuit-related activity or an emergency response, but where incidents occur during standard police patrol or where drivers respond to seeing a police vehicle by fleeing the location and crashing (and there is no pursuit of the vehicle by police).

With these definitions in mind, we have provided data tables below to address each part of the request in turn. The number of each table corresponds to the number of the respective question of the request. Please note that a single incident can result in more than one death, so the number of fatalities may exceed the number of incidents in the data provided.

Table 1 - Number of fatal road traffic incidents involving motorcycles, mini-motorcycles or scooters/mopeds, by type and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Motorcycle	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	4	2	4	6	4	32
Mini-motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scooter/moped	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	8
Total	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	0	5	2	4	8	5	40

Table 2 - Number of road traffic fatalities involving motorcycles, mini-motorcycles or scooters/mopeds, by type and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Motorcycle	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	4	2	4	7	4	33
Mini-motorcycle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scooter/moped	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	8
Total	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	0	5	2	4	9	5	41

Table 3a - Number of fatal road traffic incidents involving motorcycles, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	3	1	3	4	3	20
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other RTI	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	11
Total	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	4	2	4	6	4	32

Table 3b - Number of fatal road traffic incidents involving scooters/mopeds, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other RTI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	8

Table 3c - Total number of fatal road traffic incidents involving motorcycles, mini-motorcycles or scooters/mopeds, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	3	1	3	5	4	25
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Other RTI	0	1	2	1	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	13
Total	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	0	5	2	4	8	5	40

Table 3d - Number of road traffic fatalities involving motorcycles, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	3	1	3	5	3	21
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Other RTI	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	2	1	11
Total	1	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	4	2	4	7	4	33

Table 3e - Number of road traffic fatalities involving scooters/mopeds, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	5
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Other RTI	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2
Total	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	2	1	8

Table 3f - Total number of road traffic fatalities involving motorcycles, mini-motorcycles or scooters/mopeds, by RTI category and financial year

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
Pursuit-related	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	3	1	3	6	4	26
Emergency response-related	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Other RTI	0	1	2	1	0	1	2	0	2	1	0	2	1	13
Total	1	2	3	3	1	3	3	0	5	2	4	9	5	41

Extract from the Statutory Guidance re the IOPC's powers to "call in"

9.34 9.35 Matters which the IOPC requires to be referred to it ('call in')

The IOPC may require any complaint or recordable conduct matter to be referred to it by the appropriate authority. The IOPC may use the power to 'call in' a matter, regardless of whether the matter is already being investigated or has previously been considered by the IOPC.

If the IOPC calls a matter in, the appropriate authority should provide all relevant information at, or as soon as possible after, the time of referral.

To whom the guidance applies

1.12 This guidance is issued under Section 22 to the Police Reform Act 2002. It applies to local policing bodies and all 43 Home Office police forces in England and Wales.

Local policing bodies, police officers, police staff members, special constables and all those working in policing must have regard to the guidance. It also applies to those agencies and non-Home Office forces that have entered into Section 26 or Section 26BA agreements with the IOPC, subject to any particular provisions contained in those agreements.

Part one - Request for statistics

For the accounting period starting 2017 the date of the Policing and Crime Act, to the date of this request, please provide the following information. By preference, please provide the figures for consecutive yearly accounting periods. For example if the IOPC record figures by the calendar year or by the financial year.

- Request 1. Total number of complaints the IOPC has received about the individuals and organisations set out in 1.12 above. This including for example but not limited to using the online form provided by the IOPC.
- Request 2. In respect of Request 1 above, from the total number of complaints received, the total number which were "called in" by the IOPC as defined in the extract above.
- Request 3. With reference to 1.12 above and the individuals working within it or the organisation itself, the total number of complaints the IOPC has received associated with Lancashire Constabulary. This including for example but not limited to using the online form.
- Request 4. In respect of Request 3 above, from the total number of complaints received, the total number which were "called in" by the IOPC as defined in the extract above.

Part 2 - Request for documentation

The IOPC have stated that the "call in" procedure is rarely used meaning then, it is used sometimes. So on the basis it is used sometimes, there will be some definitive criteria against

which a decision to "call in" or not is made. Please provide a copy of the criteria the IOPC are using to make the decision to "call in" or otherwise.

If the IOPC are already publishing this information or part of it then please refer me to it including where it is located.

Part one - Request for statistics

Requests 1 and 2: The request is for complaints "received" by the IOPC. Most police complaint and misconduct cases are dealt with by the police without any IOPC involvement. All complaints against the police must be made to the relevant police force or local policing body in the first instance. Once a complaint has been received by the body responsible for the initial handling, it should be logged on their systems and a decision will be taken 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.

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. Our functions in respect of these 'direct complaints' to the IOPC are defined in [Paragraph 2, Schedule 3, Police Reform Act 2002](#). In only a very small minority of these complaints made directly to the IOPC can we account for any subsequent action by the police. We are not routinely informed about whether they record the matter as a complaint or about any action that may follow.

Many of these 'direct' complaints are made to the IOPC using our online form on our website, which sends the complaint notification to the force selected by the person completing the form. This is an automated process and we do not retain records on our case management system of complaints made in this way.

For these reasons, we do not hold the information requested under part one.

We collect information from all police forces in England and Wales about the types of complaints they are receiving and how long they take to deal with them. Each year, we publish statistics about the complaints that forces have logged. We also produce quarterly bulletins for all police forces. Our annual statistics and force bulletins are available on our website: policeconduct.gov.uk/our-work/research-and-statistics/police-complaints-statistics

Our published data relates only to the 43 Home Office police forces. We do not collect similar data from the "non-Home Office forces that have entered into Section 26 or Section 26BA agreements with the IOPC".

Requests 3 and 4: We do not hold this information for the reasons explained above under requests 1 and 2.

Paragraphs 9.34 and 9.35 of our [Statutory Guidance](#) relate to matters which the IOPC requires to be referred to it (call in) under paragraph 4 and 13, Schedule 3, Police Reform Act 2002. We can confirm that six complaint referrals under this category were called

in by the IOPC in the period from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2020. There have been no such referrals in more recent years.

There were no referrals in this category for Lancashire Constabulary during this period.

Please note that this information is taken from live data and as such may differ from previously published data and statistics. Its reliability is dependent on accurate data recording in the IOPC case management system by operational teams.

Part 2 - Request for documentation

The IOPC has recently published its internal guidance relating to the exercise of our power to ‘call in’ a referral and our power to treat a matter as having been referred (‘power of initiative’) in the June 2025 Disclosure Log. The information that is held in relation to this request is as follows:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, CCC to contact LPB and ask to be notified of the outcome of the review once completed so consideration of POI can be made by AU if the outcome is re-investigation. If no, Complainant to be notified that IOPC will take NFA / no POI to be used
4, Complaint with IOPC for review decision (no decision yet made)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request to be added to CMS case and flagged to CWM (if allocated). NFA required from CCC
5, Complaint is new and the AA has not yet seen it	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCC review whether mandatory referral criteria indicated. If yes (unless exceptional circumstances apply) – the complaint should be forwarded to the AA and the complainant notified. A request should be made to the AA that the IOPC requires confirmation of the referral decision. POI not required unless the AA declines to refer If no, CCC to refer matter to AU to seek advice as to whether the matter would meet independent investigation criteria. If yes, AU to either liaise with AA about possible voluntary referral or escalate to DDI for POI consideration If no, – the complaint should be forwarded to the AA and the complainant notified.

matters that should come to the IOPC under the statutory scheme for consideration on appropriate handling

Notes:

- Complainant consent – IOPC statutory guidance states the following regarding consent to forward a complaint to the correct AA; *‘There is no requirement in the Police Reform Act 2002 for consent from the complainant to forwarding a complaint. However, the complainant must always be informed if their complaint has been sent to another body. They should also be informed of the content of what has been sent and the name of the body it has been sent to. In some cases, for example, where a complaint contains particularly sensitive data and the complainant has intentionally sent it to a particular body, or the complainant has expressed concern about sensitive information in their complaint being shared, consideration could be given to notifying the complainant in advance that this will happen’*
- It is consistent with these principles to use the mandatory referral criteria to sift matters for consideration of use of POI, as this criteria determines the

Investigations Operations Manual content

Decision making around call in power and power of initiative

These powers are in addition to the existing referral processes laid out in the PRA.

Police Reform Act 2002 (Paragraph 4 and 13, Schedule 3)

This provides us with the power of call in to treat complaint and conduct matters as if they have been referred

Police Reform Act 2002 (Paragraph 4A, 13A and 14CA, Schedule 3)

This provides us with the power of initiative to treat a complaint, conduct matter or DSI as having been referred

The 'call in' power and 'power of initiative' increase our powers, enabling us to investigate matters that may not have been referred. For further details on these processes and relevant templates please click here.

Police Reform Act 2002 (as amended)

Under the Police Reform Act 2022 the IOPC has

- The power to 'call in' - require a complaint or conduct matter to be referred (Paragraphs 4 and 13, Schedule 3, Police Reform Act 2002)
- The power of initiative - treat a complaint, conduct matter or DSI matter that has come to its attention as having been referred. (Paragraphs 4A, 13A and 14CA, Schedule 3, Police Reform Act 2002)

Call in powers for complaint and conduct matters

The IOPC can require an appropriate authority to refer a complaint or conduct matter. This is regardless of whether the matter is already being investigated or has previously been considered by the IOPC. This power is not for DSI matters.

To use the 'call in' power, the matter must have been recorded by the appropriate authority who must make a referral without delay, and no later than the day after we give the referral notice. (Regulations 4 and 7, Police (Complaints and Misconduct) Regulations 2020)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	'Call in' IOPC notice to appropriate authority	Appropriate authority must make the referral by the end of the day		

The power of initiative as of 1 February 2020

2. where appropriate/meaningful (with audit trail of attempts i.e. emails, letters, phone call details) attempts have been made to contact the appropriate authority and further delay may cause prejudice or damage public confidence
3. matters where we believe a critical incident may be declared by the IOPC and where there is potential for a delay to exacerbate concerns
4. matters that have come to light during a directed or independent investigation that we want to investigate alongside the current case. Alternatively we may consider there is an urgent need to exercise our powers of a constable to preserve the integrity of (or avoid prejudice to) a criminal investigation. In these circumstances, the IOPC is likely to already be in possession of the information available at that time, and know what the resultant mode of investigation decision will be.

The IOPC can treat a complaint, conduct or DSI matters which come to our attention other than by appropriate authority referral (e.g., as part of an ongoing investigation), as having been referred.

The IOPC can do this whether or not the matter has been recorded.

Where an appropriate authority receives notification that we are treating a matter as referred, it must record the matter if it has not already done so.

The appropriate authority does not have to subsequently make a referral.

The power of initiative for linked investigations

During a conduct or complaint investigation (including a complaint made during a DSI investigation) a matter may come to light that the decision maker wishes to make independent and link to the lead case and add to the same final report. Previously these matters were sent to the appropriate authority for assessment and referral. To avoid delay, the decision maker should decide whether to exercise POI, make the MOI decision and delegate at the same time.

Principles for use: 'Call in' power and 'Power of Initiative'

Note: these principles do not apply to the linked investigation guidance.

We consider using the 'Power of initiative' or 'Call in' power when we become aware of a matter that we may want to independently investigate but we have not received a referral.

- We must contact the appropriate authority to understand why the matter has not been referred. It may be that they intend to make a referral or that further information alters our view.
- If the appropriate authority confirm they do not intend to refer the matter and we remain of the view we may want to independently investigate, our powers should be used as follows:
 - a. 'Call in' if the matter has been recorded (and is not a DSI)
 - b. 'Power of initiative' if the matter has not been recorded, is a DSI or it appears that there will be an unreasonable delay awaiting a referral if 'call in' powers were used.

In some circumstances, it may be appropriate to use one of the powers before speaking to the appropriate authority, including (the legislation provides no exceptions for informing the appropriate authority that the 'power of initiative' has been used, however, it does not specify at what point the appropriate authority should be informed):

1. cases where we have a genuine reason to believe that informing the appropriate authority might prejudice the investigation

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We welcome telephone calls in Welsh

Rydym yn croesawu galwadau ffôn yn y Gymraeg

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