

Ref: 1006159

Miss W Williams

By Email: [request-360882-b71c6f60@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-360882-b71c6f60@whatdotheyknow.com)

25 October 2016

Dear Miss Williams,

**Re: Request for information**

Thank you for your email received by the IPCC on 23 September 2016 regarding your request for information. I can confirm that this request has been processed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI). I apologise for the delay in response. I note that you have requested the following information:

1. How many complaints has the IPCC received regarding Chief Constable of Gwent Police – Jeff Farrar?
2. How many complaints relating to Chief Constable of Gwent Police – Jeff Farrar has the IPCC upheld?

Having considered your request I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by the IPCC.

**Question 1: How many complaints has the IPCC received regarding Chief Constable of Gwent Police – Jeff Farrar?**

All complaints are recorded by the police force concerned in the first instance. Complainants may send their complaint directly to the IPCC (these are known as direct complaints) but our role is limited to passing the complaint on to the relevant police force or appropriate authority so they can consider whether it should be formally recorded. Appropriate authorities are also required to refer certain incidents such as deaths or serious injuries to the IPCC regardless of whether there has been a complaint.

When a complaint is made about a chief constable, the appropriate authority is the Police and Crime Commissioner. Police and Crime Commissioners are responsible for holding to account the chief officer of their force for how policing services are delivered in their force area. They should ensure that the chief officer has appropriate processes in place for dealing with complaints, conduct matters and

death and serious injury matters. Therefore, it might be that the Police and Crime Commissioner hold more or different information in relation to your question than the IPCC does.

In response to your first question, I have provided the number of referrals and direct complaints that the IPCC has received regarding the Chief Constable of Gwent Police. Since you did not specify a time period, I have provided the figures for 2015/16 and 2016/17 year to date (01 April 2016 to 17 October 2016) as in the table below:

| Period                          | Direct complaints | Referrals |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 01 April 2015 – 31 March 2016   | 1                 | 1         |
| 01 April 2016 – 17 October 2016 | 0                 | 0         |

The direct complaint was forwarded to the Police and Crime Commissioner to handle and the referral was returned to the Police and Crime Commissioner to handle as deemed fit (as the IPCC decided that it did not require investigating).

**Question 2: How many complaints relating to Chief Constable of Gwent Police – Jeff Farrar has the IPCC upheld?**

As previously mentioned, the IPCC only receive information on a portion of the complaints made (and these are received as either a direct complaint or a referral). The majority are considered by the appropriate authority in the first instance and do not require referring to the IPCC.

Only if we have investigated the matter ourselves can we determine whether the complaint is upheld. In this instance, we have not independently investigated, and therefore in response to your question, no complaints have been upheld by the IPCC.

For more information on the process, you may find it helpful to consult our statutory guidance document:

<http://www.ipcc.gov.uk/page/statutory-guidance>

I hope this information is helpful. More information about the role of the IPCC can be found in the IPCC Annual Report. This can be found on our website using the following link:

<http://www.ipcc.gov.uk/page/annual-report-and-plans>

If you are not satisfied with this response you may request an independent internal review by our FOI appeals officer, who has had no involvement in dealing with your request. If you wish to complain about any aspect of this decision, please contact:

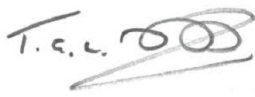
Internal Reviewer  
Independent Police Complaints Commission

90 High Holborn  
London  
WC1V 6BH

All emails requesting a review should be sent directly to: [foi@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@ipcc.gsi.gov.uk)

Should you remain dissatisfied after this internal review, you will have a right of complaint to the Information Commissioner; however, I should point out that under section 50(2)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, you are normally obliged to exhaust the IPCC's own internal complaint mechanism before complaining to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'T. Walton' followed by a stylized flourish.

Thea Walton  
Head of Knowledge and Oversight  
**Independent Police Complaints Commission**