

Our Ref: PCC / LC / 2955 Date: 6 February 2017

Tel: 0114 2964150

By email only

Dear Tony

I write in relation to our meeting of 26 October 2016. I thought this may be a good opportunity to explain what action I have taken in respect of your recommendations.

As you may recall, you asked me to respond to JAH's letter of 22 August 2016 and this is something I did on 13 January 2017. I have also read the further response from JAH and have noted its content. I do not intend to enter into further correspondence on this matter as many of the issues raised clearly fall outside the scope of my role as Police and Crime Commissioner, as I said when we last met.

I would also like to clarify that I have received the hard copy of The Way Home. However, I regard most of the deductions here as seriously flawed.

As agreed in our meeting, I did review your complaint and have decided that your complaint should not be recorded. I attach a copy of the report which sets out the reasons for my decision. Whilst I appreciate that this probably wasn't the outcome you were hoping for, I hope you can understand why I am unable to change my decision. As with any formal complaint, if you are unhappy with my decision, you can appeal to the IPCC at the following: www.ipcc.gov.uk. Please note that the IPCC must receive your appeal within 28 days of my letter to you.

In respect of the recommendations that required a discussion with the Chief Constable, I met with him on 13 December 2016 and individually brought these to his attention. Mr Watson did not indicate whether he would progress any of these matters but I leave it with him to decide whether any further action is necessary. Likewise, I also brought recommendation 11 to the attention of Nigel Hiller in a meeting that we had on 7 December 2016. As I explained to you in our meeting, the matters are operational and as such, I cannot have any further involvement.

Finally, with regard to your request for yourself and JAH to meet with the Independent Ethics Panel, I discussed this with Mr Lockley – the Chair of the panel. Unfortunately, Mr Lockley does not feel that there would be any benefit in you meeting with the panel given that the subject matters you outlined in your email of 28 November 2016 are so similar to those we have reviewed as part of our meeting. Moreover, Mr Lockley has also taken into consideration; the workload of the panel and how this may impact its ability to fulfil its responsibilities; how any investigation by the IEP may compromise the ongoing investigations by the IPCC and the panel's Terms of Reference.

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I believe that covers each of the outstanding recommendations you made to me. Others have already been dealt with and noted.

I know you write to me regularly and I understand that staff from my office have been in continual dialogue with you since the establishment of Police and Crime Commissioners. From my point of view, my office and I have now done everything within our ability to deal with the matters you have raised.

All good wishes,

Au Burns

Dr Alan Billings

South Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner