



Independent Office
for Police Conduct

Swyddfa Annibynnol
Ymddygiad yr Heddlu

PO Box 473
Sale M33 0BW

Blwch Post 473
Sale M33 0BW

Tel/Ffôn 0300 020 0096

Text relay/Cyfnwid Testun 18001 0207 166 3000

Email/E-bost enquiries@policeconduct.gov.uk

Web/Gwefan www.policeconduct.gov.uk

NPCC lead for Volunteer Police Cadet programmes

Cc: CC Chief Constable Shaun Sawyer
NPCC lead for child protection.

Re: Safeguarding issues relating to Police Cadets

I am writing to you in your capacity as lead for Volunteer Police Cadet programmes for the NPCC with an urgent recommendation arising from two investigations.

As these investigations are ongoing I am limited in the amount of information that I can provide, but we are extremely concerned that two similar referrals, in quick succession, may suggest a risk profile in this area.

I am aware from my team that you are briefed on the investigation we are managing relating to Greater Manchester Police. This follows a referral and subsequent complaints about a PC at the force and his conduct in the cadet programme. The allegations can be broadly characterised as abuse of position for sexual gain. The officer has been arrested and released on bail and more potential victims identified.

We are also investigating the conduct of a police sergeant regarding their actions within the force's cadet programme and how they dealt with the reports of alleged abuse of power for sexual purpose by the PC.

In the same week we received a referral from the Metropolitan Police Service in relation to potential failures by three officers involved in the running of a cadet programme in the London region. We are independently investigating the officers for potentially failing to put in place immediate and appropriate safeguarding arrangements after being made aware that a volunteer cadet leader involved with the cadet programme may have abused his position for sexual gain.

Additionally, we are also managing a separate investigation into the behaviour of an MPS officer, who is also subject to bail conditions, regarding allegations he abused his position for sexual gain at a London based cadet training camp.

The investigations are not connected. While we recognise that no amount of proactive vetting can guarantee that an individual with predatory tendencies will not be placed in a position of trust, we would expect the highest possible standards of safeguarding to apply to police-operated programmes which engage with young and sometimes vulnerable members of the public.

I would ask that you urgently pass this information on to your Chief Constable colleagues to ensure, as a matter of priority, that they are satisfied that their own Volunteer Police Cadet programmes have robust safeguarding procedures in place.

In the interest of openness and transparency, we intend to publish this letter and a news release in the coming days. Within the release, we would like to confirm what action you have taken, so that the public can be reassured that you have responded to our concerns. We have systems in place, should any publicity result in potential victims coming forward, to manage this.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.
Yours sincerely

Ian Todd
Deputy Director General