Police Complaints Information Bulletin Force Commentary Sheet

Reporting Period: Reporting Period: 1 April 2021 – 31 March 2022

Commentary:

Section D3 of the report includes data on the percentage of LPB reviews resulting in a recommendation made, which shows West Yorkshire over 20% higher than its most similar family and 11% over the national average.

When an LPB upholds a review dealt with other than by investigation, which is the vast majority of reviews completed, the IOPC Statutory Guidance offers 3 options, all involving recommendations being made to the appropriate authority. These options are 1. That the complaint is referred to the IOPC if it has not been previously referred. 2. That the appropriate authority investigates the complaint. 3. That a specific action is undertaken to remedy the dissatisfaction (a recommendation under paragraph 28ZA of Schedule 3 of the Police Reform Act 2002).

It is also possible to uphold a review because there is information missing from the complaint outcome letter, but the reviewer is able to supply that missing information if it is available to them when they conducted the review. In this instance, the reviewer does not need to make a recommendation to the appropriate authority even though the review has been upheld.

The data presented would suggest that other LPBs conclude a higher proportion of reviews by providing missing information but still upholding the review.