

<b>For Information / Consideration / Comment (delete as appropriate)</b>	
<b>Public/Non Public*</b>	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Audit and Scrutiny Panel</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>IOPC Investigations, recommendations and actions</b>
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<b>Agenda Item:</b>	<b>17</b>

\*If Non Public, please state under which category number from the guidance in the space provided.

## **IPOC Investigations, Recommendations & Actions**

### **1. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Audit and Scrutiny Panel (JASP) in respect of the complaint and conduct matters which have been referred by Nottinghamshire Police to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC) during the relevant period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, together with relevant recommendations and actions.

### **2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 It is recommended that the panel receives assurance that Nottinghamshire Police works in adherence to Approved Professional Practice and the operational guidance issued by National Police Chief's Council when managing the risk of suicide to persons under investigation for online child sexual exploitation and abuse.

### **3. Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 Law enforcement in the UK has significantly increased the amount of coordinated activity to address the threat of harm posed from child sexual exploitation and abuse. Consequently there has been an increase in the numbers of suicides committed by offenders post law enforcement intervention.

### **4. Summary of Key Points**

- 4.1 Death or serious injury matters (DSI) are not necessarily linked to a public complaint or any identified misconduct. The full definition of a DSI can be found in S.29 Police Reform Act 2002; in brief it is where there is/may be a causal link between a member of the public having contact with the police and death or serious injury occurring to that person. On receipt of a DSI referral the IOPC will determine the mode of investigation; usually an independent IOPC investigation or referred back to Force to investigate. The data summary

below outlines those DSI matters referred to the IPCC during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018 by Nottinghamshire Police:

<b>Case Status</b>	<b>Incident summary</b>	<b>Mode of Investigation</b>
Finalised	Injured evading arrest	Force deal *
Live	Injury following police pursuit	IOPC * Independent Investigation
Finalised	Suicide following other police contact	Local* Investigation
Finalised	Suicide attempt following prosecution for child sex offences.	Force deal
Live	Suicide following prosecution for child sex offences	IOPC Independent Investigation
Live	Injury sustained in custody	Local Investigation
Finalised	Suicide while classified a missing person	Local Investigation
Finalised	Suicide attempt following prosecution for child sex offences	Force deal
Live	Suicide following prosecution for child sex offences	Local Investigation
Finalised	Suicide following other police contact	Force deal
Live	Serious injury in custody	IOPC Independent Investigation

\*Independent investigations are carried out by the IOPC's own investigators.

\*Local investigations are carried out by police officers in the force area.

\*Referred back to force are cases for the force to decide on.

4.2 The IOPC publish an annual report on deaths following police contact. The most recent report published in July this year captured data from all forces between 01.04.17 and 31.03.18. For the purpose of the IOPC annual report DSIs fall into five categories. These are:

- Road traffic incident
- Fatal shooting
- Death in or following police custody
- Apparent suicide following custody
- Other deaths following police contact

Nationally the number of deaths in or following police custody has risen to the highest recorded level in ten years. The term custody translates to detention and is not confined solely to custody at a police station. Using the IOPC date parameters in this twelve month period Nottinghamshire Police recorded three deaths in this category, this being the second highest number of all police forces.

Nationally the number of apparent suicides following police custody remains the same as last year. The most common reason for detention in this category is for sexual offences representing 51% of the total. The proportion of sexual offences or indecent images involving children was 44%. Using the IOPC date parameters Nottinghamshire Police saw an increase from zero to three deaths recorded in this category.

4.3 In addition to DSIs the Police must refer to the IOPC complaints and recordable conduct matters that include allegations of conduct which constitute:

- Serious assaults
- Serious sexual offences
- Serious corruption (includes Abuse of Position Trust for Sexual Gain)
- Criminal offence or behaviour aggravated by discrimination
- Relevant offence (where the sentence is fixed by law or 7yrs on first conviction)

The table below shows the number in each category recorded by Nottinghamshire Police in the reporting period April to August 2018.

Type of Conduct	Total April to Aug 2018
Serious assault	2
Serious sexual offences	4
Serious corruption	1
Relevant offence	3
Offence aggravated by discrimination	3

Of the sexual offences; one complaint was a false allegation; two were non-upheld complaints as a result of strip search and one allegation against a former officer which is subject of an on-going criminal investigation.

## **5. Financial Implications and Budget Provision**

5.1 There are no specific financial implications in respect of this report. The Directorate is aware of its responsibilities in relation to 'Spending Money Wisely' and the information within this report exemplifies approaches to manage resources effectively.

## **6. Human Resources Implications**

6.1 Professional Standards Directorate resources are under constant review, ensuring that the department has both the capacity and capability to meet demand.

## **7. Equality Implications**

7.1 No specific implications

## **8. Risk Management**

8.1 It is essential the public have confidence in the service Nottinghamshire Police provide.

8.2 Organisational learning is a whole organisation responsibility which helps to mitigate risk. Professional Standards Directorate contributes to risk management through the sharing of learning and encouragement of change across the organisation where appropriate.

## **9. Policy Implications and links to the Police and Crime Plan Priorities**

9.1 IOPC investigations ensure that the public can have confidence in the independence, accountability and integrity, of the most serious of cases, most notably death or serious injury.

9.2 It is the responsibility of the force to ensure mandatory and voluntary referrals are made in a timely fashion and that appropriate support is given to IOPC investigators.

**10. Changes in Legislation or other Legal Considerations**

10.1 None

**11. Details of outcome of consultation**

11.1 None

**12. Appendices**

12.1 None