

Room GC.05
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Tel: 020 7271 2948

Email: public@public-standards.gov.uk

Committee on
Standards in
Public Life

29 June 2015

Dear Chair,

Tone from the top – leadership, ethics and accountability in policing

I am writing to advise you that the Committee has concluded its inquiry into local policing accountability; I enclose a copy of our final report *Tone from the top – leadership, ethics and accountability in policing*.

Over the course of our inquiry, we found widespread recognition of the importance of the College of Policing's Code of Ethics and greater innovation, increased visibility and community engagement on the part of Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs). There was also evidence of significant standards risks including continuing confusion over roles and responsibilities, insufficient challenge and scrutiny of PCC decisions and insufficient redress where a PCC falls below the standards of behaviour expected of a holder of public office. Along with the Committee's own findings gathered from an online consultation and a number of meetings with key stakeholders, the report draws on research conducted by both Ipsos MORI and independent researchers.

Our report makes recommendations to the Home Office, Police and Crime Commissioners, Police and Crime Panels and relevant Associations, calling for greater energy and consistency to be applied to promoting high ethical standards and for a more robust set of checks and balances in the accountability structures of local policing.

The report has been published today on the Committee's website, where you can also access other relevant documentation including research and infographics summarizing our findings and recommendations. If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact the Committee's secretariat.

Regards,



Paul Bew
Chair