



# Devon & Cornwall Police

Our ref: PSD/CO/894/19

Sent via e-mail:  
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3<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

Dear Mr Belchamber,

## **Re: Further Appeal against decision made following a complaint against the police**

I write in connection with your further appeal against the local resolution of your complaint against Devon and Cornwall police, reference PSD/CO/894/19.

Following your original appeal I concluded the following:

*I find that Acting Chief Inspector Thomas has not provided clear findings in relation to the specific allegation made against Chief Inspector Leisk. Whilst he states that Chief Inspector Leisk isn't responsible for the interpretation of the data it is not clear if there has been an error in the reporting or interpretation. I find that there is not enough detail within the Local Resolution outcome letter to illustrate what actions were completed in order to look into your complaint, whether you were contacted in order to discuss your complaint, what the findings were and whether on the actions of Chief Inspector Leisk fell below the standard expected for his role.*

*Whilst the findings of Acting Chief Inspector Thomas may be that the complaint should not be upheld, and that the actions of Chief Inspector Leisk did not fall below the standard expected, this needs to be clearly explained within the Local Resolution outcome letter.*

*I note that you have provided a different set of data within your original complaint. I find it is reasonable to comment upon the accuracy of the information given by Chief Inspector Leisk and if there has been an error for this to be highlighted along with the actions taken to remedy this within the outcome letter.*

### Contact the police

Emergency 999

Non-emergency [www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/reportcrime](http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/reportcrime)

✉ 101@dc.police.uk 101

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*I do not feel the single statement provided within the outcome letter is sufficiently detailed to answer these points.*

Following this decision Inspector Thomas was directed to provide you with a more detailed response to the specific points highlighted within the original appeal. He provided you with a further Local Resolution outcome letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 along with a second right of appeal.

On receipt of this letter you exercised your right of appeal and I have considered the points raised within your e-mail and supporting letter dated 26<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

Within your appeal letter you provide comment on the 5 numbered points within Inspector Thomas's letter and raise further issue with how your complaint has been handled and the response you have received.

You don't feel there has been a proper outcome and state that you have only received a weak and evasive response.

I don't support this position and find that Inspector Thomas has now provided you with an adequately detailed response to the issues originally raised in your complaint. Inspector Thomas has clarified where the figures came from, established that Dorset OPCC and other interested parties believed they were correct, and that on further examination established that there were some errors. Further to this Inspector Thomas has provided detail of the specific errors and offered a suitable apology.

In relation to any individual culpability I support that there is no information provided which supports the actions of Mr Leisk or any other individual fell below the standard expected for their role. Further to this I find no information within your original complaint or appeal to undermine this finding.

I find that an error was made, a suitable apology has been provided and that Inspector Thomas has outlined that he will ensure a review of the internal processes is undertaken once it is established how the data was provided.

**Your further appeal against the local resolution of your complaint is therefore not upheld.**

I consider appeals objectively, making sure that I review the information provided to me by the investigating officer and the complaint allegations.

Once the Complaints Appeal Unit has considered an appeal and decided not to uphold it there is no further right of appeal.

If you remain unhappy at the outcome of the appeal or the actions of Devon and Cornwall Police then you have the right to seek a judicial review through the high court. You can obtain independent legal advice on how to proceed with this and how to initiate the pre-action protocol which is required before seeking a judicial review.

Information on how to request permission for a judicial review can be found on [www.justice.gov.uk](http://www.justice.gov.uk)

Yours sincerely

M. Bourne

T/Detective Chief Inspector Matthew Bourne  
Complaints Appeals Officer  
Dorset, Devon and Cornwall Police