

Fw: Community Services Report - Police & Crime Panel

From: _WEB_Democratic
Services

Democratic.Services@stroud.gov.uk

To: Councillor Gareth Kitchen
cllr.gareth.kitchen@stroud.gov.uk

Sent: Tuesday 26 May at 14:29

Hi Gareth,

I hope you are well and had a lovely weekend.

In relation to our Police and Crime Panel report, I note the chain of emails below and from your resubmission of the report, the paragraph in question looks to be identical and wondered if this was the final version or if the report

was unchanged when you resubmitted?

With the comments made by Ruth, Democratic Services sent the report onto our Monitoring Officer to check the contents in respect of the below comments and Alice has come back with some track changed attached and whether you would consider the tracked amendments to keep the report factual and objective and free from subjectiveness.

I am conscious the CSL legal deadline is tomorrow and that you might not get chance to see this email ahead of publication, therefore we will publish the report upon your feedback.

Kind regards

Becky



Rebecca Poole

(She/Her)

Senior
Democratic
Services and
Elections Officer
(Electoral
Services)

**Stroud District
Council**

Ebley Mill, Ebley
Wharf
Stroud,
Gloucestershire.
GL5 4UB

T 01453 766321

W

[www.stroud.gov.u](http://www.stroud.gov.uk)

[k](http://www.stroud.gov.uk)

*Working together
to make Stroud
district a better
place to live, work
and visit*

From: Councillor Gareth Kitchen

<cllr.gareth.kitchen@stroud.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 March 2026 17:50

To: Greenwood, Ruth

<Ruth.Greenwood@gloucestershire.police.uk>

Cc: Beard, Rebecca

<becky.beard@gloucestershire.police.uk>; _WEB_Democratic Services

<Democratic.Services@stroud.gov.uk>; KENYON, Rosie

<rosie.kenyon@gloucestershire.gov.uk>; _DL_Monitoring Officer

<monitoring.officer@stroud.gov.uk>;

AYLIFFE, Rob

<rob.ayliffe@gloucestershire.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Community Services

Report - Police & Crime Panel

Hi Ruth,

Wow. Firstly let me apologise for any offence and stress this has caused you. It was not my intent whatsoever.

Secondly, I copied you in so that you (and by extension the PCC) were aware that my question to the PCC, at the panel, was grounded in genuine concern in the community and their need to see accountability, not political shenanigans.

The reference to floundering were initiatives like PRAP, Better Together, PCSO football, Legitimacy Panel etc. etc. all are believed to have been driven through CC Hansen's leadership. CC Hansen seems well respected in these sections of the community. Some have told me that they feel the PCC/OPCC has, at best, de-prioritised these areas. Maybe I

didn't articulate this background/context well enough? If so, for that I'm sorry for that.

You know me by now, I'm plain speaking and prefer to tell it how it is. But, it is a scrutiny panel, after all, and I'm elected to ask questions, convey what I learn by reporting back to my constituents in a way that's clear understandable. This is my role as a councillor.

Anyway, I guess, that I'll have to explain all this to the Monitoring Officer, which is OK, but I feel that a coffee and a chat would have been preferable.

Regards
Gareth

From: Greenwood, Ruth

Ruth.Greenwood@gloucestershire.

[police.uk](https://www.police.uk)>

Sent: 23 March 2026 14:24

To: Councillor Gareth Kitchen

<cllr.gareth.kitchen@stroud.gov.uk>

Cc: Beard, Rebecca

<becky.beard@gloucestershire.police.uk>; _WEB_Democratic Services

<Democratic.Services@stroud.gov.uk

>; KENYON, Rosie

<rosie.kenyon@gloucestershire.gov.uk>; _DL_Monitoring Officer

<monitoring.officer@stroud.gov.uk>;

AYLIFFE, Rob

<rob.ayliffe@gloucestershire.gov.uk>

Subject: Community Services Report

- Police & Crime Panel

 External email >

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links,

especially from unknown
senders.

OFFICIAL

Dear Cllr Kitchen

Many thanks for sharing your
Member Report – I don't
believe you have done so
before so I assume you seek a
response. As I am sure you
will have anticipated, your
comments regarding the IOPC
investigation have concerned
me particularly as I assume
this report is a public record:

*I questioned about the
second IOPC investigation
into CC Hansen. I am
being asked questions
about this by members of
our community and it's*

taking considerable amounts of my time. CC Rod Hansen is well respected in the community for work he led at the constabulary following the murder of George Floyd in 2020. People are wanting to know how the PCC will be held to account for his part in these suspensions. There is real concern that these initiatives have been left to flounder at the behest of the OPCC. The PCC has previously offered to receive detailed questions from the panel. I asked how he envisaged that process taking place? The PCC ducked that question and said it would be highly inappropriate to discuss the matter or to

say more. CEO proposed a lessons learnt workshop because CEO believes Gloucestershire have handled the matter well. Our Local Democracy Reporter was interested in this topic and there is clearly political dynamic at play which I wasn't aware of. The Chair quips that we may end up with two Chief Constables.

As has been reported multiple times, the investigation into CC Hansen followed a mandatory referral to the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC). That referral led to an investigation following a severity assessment by the IOPC, and that has found a case to answer for gross

misconduct. As per the Police Conduct Regulations 2020, there is a process to follow from referral to hearing, much like any other legal process, whereby documents are shared and disclosure is requested and supplied for example. There are also pre-hearing meetings with legal representatives and the Panel Chair who must be, as you have been told, the HM Chief Inspector or delegated to one of his / her HMIs. I struggle to understand how this legal process could be characterised as an “initiative”.

I am not sure what would be gained by allowing this process to “flounder” but I assure you this is not the case. Any delays in the process are most

definitely not at the “behest” of the OPCC. This is a very serious legal process and certainly not something that we would entertain for alternative purposes including political. I am concerned that the integrity and professionalism of the OPCC is being questioned here and it is for this reason I am copying in the Monitoring Officers for both SDC and GCC for their awareness. My comment about the OPCC managing the process well was not my own personal belief; the very team in the Home Office responsible for writing the regulations and guidance to which we are working have said this. Further, we do not “duck” questions. We answer what we can and not what we can’t as has been explained multiple times.

Finally, yes you are right, there is a political dynamic in the way this matter is being portrayed particularly in the local press but not from the OPCC / PCC. We continue to follow the process with robust legal advice and with respect for all parties involved. Please note that the CC's legal representatives are able to challenge any decisions made by the PCC as Appropriate Authority if they believe there is grounds to do so. If members of the public are concerned about the investigation into CC Hansen, I suggest that you signpost them to the IOPC as the body carrying out the investigation and as subject matter experts. They can be contacted via this link: [Contact](#)

[us | Independent Office for
Police Conduct \(IOPC\)](#)

Regards

Ruth

Ruth Greenwood

Chief Executive

**Office of the Police and
Crime Commissioner**

No.1 Waterwells, Waterwells
Drive

Quedgeley, Gloucester, GL2
2AN

PA: Ali
Pascoe (ali.pascoe@gloucestershire.police.uk)

Group: [01452 754348](tel:01452754348)

Personal: [01452 752101](tel:01452752101)

Fill out our survey on trust and confidence in policing here:

<https://bit.ly/GlosSurvey> Your answers will help shape the work of the OPCC

Please note, sometimes I choose to work flexibly and send emails outside normal office hours. While this might work for me, please know I don't expect a response or action outside of your own working hours.

We are committed to being an anti-discriminatory organisation. This means not only acting in a non-

discriminatory way, but
addressing systemic
inequalities, disadvantage and
discrimination.

OFFICIAL

From: Councillor Gareth Kitchen
<cllr.gareth.kitchen@stroud.gov.uk>

Sent: 22 March 2026 14:14

To: _WEB_Democratic Services
<Democratic.Services@stroud.gov.uk>

Cc: Greenwood, Ruth
<Ruth.Greenwood@gloucestershire.police.uk>

Subject: Community Services
Report - Police & Crime Panel

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of Gloucestershire Constabulary, do you trust this sender? Please exercise caution before opening any attachments or clicking on links contained within this email particularly if the sender is unknown.

Hi,

It's some time off but here's my report from the 20th March Gloucestershire Police & Crime Panel meeting for Community Services.

Regards

Gareth

Cllr Gareth Kitchen (*he/him*)

Green Councillor for Wotton-
under-Edge, North Nibley &
Stinchcombe

Stroud District Council



Ebley Mill, Ebley Wharf
Stroud, Gloucestershire. GL5 4UB

T +44 7396 840710

W www.stroud.gov.uk

*Working together to make Stroud
district a better place to live, work
and visit*

This email, together with any
files or attachments transmitted
with it, is intended solely for the
addressee. If you are not the
intended recipient, please
delete the email and notify the
originator immediately. Please
note that any unauthorised
copying, retention, disclosure or
other processing of this

