

# The Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC)

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IPCC

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**ipcc** independent  
police complaints  
commission

# Purpose

- To ensure suitable arrangements are in place for dealing with complaints or allegations of misconduct against any person serving with the police in England or Wales
- To increase public confidence by demonstrating independence, accountability and integrity in the complaints system and so contribute to the effectiveness of the police service as a whole

# Principles

- Justice
- Independence
- Valuing diversity
- Integrity
- Openness

# Scope

- Police officers of all ranks, Special Constables, police staff and contracted escort and detention staff
- Operational from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2004
- Conduct and complaints
- Not “direction and control” (operational decisions)
- England and Wales

# Access

- Requirement to improve access and openness
- Complaints may be made in writing, in person, by telephone or by email
- “Gateway” organisations will assist complainants
- Dispensation powers for frivolous or repetitious complaints
- Major incidents must be referred; police may refer or IPCC call in others

# Openness

- Presumption of disclosure
- Communication with complainant and complained against at regular intervals and key stages
- Final reporting format to be agreed
- Security where required

# Investigations

- Independent
  - Managed
  - Supervised
  - Local
- 
- c.100 independent
  - c.750 managed and supervised
  - c.4000 local
  - plus conduct matters

# Mandatory Referrals

- Deaths or serious injury following police contact
- Allegations of corruption carrying a possible two year sentence or significant disciplinary penalty
- Major racist incidents

# IPCC Investigations

- Own investigators
- Powers of constable on duty
- Wide ranging powers to enter police premises and seize evidence as necessary
- Arrest and interview under caution
- Surveillance powers
- Powers to manage and supervise other investigations
- Ability to call in any matter

# Appeals

- Rights of appeal to the IPCC
  - Procedural issues
  - Information supplied by police
  - Against the finding of a supervised or local investigation
- Power to direct
- No appeal (other than judicial review) against IPCC decision

# Outcomes

- Referral to Crown Prosecution Service
- Disciplinary Tribunal with independent member
- Require a disciplinary tribunal to be convened, may be in public and present case
- No role in sanctions
- Unsubstantiated
- Unfounded

# Informal resolution

- Procedures approved by IPCC
- Complainant consent required
- Research indicates greater complainant satisfaction
- Mediation
- Restorative conferences
- Complaints managers.....

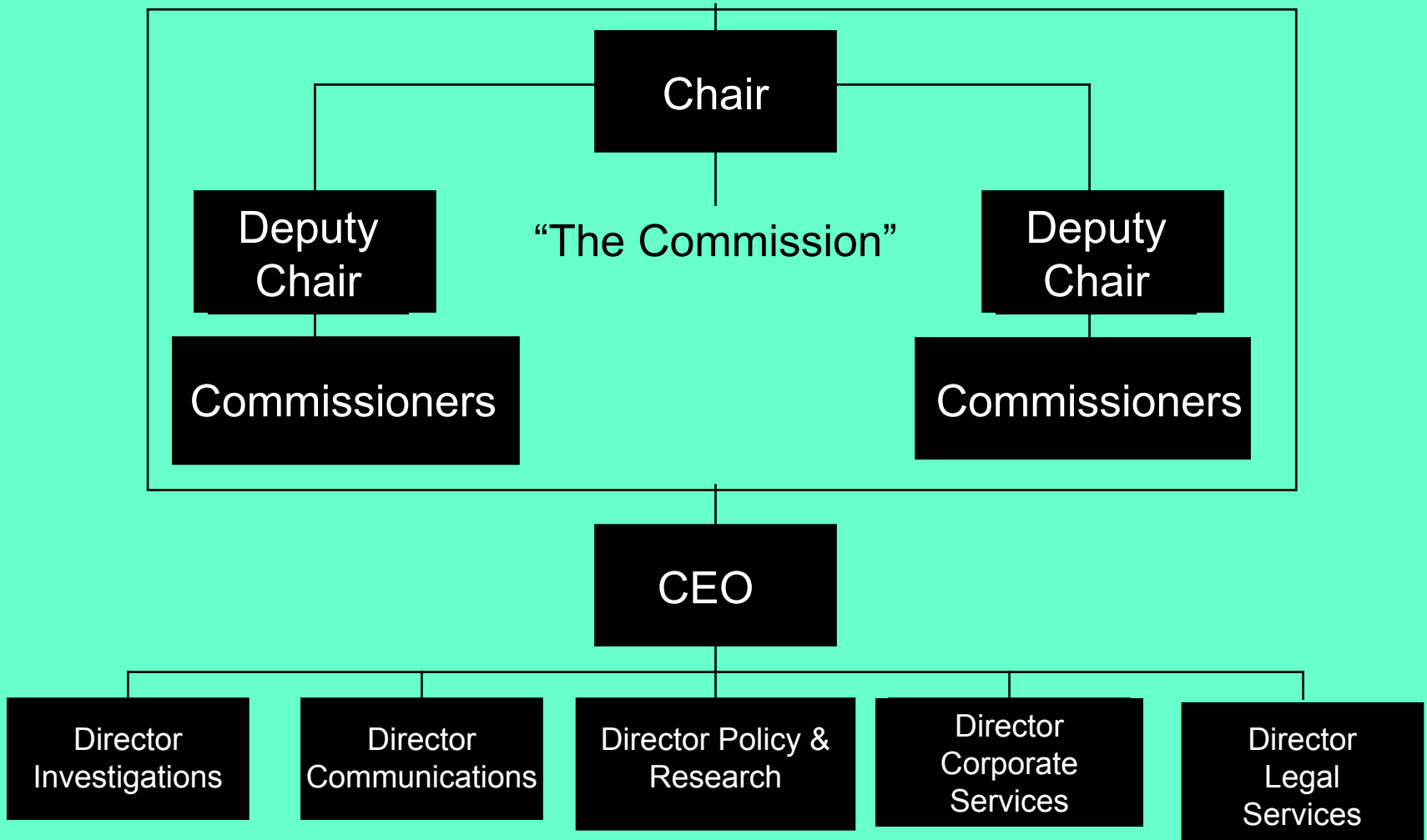
# Guardianship

- Oversight of the complaints system as a whole
- Identification and dissemination of best practice
- Aim is to increase public confidence in the whole process

# Guardianship Powers

- Inspection
- Identify and disseminate best practice
- Report
- Learn lessons (including operational issues)
- Issue Guidance on police complaints processes
- Collaborative

# People



# Investigators

- Build to 150 investigators
- Director of Investigations former Deputy Assistant Commissioner
- 25+% police backgrounds
- 50%? other investigative backgrounds
- Training and development to recognised national standards

# Stakeholders

- Police – 43 regional forces
- Other specialist forces e.g. Transport
- Policing family – ACPO, staff associations, Inspectorate, Police Authorities
- Prosecution Service and interest groups (human rights organisations, cause action lawyers etc)
- Community organisations
- Home Office

# Resources

- **PCA**
- £4m (\$8m)
- c. 90 staff
- London based
- Limited IT
- Transition issues
- **IPCC**
- Budget 03/04 - £15m (\$30m)
- Budget 04/05 c.£25-30m? (\$50-60m)
- c. 300 staff
- Regionally based
- IT/CTMS

<http://www.ipcc.gov.uk>

The logo for the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) is displayed on a white rectangular background. It features the lowercase letters 'ipcc' in a bold, sans-serif font. The 'i' is a dark grey color, while the 'p', 'c', and 'c' are a muted green color. To the right of the 'ipcc' text, the words 'independent', 'police complaints', and 'commission' are stacked vertically in a smaller, dark green, serif font.

ipcc independent  
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