

The IPCC, really is it a toothless watchdog?

MPs have criticised the effectiveness of the police complaints watchdog in monitoring its own recommendations, claiming systems for checking the quality of its work were "conspicuously absent". The Commons Public Accounts Committee (PAC) said the Independent Police Complaints Commission (IPCC) had "limited" evidence of the impact of its own work as responsibility for monitoring was unclear. It said there was a "lack of clarity" over the issue and called on the Home Office to ensure there was a "clear and well-established line of accountability."

The PPP comments We repeat the above statement because we have been in contact with the IPCC to follow up the stray bullet incident in Mold in 2007 and the use of a TASER on an old man in Llandudno in 2008. Both incidents were reported as being referred to the IPCC. The IPCC commissioner for Wales tells us that both incidents were referred back directly to NWPF and that the IPCC have no further interest in them. We can get information on the paper trail leading to the referrals BUT only via an FOI rquest to the IPCC. We initially have requested our Police Authority members to advise us of the outcomes of these referrals.