A Global Perspective on Civilian Oversight – England and Wales

Nick Hardwick - Chair

www.ipcc.gov.uk
Remit

- All police forces in England and Wales
- Police officers of any rank and police staff, e.g., contracted escort staff, community support officers
- Cover police conduct – no responsibility for direction and control
- Powers of guardianship, appeals and to independently investigate the most serious complaints
Guardianship

- Public Confidence
- Accessibility to complaints system
- Setting and improving standards
- Monitoring and inspection
- Learning lessons
Investigations

- Certain complaints, eg deaths, serious racial discrimination, MUST be referred to IPCC
- Powers to call in any conduct matter
- 4 types of investigation – independent, managed, supervised, local
- Last year c. 23,000 recordable complaints, c. 90 deaths, including 3 fatal shootings
- IPCC expects to independently investigate/manage 110 complaints in year 1
- 1500+ ‘legacy’ cases from predecessor Police Complaints Authority (PCA)
Resources

- 72 Investigators – hoping to expand to 150 in 2005, 300 in 2007
- C. 30% of total with police background, majority of senior/deputy senior investigators currently have police background
- Budget 2004/5 £23M
- 4 regional offices
Progress to date: Investigations

Currently being undertaken (21 June):

- Independent Investigations – 2
- Managed Investigations – 15
- Supervised Investigations – 110
- Returned to Police Forces for Local Investigation – 94
- Requiring outside Police Forces - 15
Lessons Learnt

Independent Investigations:
- Capacity
- Media
- Feeding back quick-time learning - baton guns

Initial Thoughts on Themes of Referrals
- Mental Health
- Road Traffic Incidents
Working with Diverse Communities

- Staff and Commissioner profiles
- Advisory Board
- Complainant Access Points
- Staff Associations
- Outreach
- Community confidence