



Professional Standards Department

Notification of Outcome of an Accelerated Misconduct Hearing under Regulation 63 of The (Police) Conduct Regulations 2020

This report is submitted to the Appropriate Authority under Regulation 63 of The (Police) Conduct Regulations 2020 by the person conducting or chairing the accelerated misconduct hearing setting out:

- a) the finding of the person or persons conducting the accelerated misconduct hearing;
- b) the reasons for that finding;
- c) any disciplinary action imposed.

Case reference number: CM/31/2303

Date of hearing: 03/06/2024

Officer subject to proceedings: Former PC Christian Stobbs

Person conducting or chairing the hearing: Chief Constable Dr. Richard Lewis

The findings and details of any disciplinary action to be imposed are as follows:

I have read the case papers submitted by the Appropriate Authority and note that between September 2023 and January 2024 former officer Christian Stobbs used police systems to monitor [REDACTED]. This included reviewing STORM logs, policing units and mapping technology. There was no lawful policing purpose for Mr. Stobbs' actions. Mr. Stobbs did not submit a written response to the Regulation 51 notice but made a full admission to his conduct of repeatedly and systematically accessing force systems without authorisation or a legitimate policing purpose via his acceptance of a police caution.

By its nature, the issuing of a caution requires that the person under investigation admits their conduct and I have seen that Mr. Stobbs has signed the caution form (p. 32-33 of the bundle).

Mr. Stobbs' conduct amounts to Gross Misconduct. I have reached this conclusion by virtue of his acceptance of a police caution for breaking the law relating to Section 1(1) and (3) of the Computer Misuse Act 1990. A breach of this law by an officer is of grave concern and undermines the trust of the public in institutions such as the police service. Furthermore, it is incompatible with the duties of a police officer and having read the papers and the record of personal service, should Mr. Stobbs still have been a police officer, I would have dismissed him without notice. Moreover, I ask that his name is added to the 'barred list'.

Date of determination:	03/06/2024
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Officer's Notice of Right to Appeal

You are entitled to request an appeal to the Police Appeals Tribunal in relation to the finding against you and/or the sanction(s) imposed as detailed above.

Your notice of appeal must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Dyfed-Powys within 10 working days beginning with the first working day after receiving this report.

Contact details for the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner are available on their website

<https://www.dyfedpowys-pcc.org.uk/en/contact-us/>

The Chair's directions in respect of Regulation 63 (5-11) (Publication of this report):

I direct the appropriate authority to publish this report on their website as soon as practicable after the officer concerned is notified of the outcome of the accelerated misconduct hearing. The report must be published on the website for a period of not less than 28 days.

Prior to publication of this report the appropriate authority may, redact the document—

- a) in so far as the authority considers redaction is —
 - i. necessary for the purpose of preventing the premature or inappropriate disclosure of information that is relevant to, or may be used in, any criminal proceedings;
 - ii. necessary in the interests of national security;
 - iii. necessary for the purpose of the prevention or detection of crime, or the apprehension or prosecution of offenders;
 - iv. necessary for the purpose of the prevention or detection of misconduct by other police officers or police staff members or their apprehension for such matters;
 - v. necessary and proportionate for the protection of the welfare and safety of any informant or witness;
 - vi. otherwise in the public interest, and
- b) in line with any restrictions imposed on the disclosure of information during the course of the proceedings.

In making this decision I have had regard to any representations provided under regulation 53(3) or (5) and any representations made at the accelerated misconduct hearing.

The Chair's directions to the appropriate authority in respect of Regulation 42 (16) (Information the Chair considers ought to be included in the Police Barred List report):

Detail here any information the Chair considers ought to be included in the barred list report relating to the officer concerned (information relating to whether exemptions to requirement to publish the barred list entry apply).

Signature of the person conducting the Accelerated Misconduct Hearing:

I have made the above determinations in accordance with The Police (Conduct) Regulations 2020 and the College of Policing Guidance on outcomes in police misconduct proceedings.

Dr Richard Lewis

03/06/2024

The appropriate authority must, as soon as practicable after receiving this report notify the officer concerned of the outcome by sending the officer a copy of the report. The appropriate authority must also send a copy of any report under this regulation (where applicable) to –

- the Director General, in any case where the Director General presented the case, or was entitled to attend to make representations, and
- the complainant and any interested person