



LEICESTERSHIRE POLICE AUTHORITY

4 March 2011

PRESS NOTICE

Police Authority Calls for Reassurance on Progress Since Joanne Butler Case

In the wake of the IPCC report into the actions of Leicestershire Constabulary in the case of Joanne Butler, Leicestershire Police Authority has called for an urgent report looking at the safeguards in place to prevent a recurrence.

The Authority has therefore asked the Chief Constable to present a report covering the changes made in working practices since 2006, which will be considered by all members of the Authority at its next meeting on 30 March 2011.

Chairman of the Police Authority, Barrie Roper, said: "Both the Authority and the Constabulary acknowledge and respect the findings of the IPCC. That is not in question.

"Nor do we wish to re-examine the circumstances leading up to Joanne Butler's tragic death. That has already been undertaken by those eminently qualified to do so.

"However, we want to see clear evidence that lessons have indeed been learned and that processes are well embedded to reduce the possibility of another such incident. We, like the communities we are here to represent, wish to be reassured that risk has been addressed and any vulnerability reduced.

"People need to have confidence in the systems designed to protect them and keep their families safe.

"The Authority has therefore asked the Chief Constable to provide a detailed report on the new structures and working practices that have been introduced so that we can have confidence that the systems in place are robust, fit for purpose and that officers are trained correctly and that this training is being used to deliver a better quality of service.

“We felt that this scrutiny should take place in a public meeting for total transparency, which is why the report will be considered by the full Authority when it meets later in March.”

PLEASE NOTE THERE IS NO-ONE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW ON THIS MATTER IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING.

ENDS

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