

Outcome of Bill Taylor recommendations

In his independent review of IPCC security, carried out in the wake of the leaking of information to ITN, Bill Taylor made 9 recommendations, all of which were accepted. A summary of action taken in respect of those recommendations appears below. Within the intrinsic limitations of an overview and audit activity, I am satisfied that the IPCC has responded appropriately to those recommendations.

John Holden

(Independent Member of the IPCC Audit Committee with responsibility for oversight of security risks)

#	Recommendation	Outcome
1	It is recommended that the current protocol addressing the handover processes for each of the three types of IPCC investigation is re-visited by ACPO.	The ACPO protocol has been revisited. It is being further reviewed in relation to IPCC's Statutory Guidance.
2	It is recommended that the IPCC take the initiative in inviting key Holmes users and organisations operating an MIR to early discussions on current best practice and how any gaps might be managed.	Following the review, the IPCC developed standard operating procedures to address best practice and implemented the latest release of Holmes to support the protective marking scheme.
3	It is recommended that Critical Incident Training for relevant staff is undertaken following adoption of an appropriate model.	Fully implemented.
4	It is recommended that a protocol is developed with the police for handling the investigation of cases where it is alleged that members of the IPCC may have committed a criminal offence in circumstances arising from their duties and responsibilities.	Fully implemented.
5	It is recommended that a specific offence (arrestable) is created for the unauthorised release of information by a member (temporary, seconded etc) of IPCC staff in relation to the IPCC role	This was considered. However, the IPCC decided to pursue an alternative strategy involving an amendment to the Official Secrets Act. The Home Office has been asked to include the change at an appropriate opportunity.
6	It is recommended that the IPCC have in place a contingency to deal quickly with the application for Injunctions or other legal remedies as a 'tool in the box' for managing the integrity of their investigations	Fully implemented.

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7	It is recommended that the question of a 'dedicated' Departmental Security Officer for the IPCC be considered – given that the information held, risks faced, threats to and the importance of the role performed is wholly disproportionate to the size of the organisation	An experienced security officer has been appointed. DSO status was considered but IPCC decided against having its own DSO in favour of formalising and making better use of Home Office expertise and services, which is proving successful.
8	It is recommended that the areas identified and accepted for inclusion in the security reviews already started are given due priority, resourced to secure the outcomes identified and formally reviewed by senior management on a monthly basis until the actions are discharged.	A Security Management Group oversees all aspects of security within the IPCC. Of the 154 recommendations and actions arising from various reviews, 130 are now closed, with all high and medium priority items completed.
9	It is recommended that a protocol is established between the IPCC and ACPO (and other relevant organisations) in relation to the handling of sensitive and protectively marked material.	A separate memorandum of understanding with the police force is prepared on the handling of sensitive material on a case by case basis to meet the specific needs in each case. This requirement is reflected in IPCC policy. Its inclusion in a protocol is being considered alongside the review of the ACPO protocol and IPCC's Statutory Guidance (see recommendation 1).