

Question sent to the Police and Crime Panel Web site

Dear Panel,

I was very disappointed that I did not receive any answers to the 9 questions that I put before your meeting on the 20th June 2013 link below:

[http://www.hertspcp.org.uk/Papers/2013-06-20/\(Letter\)%20Additional%20agenda%20items%20for%2020%20June%202013.pdf](http://www.hertspcp.org.uk/Papers/2013-06-20/(Letter)%20Additional%20agenda%20items%20for%2020%20June%202013.pdf)

I was even more disappointed that you felt that you had to ask the PCC to answer the questions before you could! As I said in the meeting I was after the views of the panel and not that of the PCC (I could ask the PCC myself). In addition I pointed out that question 8 in particular was clearly only for the panel to reply. The reply given to this was "I'll get back to you on that"!

Therefore please can you let me know when I will be receiving an answer to all these questions in particular question 8?

In addition you will recall that some of my questions were with respect to gifts and hospitality. You may be aware that BBC 3CR ran a report about my questions and this issue on the morning of your meeting. In addition the Watford Observer ran the following story:

[http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/10499019.Hertfordshire\\_police\\_commissioner\\_s\\_hospitality\\_and\\_perks\\_revealed/](http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/10499019.Hertfordshire_police_commissioner_s_hospitality_and_perks_revealed/)

Last night in Parliament Keith Vaz MP also raised this issue about the Herts PCC .(Link to Hansard below see column 134 onwards. Herts PCC mentioned in column 135)

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201314/cmhansrd/cm130624/debtext/130624-0004.htm#13062456000003>

Please also note that Keith Vaz said in column 136:

*"The police and crime panels are meant to hold commissioners to account on all these issues. They are the only groups standing between commissioners and a four-year period in which they can, in effect, do whatever they like. However, as soon as the cold light of scrutiny was shone on them by the Committee, we found that these panels were often compromised by political allegiances, and some lacked the guidance, legal advice and legal powers that they required."*

In addition please note that the Police Minister said in column 140:

*"If there have been failings in the system—the failings that the right hon. Gentleman mentioned—they may be the result of chairs of panels, and panels themselves, having a lack of understanding of the powers they hold and the role they fulfil."*

It would appear that everyone but the panel appears to be interested in these matter?

## Agenda Item 6

I would also be interested in the name of the member who asked in relation to my questions-

Who is this member of the public?

Is this some sort of vendetta ?

My answer to the members first question is I am a very concerned member of the public that has identified accountable issues that need to be addressed and answered. My answer to the second is, if holding the PCC to public account and scrutiny is a vendetta I am pleased to be associated with the panel who must also be on a vendetta as it holds the PCC to public account as the scrutiny body? Apparently

Your urgent response please,

Kind regards,

Mark Ryan