

6:00PM, FRI 15 MAR 2013 [LINCOLNSHIRE'S TOP COP SUSPENDED](#)

"Swift resolution" for Lincolnshire top cop investigation

ITV Calendar



Alan Hardwick *Photo:*

Lincolnshire's Police and Crime Commissioner says he's surprised that Karl McCartney, the MP for Lincoln, has written to the Home Secretary, expressing concern about the suspension of the county's Chief Constable Neil Rhodes.

Alan Hardwick, who has appointed the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester police to investigate potential conduct matters relating to Neil Rhodes, says he is hoping for a swift resolution over the suspension. But the MP Karl McCartney has asked the Home Secretary to give her views on the case.

I remain bemused I suppose, extremely surprised that Karl McCartney has asked the Home Secretary to intervene in my role. I wonder how much of the legislation he has read. I think he's calling me or saying that I've taken an autocratic decision. That implies a decision that has been taken without any reference to anybody else, and I can assure you that that is not the case.

– ALAN HARDWICK



Alan Hardwick speaking to Kate Hemingway

Karl McCartney, the MP for Lincoln though, doesn't think the issue's been handled correctly, and claims even Mr Rhodes was forced to wait a week after his suspension until he was told the content of the allegations against him. He's written to the Home Secretary, asking her to look into the matter.



Karl McCartney MP

I've just asked for her thoughts on the processes and what has happened so far. We're now getting towards three weeks since our Chief Constable in Lincolnshire was suspended, none of us know too much about why that is. Perhaps managerially it has not been done in the right way.

– KARL MCCARTNEY MP

Mr Hardwick says he's surprised though that Karl McCartney's taken that action.

Doubly surprised because of course Karl is a member of the Government that actually introduced Police and Crime Commissioner's.

– ALAN HARDWICK