

Commissioner backs Post call for misconduct police to be named



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The Bristol Post
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POLICE officers who are fired or resign over misconduct should be named and shamed, says Avon and Somerset's Police and Crime Commissioner Sue Mountstevens.

She has backed the call by the Bristol Post to identify those who left the force after committing offences including theft, drink-driving, sexual assault and perverting the course of justice. The Bristol Post revealed on Friday that 29 officers had either been dismissed or resigned since 2010 after misconduct complaints.

The constabulary, which released the figures after a Freedom of Information Act request, refused to name the officers involved on the grounds that the offences were "not contemporaneous" and there was no policing-related reason to do so.

But Ms Mountstevens said she would act to see if the officers involved could be named.

She said: "I think many residents will read the headlines and be rightly alarmed by the conduct of these few officers. They have let down local people and the many dedicated, hard-working officers and staff of the constabulary.

"I have spoken with the Chief Constable and I have asked him to look into these procedures more closely, as well as the legal implications surrounding the naming of resigned and dismissed officers who broke the law. I want everyone to have the highest level of confidence in the police.

"This is why I set up an independent residents' panel to look at police complaints and I will publish their reports. The conduct of these police officers is in the minority and residents can be assured that there are checks on the police."



Read more: <http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/Commissioner-backs-Post-misconduct-police-named/story-19676629-detail/story.html#ixzz2cimShGHI>

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