



**Chief Constable Andy Marsh QPM**

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Sue Mountstevens  
Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner

*Email Only*

Our ref: AM/NA

Your Ref:

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020

Dear Sue

Thank you for your letter dated 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 in which you requested that Nick Adams, the s.151 officer for the Constabulary, act as your s.151 officer for an interim period. I recognise that this request enables the appointment of Mark Simmonds as your interim CEO, subject to confirmation by the Police and Crime Panel.

Having discussed with Nick and the wider Chief Officer team, I am supportive of this request on an interim basis. I acknowledge that in making this request you recognise the effectiveness of the existing working relationships between you and I, and between both Mark and Nick as our respective s.151 officers.

I am grateful for your explicit intention to manage this position in a respectful and balanced manner. As you will know, it is rightly envisaged within the CIPFA statement on the role of the Chief Finance Officer within policing that the two s.151 officer roles are not performed by one individual. Whilst I am confident that Nick will act with transparency and integrity in fulfilling both roles on an interim basis, I could not support this arrangement on a permanent basis. I therefore welcome your intention to retain the s.151 officer role within the OPCC, to be filled following the election of a PCC in May.

I recognise that the duration of the appointment is initially through until the election, with potential for the arrangement to continue beyond that for a period whilst the newly elected PCC fills the roles of CEO and CFO on a permanent basis. I would expect this arrangement to therefore be reviewed shortly after the PCC election in May to agree timescales for this and manage expectations accordingly.

Yours sincerely,

Andy Marsh QPM  
Chief Constable  
Avon and Somerset Constabulary