



POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY

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PRESS STATEMENT

Police pursuits that result in death or serious injury are notified to the Police Complaints Authority for independent investigation. The outcome of those investigations is reported directly to the families, to the Commissioner of Police and from time by means of public reports by the Authority.

The Authority is concerned about the frequency of fatal and serious injury police pursuits and has decided to review all such incidents since the police introduced updated policy and general instructions on pursuits in March 2004. The purpose of the review is to determine whether the policy and general instructions provide sufficient guidance for officers involved in pursuits.

The Authority will report publicly on the results of the review.

The Authority's decision to conduct this review and to publicly report its findings does not imply criticism of any of the officers who have been involved in the pursuits under review. Nor is it an indication that the Authority already has a particular concern about the adequacy of police policy or general instructions.

The review will include an assessment of current practices in comparative jurisdictions.

Hon Justice Goddard
Police Complaints Authority
21 August 2007