

**Professional Standards Directorate
Police Committee Report**



Ref No: CM/02/24

Summary:

On Saturday 6th April 2024, a Police Constable from the Local Policing Directorate was off duty, driving their car when they became involved in a road traffic collision. The officer had collided with street furniture in the road, causing their vehicle to turn over onto its roof.

Upon being located in the vicinity of the collision, the officer was arrested by Thames Valley Police on suspicion of driving a vehicle whilst unfit through drink or drugs contrary to section 4 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

The officer was taken by officers to hospital. At the hospital, a blood sample was taken from the officer by a healthcare professional and was subsequently submitted for analysis. The result indicated that the officer was significantly over the prescribed limit of alcohol in their system.

Following the incident, the officer made several disclosures to both Thames Valley Police officers at the scene and City of London Police colleagues which indicated the fact they were driving the vehicle whilst under the influence of alcohol.

The circumstances of this incident were subject to a severity assessment which determined that if proven, the allegation amounted to Gross Misconduct.

The officer was charged and pled guilty to 'driving whilst over the prescribed alcohol limit.' They were given an 18 month driving ban and were fined.

In light of the conviction, and the incontrovertible evidence in existence, the case was deemed suitable for an Accelerated Misconduct Hearing. The officer resigned from the force before the accelerated hearing took place. The accelerated hearing occurred in the officer's absence on Wednesday 21st August 2024, and the commissioner found that Gross Misconduct was proven and that the officer would have been dismissed if they had still been a serving officer.

Organisational Learning:

None

Mode of Investigation:

N/A

Appeal Made:

No

Misconduct or Gross Misconduct:

Gross Misconduct

Case to Answer:

Yes - Misconduct Hearing

Sanction:

Dismissal (If still serving) and placed on the College of Policing Barred List.

Number of days taken to complete the investigation:

137