

**Rt Hon Michael Mates**

*“In October 2013, the CPS considered allegations that Michael Mates, a candidate in the election for Police and Crime Commissioner for Hampshire, had committed an offence under section 21 of The Police and Crime Commissioner Elections Order 2012. The CPS decided at that time that there was sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction but that no charges should be brought as a prosecution would not be in the public interest. The CPS made a public statement in October 2013, explaining its decision not to prosecute Mr Mates.*

*Following a complaint made by Mr Mates, the CPS carried out a review of this decision and it has concluded that it had been wrong to determine that there was sufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction.*

*The CPS has apologised to Mr Mates for any distress and embarrassment that its wrong decision and public statement in October 2013 caused. The CPS of course accepts that Mr Mates committed no offence.”*