



# STATEMENT

OJC 45/11

16 December 2011

## STATEMENT FROM THE OFFICE FOR JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS

-  
**Mr Michael Sheffield**

### **A spokesperson for the Office for Judicial Complaints said:**

“Mr Michael Sheffield, HM Coroner for Teesside, has been the subject of an investigation into the increase in time taken to conclude inquests in the Teesside jurisdiction since 2008. The Lord Chancellor and the Lord Chief Justice have been made aware of the investigation undertaken by Middlesbrough Council’s Community Safety and Leisure Scrutiny Committee into the Teesside Coroner’s Court and they have agreed to defer any further investigation by the Office for Judicial Complaints pending the outcome of the Scrutiny Committee’s inquiry. The deferral of this matter does not affect any other investigations which may take place regarding Mr Sheffield”

**ENDS**

### **Notes for Editors**

Media queries in relation to the OJC should be made in the first instance to the Judicial Communications Office – telephone 020 7073 4852 or via e-mail – [press.enquiries@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:press.enquiries@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk).

For more information about the Office, including details on how to make a complaint against a judicial office holder, you can visit the OJC website at: <http://www.judicialcomplaints.gov.uk/>