

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PRESS NOTICE

### Attorney General grants undertaking

Sir Christopher Pitchford, the Chairman of the Undercover Policing Inquiry, has today published a [letter from the Attorney General](#). By this letter, the Attorney General grants an 'inquiry-specific' undertaking to enable the Undercover Policing Inquiry to better meet its terms of reference.

The undertaking means that the evidence witnesses give to the Inquiry will not be used against them (or against their spouse or civil partner) in any criminal proceedings, or when deciding whether to bring criminal proceedings. It will enable witnesses to give evidence to the Inquiry without fear of being investigated and prosecuted as a result of their own evidence.

### Background

The purpose of the Undercover Policing Inquiry is to investigate and report on undercover police operations conducted by English and Welsh police forces in England and Wales since 1968. The Inquiry will examine the contribution undercover policing has made to tackling crime, how it was and is supervised and regulated, and its effect on individuals involved, both police officers and others who came into contact with them.

The work of the Inquiry ranges across the full scope of undercover policing work and will look at the work of the Special Demonstration Squad, the National Public Order Intelligence Unit and police forces in England and Wales. The Inquiry will also examine whether people may have been wrongly convicted in cases involving undercover police officers, and refer any such cases to a separate panel for consideration.

The work of the Inquiry will fall into three modules:

1. Module one will look at what happened in the deployment of undercover officers in the past, their conduct, and the impact of their activities on themselves and others.
2. Module two will look at the management and oversight of undercover officers, including their selection, training, supervision and care after the end of an undercover deployment. This section will also look at the law and other rules covering undercover policing.
3. Module three will make recommendations about how undercover policing should be conducted in future.

**ENDS**

# UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

## NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The Undercover Policing Inquiry is constituted under the Inquiries Act 2005.
2. The Inquiry's [terms of reference](#) were announced by the Home Secretary on 16 July 2015.
3. The Inquiry held a [hearing](#) on undertakings on 27 April 2016, and the Chairman subsequently issued [Ruling](#) on 26 May 2016.
4. An [overview note](#) was released alongside the Ruling, to aid understanding.
5. The Inquiry's '[frequently asked questions](#)' provide further information on the Inquiry more generally, as do [two published update notes](#).
6. The Inquiry's website is [www.ucpi.org.uk](http://www.ucpi.org.uk) and the Inquiry can be found on Twitter @ucpinquiry

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