

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

14 August 2017

## PRESS NOTICE

### Assurance evidence updates

The Inquiry is today publishing a further tranche of [assurance statements](#) by the Metropolitan Police Service.

The Inquiry has been and continues to seek assurance evidence from the Metropolitan Police Service as part of a rolling stream of work. The aim of this exercise is to establish where within the Metropolitan Police Service potentially relevant documents may be held and what steps the Metropolitan Police Service has been taking to ensure that potentially relevant documents are identified and retained for the Inquiry. Further detail about the Inquiry's approach to this issue was set out in its [fourth update note](#) (at page three) and in the [two year update](#) (at paragraphs 4.16 through 4.22).

Ensuring the security of all relevant material is key to the Inquiry's success. However, it would not be practicable or proportionate to take physical control of all material that might contain information relevant to the terms of reference. Both the massive quantity of such material (millions of documents and pieces of data) and the extreme sensitivity of some of the material would create operational difficulties for the Inquiry of such magnitude that it would be impossible for the Inquiry to process and store it all.

The Inquiry's approach to information assurance has been to take possession of parts of the available material where it considers that it is necessary and proportionate to do so. In parallel the Inquiry has sought regular assurances from police forces and other state bodies that they are taking all reasonable steps to preserve and secure potentially relevant material which the Inquiry may later want to receive or to inspect as part of its investigation.

The statements that are being published today (by Alastair Pocock, Jeffrey Lamprey, Kenneth Neale, Michael Killeen and Rob Cox) represent evidence received from the Metropolitan Police Service between December 2016 and April 2017. Since receipt these statements have been the subject of an application for restriction of some of the content by the Metropolitan Police Service. It has taken several weeks for the material to be provisionally redacted and checked in order to make it ready for publication in this form. In the meantime, the Inquiry has continued to ask further follow-up questions and make requests for further assurance evidence, the results of which will be posted once they become available for publication.

# UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

The Inquiry has also published an updated version of the witness statement of Neil Hutchinson, which responded to the Inquiry's Rule 9-10(a) and was signed on 9 September 2016.

The statements are being published in provisionally redacted form. The provisional redactions will be replaced by final versions once the Inquiry has considered and determined the Metropolitan Police Service's applications for redactions to these statements.

## **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 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. Copies of all of the statements can be found on the Inquiry's website, [here](#).
2. The Undercover Policing Inquiry is constituted under the [Inquiries Act 2005](#).
3. The Inquiry's [terms of reference](#) were announced by the Home Secretary on 16 July 2015.
4. The Inquiry's '[frequently asked questions](#)' document provides further information on the Inquiry more generally, as do [five published update notes](#) and the [two year update](#).
5. 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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