

Statement made on behalf of: The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis

Witness: Neil Hutchison

Statement No: 2

Exhibits Referred to: NH/160609/1, NH/160609/2, NH/160609/3,  
NH/160609/4, NH/160609/5, NH/160609/6,  
NH/160609/7

Date Statement Made: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016

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**IN THE MATTER OF: PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING**

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This is the exhibit marked NH/160609/6 referred to in Neil Hutchison's statement dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016

## **Extracts from the Home Office guidance on police officer misconduct**

### *Orders and Instructions*

*1.17. Police officers only give and carry out lawful orders and instructions.*

*1.18. Police officers abide by police regulations, force policies and lawful orders.*

### *Duties and Responsibilities*

*1.19. Police officers are diligent in the exercise of their duties and responsibilities.*

*1.20. When deciding if a police officer has neglected his or her duties all of the circumstances should be taken into account. Police officers have wide discretion and may have to prioritise the demands on their time and resources. This may involve leaving a task to do a different one, which in their judgement is more important. This is accepted and in many cases essential for good policing.*

### *Confidentiality*

*1.21. Police officers treat information with respect and access or disclose it only in the proper course of police duties.*

### *Discreditable Conduct*

*1.24. Police officers behave in a manner which does not discredit the police service or undermine public confidence, whether on or off duty.*

*1.26. Discredit can be brought on the police by an act itself or because public confidence in the police is undermined. In general, it should be the actual underlying conduct of the police officer that is considered under the misconduct procedures, whether the conduct occurred on or off duty. However where a police officer has been convicted of a criminal offence that alone may lead to misconduct action irrespective of the nature of the conduct itself. In all cases it must be clearly articulated how the conduct or conviction discredits the police.*

### *Challenging and Reporting Improper Conduct*

*1.27. Police officers report, challenge or take action against the conduct of colleagues which has fallen below the standards of professional behaviour expected.' Home Office guidance, Police Officer Misconduct, Unsatisfactory Performance and Attendance Management Procedures, Ref: 023/2012, pp.12-13)*