

For: Undercover Police Inquiry
By: MPS Designated Lawyer
1st Statement of witness
Exhibits: N/A
Dated: 3 May 2018

RE: PUBLIC INQUIRY INTO UNDERCOVER POLICING
IMPACT STATEMENT OF HN86

1. I understand that there will be an application for a restriction order in respect of my real and cover names during periods when I served as an undercover officer in the SDS and then later when I returned to a managerial role within the SDS. This application will be made on my behalf by the Designated Lawyer and I support that application.

Career and SDS deployment

2. I joined the Metropolitan Police *in the 1970s* [REDACTED]. I was recruited to the SDS from within Special branch and deployed undercover *in the late 1970s/early 1980s* [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] *A period of time* into my deployment I requested that the deployment be terminated early. I found that had hit a brick wall mentally; my stress levels were constantly very high and this disguised normal peaks and troughs in emotion. I raised the issue with *a senior manager* [REDACTED]. The confirmation that I could begin to withdraw came as a great relief. It took *some time* [REDACTED] to completely withdraw after the decision had been made.
3. I returned to the SDS as a supervisor *in the 1990s* [REDACTED]. My experience undercover had given me an understanding of the mental pressure

that undercover officers could be placed under. Reflecting this, I attempted to get a process started that provided for greater focus on officers' welfare during and after deployment for the role. I also oversaw the introduction of psychometric testing as a means of better assessing suitability for the role.

Career after the SDS

4. I left my supervisory role with the SDS in [REDACTED] by that time I had been promoted to the rank of DCI. **Set out subsequent role outside SDS.** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. For a few months in **the late 1990s** [REDACTED] I covered a period of sick leave for the head of S Squad as Acting Superintendent. In this role the SDS was within my purview. I retired from the Metropolitan Police in **the late 1990s / early 2000s** [REDACTED] to take a role with **sets out next role** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

5. Towards the end of my service with the MPS I began to suffer from what the consultant physician that I saw in **the late 1990s** [REDACTED] described as "frequent bouts of general malaise". The Consultant physician confirmed a diagnosis made by my GP of **specific condition** [REDACTED]. He questioned whether stress was a contributory factor.

6. On [REDACTED] **the late 1990s/early 2000s** I commenced a period of self-certified sick leave from **my post MPS job** [REDACTED]. I had been suffering from anxiety and fatigue and feeling unwell for some time and I believe that this cumulated in me suffering a nervous breakdown. This was a very

traumatic period. My GP diagnosed [REDACTED] and I was prescribed medication, advised to rest and had a series of counselling sessions. After several months of absence from work my GP advised that my condition was unlikely to improve in the short to medium term if I continued in my employment. My employment with *my subsequent employer* [REDACTED] was formally terminated *in the early 2000s* [REDACTED] on medical grounds.

Period following employment to date

7. Following the termination of my employment I decided to move **abroad** [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]. I did this with the specific purpose of distancing myself from the stresses of my previous employments in order that I may begin to recover my health. By immersing myself in my new life and activities I was able to detach myself from the stress I had experienced in my professional life in the UK. Over time this has been of significant therapeutic benefit to me.

8. After my arrival **abroad** [REDACTED] the General Practitioner that I registered with certified me as unfit to work for a further 18 months and prescribed medication for my stress related symptoms. A couple of years after moving **abroad** [REDACTED] I was able to stop taking this medication. I believe that it took me **a number of** [REDACTED] years to recover from the nervous breakdown that I suffered in **the late 1990s/early 2000s** [REDACTED]. This recovery has been placed under significant strain the requests that I have received for input with operation Herne and in relation to this Inquiry. Each time that I am required to revisit the details of my previous employment I feel anxious that I will relapse. Most recently,

during the risk assessment interview process I felt close to relapsing and I have subsequently found it very difficult to discuss specific aspects of the Inquiry process and the demands that may be made of me.

9. I rely on the expert evidence of Dr Singh in relation to the impact of both publication of my real and cover names and engagement with the Inquiry on my mental health.

10. I find it very difficult to think or talk about the prospect that I may be asked to travel from my home **abroad** [REDACTED] to the UK to give evidence to this Inquiry. The thought of having to do this without the benefit of restriction order protecting my anonymity and other protective measures causes me immense anxiety.

Impact on family life

11. I am now *in my late 60s/early 70s* [REDACTED] have managed to move on from what was a very traumatic period by immersing myself in a new community over the last **15-20** [REDACTED] years. I believe that this has been integral to my recovery process. I am very concerned that if my real or cover names were to be published that the life that my wife and I have built will be entirely undermined and may well become entirely untenable.

12. ***Sets out details of community where N86 now lives and community involvement*** [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

13. [Redacted]

14. ***Sets out health position of wife and impact on her if restriction orders not granted*** [Redacted]

Identification

15. ***Sets out concern(s) relating to potential identification if identities published*** [Redacted]

16. [REDACTED]

Confidentiality

17. As explained in the risk assessment I worked in my role in the SDS on the basis that there was an understanding that secrecy would be maintained and that I would be afforded lifelong protection by my former employer.

Information already within the public domain

18. There is already significant information in the public domain that relates to the period during which I returned to the SDS in a managerial role *in the early 1990s* [REDACTED]. This information is specifically associated with the cipher that I have been given for the purposes of this Inquiry. Allegations against me are outlined in the Ellison Report. I was given a limited opportunity to respond to the allegations. I responded briefly in writing with the assistance of a lawyer whilst that report was being prepared. I do not accept that the report provides a balanced or accurate account of the situation and as a result I believe that publication of my name in association with my cipher will cause irreparable harm to my reputation before this Inquiry has the opportunity to hear any evidence. I categorically deny the allegations made and do not believe that they accurately represent reality. I do not necessarily assume that these allegations have been made maliciously as I believe that the individual who made these allegations is vulnerable and has experienced trauma.

I believe the content of this statement to be true.

Signed.....

Dated.....