

GISTED WITNESS STATEMENT OF EN29

EN29 has provided the Inquiry with a witness statement comprising 80 paragraphs.

Italicised text in square brackets below represents where the contents of the witness statement have been gisted.

Introduction

1. I have been designated as EN29 by the Undercover Policing Inquiry ('UCPI'). I have seen correspondence from the UCPI relating to myself and the anonymity application and I am aware that:
 - a. The UCPI have approached me on the basis that I was a National Public Order Intelligence Unit ('NPOIU') officer (although I was neither seconded to the NPOIU nor ever involved with it on a full-time basis), and
 - b. I have been invited to apply for anonymity.
 - c. I seek a restriction order in respect of both my real and cover name.
2. This is my personal statement setting out why I wish to apply for anonymity provided as a 'Step 5' document. As has been previously indicated I do ask that the Inquiry's Chairman makes a restriction order to retain anonymity in relation to both my real name and my cover name. I intend to rely on the evidence and risk assessment of the National Assessor whom I understand is being instructed by the National Police Chief's Council ('NPCC') in support of my application.

Background

3. I have not been provided with access to any documentation. I consider that this has severely restricted my ability to prepare a comprehensive account. I suspect that record keeping was not as detailed as it could have been at the commencement of my career. However, since [a year pre-2000] I insisted that all undercover operations within [EN29's home force] be managed by a Senior Investigating Officer ('SIO') of Inspector rank or above. Accordingly, comprehensive policy books were kept. These policy books would include all authorities, reviews, operational decisions, all matters of law, any concerns in relation to officer safety, public safety, target safety, notes in relation to targets and all briefings and de-briefings. As far as I am aware all my undercover deployments were fully authorised by senior officers.
4. As a result of the non-disclosure of documents the dates set out below may not be entirely accurate however I have endeavoured to be as precise as possible.

Police service history

5. I joined the police service as a police cadet in [a year pre-2000]. I became a police probationer in [a year pre-2000] – I think it was on [date].
6. I was originally a uniformed officer undertaking standard policing duties for approximately 2 years. Although in [a year pre-2000] I was first deployed, whilst still a probationer, at a public house to perform an infiltration role for several weeks prior to a pre-planned raid.

7. I then became a Detective Constable, within the [unit #1].

[Unit #2]

8. I was seconded to [unit #2] between [a year pre-2000] and [a year pre-2000]. Whilst seconded to [unit #2] I was regularly deployed in a covert capacity.

9. It is very important to note that at this time there was no real training, information or support provided to officers that were operating in the covert world. Officers performed a wide variety of roles e.g. I was operating as a detective, and undercover officer, an informant handler, and performing surveillance duties. This would not be accepted practice now.

10. In [a time period pre-2000] the covert policing world was not at all sophisticated. I was deployed simply under the name [‘forename’] and used my own vehicle.

11. From the outset of my career I was deployed as an asset against violent criminals who were involved in serious and organised crime e.g.

a. I worked in [a named location], investigating the supply of drugs by a known violent individual. Due to the extremely violent nature of those involved in the operation, I was compelled to cancel the operation.

b. I was deployed against a group of men who were involved in the distribution of large quantities of [illicit drugs] in [a named location]. [EN29 describes the operation.] The suppliers were prosecuted and I gave evidence in open court. No screens were used. As a result, I was unable to attend the relevant area for a substantial period of time. [...The group is known to be associated with having committed serious violent offences].

c. I was deployed to [infiltrate a group at a named location]. It was believed that the [group] was involved in the supply and distribution of illicit drugs. [EN29 describes the operation and the violent nature of the group]. Notwithstanding the risk of physical harm to ourselves we [continued to gather evidence on the group].

All of the deployments that I undertook were authorised.

12. I then returned to [unit #1]. I think I was there for [an estimated period of time].

[Unit #3 – first secondment]

13. In [a year pre-2000], I was seconded to [unit #3] for a term of [number] years. [Unit #3] investigated serious and organised crime. I was deployed in a wide variety of covert roles. [EN29 describes the roles].

14. On one occasion [there was an investigation into] a dealer who was located in [a certain geographical area]. [EN29 describes a successful operation where a substantial quantity of illicit drugs were seized, although there was no prosecution.]

15. In [month] of either [a year pre-2000] or [another year pre-2000] [I was investigating] some drug dealers in [a named location]. [During the course of the deployment I met a person who is known for having a history of serious violence]. If this identity is revealed I have no doubt that

this individual would recognise and locate me. I have no doubt that [s/he] would seek to cause serious harm to [me and others] in order to send a message.

16. [During an estimated time period I was helping investigate] a target that was part of a criminal gang concerned with the importation and distribution of [an illicit drug]. This operation resulted in many kilos of drugs being seized in [a certain geographical area]. The principal dealer(s) concerned were convicted and received sentences of [more than four] years imprisonment. I have no doubt that [s/he] would seek to cause me serious harm should my identity be revealed to [him/her].
17. [Further details in relation to paragraph 16 set out].
18. [Further details in relation to paragraph 16 set out].
19. In [a year pre-2000] I was deployed in [a certain geographical area] working [to infiltrate a group that was linked to the wholesale distribution of illicit drugs by individuals of violent repute]. [EN29 describes the operation]. This operation resulted in at least two convictions. However, the threat posed by the targets meant that I could not safely visit [the geographical area] for a considerable period of time.
20. In [a year pre-2000/another year pre-2000] I was deployed on an investigation into the supply and distribution of [illicit drugs] in [a certain geographical area]. [EN29 describes the operation. The target of the operation was known to be extremely violent]. [EN29 further describes the operation]. [The target] was charged and convicted. I gave evidence, I think from behind a screen. [EN29 further describes the criminal proceedings].
21. I returned to my home force in or around [a year pre-2000] and performed a role within [unit #1].

[Unit #3 – second secondment]

22. In [a year pre-2000] I returned to [unit 3]. I was required to attend [an 'Advanced Course' that was organised by a named individual]. The course was intended to provide operatives with a higher level of training than had previously been available.
23. I was deployed to gather intelligence for [a police force] in relation to [a group of people and in particular a specific target group]. [EN29 describes the operation]. Whilst I successfully infiltrated [the group] I did not manage to progress the investigation in relation to the [specific target group]. I have no doubt that should my identity be revealed that [life] would be at risk.
24. In [a year pre-2000] I was deployed on [a named operation]. [EN29 describes the operation]. The operation concluded on [date] with the arrest of [number] people and the recovery of controlled drugs valued in excess of [a substantial sum of money]. [EN29 describes what s/he believes the risks to be that flow from the operation].
25. In [a year pre-2000/another year pre-2000] I was deployed on a surveillance operation that resulted in the arrest and conviction of [a number of] offenders for armed robberies and [substantial sentences were imposed].

26. In *[a year pre-2000]* I was deployed on an investigation into a major conspiracy to supply *[illicit drugs]*. This resulted in the arrest and conviction of *[a number of individuals]* at *[a named criminal court]*.
27. *[EN29 describes a test purchase operation that s/he was involved in the following year and the risks that flow from it]*.
28. *[EN29 describes another test purchase operation that s/he was involved in. The targets had convictions for robbery and kidnapping]*. The operation resulted in the prosecution of a number of criminals, and the recovery of *[goods]* with a combined value of *[a substantial sum of money]*.
29. *[EN29 describes another test purchase operation that s/he was involved in. EN29 describes the targets as extremely violent. The targets were suspected of orchestrating robberies and engaging in commercial level drug dealing. The investigation was a success insofar as the criminal enterprise was halted, although there were no successful prosecutions]*.
30. In *[a year pre-2000]* I was involved in the planning and execution of an undercover operation *[against animal rights activists at a named location]*. This was *[an operation led by a named Detective Inspector of an identified police force]*. This was not in association with the NPOIU. The police had received information that and suspected that there would be serious public disorder in or around *[the location]*. *[EN29 describes the operation]*. The operation was authorised and fully risk assessed for the risk to both the public and the police. *[EN29 further describes the operation]*.
31. *[EN29 describe an operation in which s/he played an active role as a covert officer and where] the criminals concerned were involved in serious and organised crime and were known to be violent. Consequently, the police strike and arrests were performed by armed officers who arrived en masse.*
32. I undertook an investigation into the supply of drugs by *[a crime group. The group had access to firearms. EN29 describes the operation]*. I have no doubt that should my identity be published that this crime group would recognise me. *[EN29 explains the risks that he/she believes flow from this operation]*.
33. In addition, *[I was deployed against]* other individuals involved in serious and organised crime in *[a certain geographical region]*. *[EN29 describes a certain occasion]*. The circumstances of this incident are such that if my identity is revealed I have no doubt that all in attendance will remember *[and other details]*. Accordingly, [...] life would be placed at risk.
34. *[EN29 describes another investigation. EN29 believes that the target would recognise EN29 and would pose a real threat to EN29 in the event that EN29's identity is revealed]*.
35. *[EN29 describes another operation]*.
36. *[EN29 describes an operation in which s/he was involved and which concerned the supply of illicit drugs in a named location. One of the suspects was arrested and sent to prison. EN29 believes that, as a result, another of the targets received a severe beating.]* I have no doubt

that this target would, should the opportunity present itself, ensure that I receive a similarly serious assault.

37. In addition to the matters set out above I have been deployed in a covert role in relation to:
- a. A [*conspiracy to commit a serious assault*].
 - b. Buying shotguns, sawn-off shotguns, automatic weapons, semi-automatic weapons and handguns for various police forces.
 - c. An investigation into the supply of drugs in [*a named location*] where [*firearms were present at the location*].
 - d. [*An exchange of drugs for guns in a certain geographical area*]. The operation was a success and both the drugs and the guns were detained at the scene.
 - e. A large-scale drugs importation in [*a certain geographical area*] and [*another certain geographical area*].

I am sure that there were numerous other operations where I was deployed against those concerned with serious and organised crime. As a result of the passage of time I am not currently able to provide details in relation to those matters.

Back in Force

38. In [*a year pre-2000*] I started a [*separate unit within the force*]. I had responsibility for training, managing operations and providing advice and input. The [*unit*] was concerned with [*a range of undercover roles*]. This was a full-time role.
39. At or around this time I began to provide training for other force areas. I believe that I provided training for 19 or more police forces (I do not consider it necessary to identify those areas at this stage although I can and will do so if required).
40. The force was very successful at targeting those concerned with the supply of drugs. In the first year the force arrested 1,000 individuals for Class A and B drugs offences.
41. I was invited to apply to become a part-time cover officer for the NPOIU by [*an existing member of the NPOIU*] in the late 1990s. I went on an interview panel in London. I was successful. Thereafter I was involved, on a part time basis, in covering NPOIU officers who were engaged in intelligence gathering at demonstrations.
42. [*EN29 describes one of his/her post-2000 deployments. The target was arrested and found to be in possession of a firearm. EN29 believes that the target would be intent on killing EN29 in the event that s/he became aware of EN29's true identity*].
43. Whilst back in force I was actively involved in operations designed to disrupt the supply and distribution of drugs by those involved in serious and organised crime e.g.
- a. In [*a year pre-2000, a named operation*] concluded with the arrest of a previously unknown drug dealer in possession of a substantial amount of drugs.

- b. *[Another named operation]* led to the arrest and conviction of *[a number of]* major drug dealers.
- c. In *[a year pre-2000, an named operation]* led to the recovery of *[illicit drugs with a substantial street value, cash and other stolen property]*.
- d. In *[a year post-2000; a named operation]* - an investigation into the supply of Class A drugs locally resulted in *[a number of individuals]* being imprisoned to sentences that totalled *[decades]*.
- e. *[A number of]* search warrants that lead to the arrest of *[a number of]* people, *[a substantial quantity]* of crack cocaine and cash.
- f. In *[a year post-2000, a named operation]* resulted in *[a number of]* drug dealers being charged and convicted.
- g. In *[a year post-2000, a named operation]*.
- h. In *[a year post-2000, a named operation]* led to the arrest and charge of *[a number of]* individuals.
- i. In *[a year post-2000, a named operation]*.
- j. In or around *[a year post-2000]* I was deployed as a cover officer for *[a named operation]*. This joint operation was led by *[a police force]* with the assistance of the NPOIU. All of the deployments were authorised and fully risk assessed. The covert activities were all recorded using technical equipment. During this period I was solely utilised by *[a police force]*. I returned to other duties in *[a year post-2000]*.

Training I have provided to others

- 44. In *[a year post-2000]* I attended and presented at *[a conference in a third country on the subject of (inter alia) law enforcement matters]*.
- 45. In the mid 2000s I obtained National Vocational Qualifications at Level 3 Award in relation to the assessment and training of candidates.
- 46. I have provided training in relation to the use and management of *[intelligence sources]*.

My pseudonym and legend

- 47. I believe my undercover number was *[number]*.
- 48. *[Details of pseudonym(s) set out]*.
- 49. *[EN29 describes his/her cover date of birth]*.
- 50. *[Details of legend building set out]*.
- 51. Throughout my cover career I *[consistently used a certain element of tradecraft]*.

52. *[EN29 refers to another element of tradecraft utilised by him/her and states: "I am concerned that if my identity is made public the individuals concerned may be at risk albeit I am unable to quantify the level of that risk"]*.
53. To the best of my recollection whenever I have given evidence, which has only ever happened rarely, it has been from behind a screen utilising *[my forename]*. Both my identity and appearance were protected on every occasion.

Compromise

[Paragraphs 54 to 58 describe three occasions where EN29 could have been compromised. EN29 states that these events caused EN29 and EN29's family an enormous amount of stress.]

59. *[Information I have provided has led to the arrest and conviction of numerous person(s) for serious crime]*.

Personal history

60. *[EN29 describes his/her personal history and reports that s/he did not disclose the nature of his/her work to his/her family]*.
61. *[EN29 describes his/her current circumstances]*.
62. I have done all I can to ensure that I cannot now be linked to my career as a police officer e.g. *[EN29 describes the steps s/he has taken to achieve this end]*.
63. *[EN29 provides further information regarding his/her career]*.

Involvement with the NPOIU

64. In the early 2000s I was recruited to be a part time cover officer within the NPOIU for one off events such as demonstrations. I was not involved in any long-term infiltrations.
65. I believe that I was deployed by the NPOIU as an undercover officer on only one occasion and that was a very brief *[assignment]* to provide background for an officer who was already deployed on an operation. I cannot remember any details of that deployment.
66. I also assisted with the training of NPOIU officers from the early 2000s. Although I was never a full-time trainer or assessor.

RISK

67. Over the course of my career I estimate that I have been involved with in excess of 100 officers [...] that operate in covert roles (I do not at this stage identify any of those officers by name although should it be necessary to do so for the purposes of any risk assessment I can do so) [...]. I believe that some of the officers are still actively deployed in covert roles [...].
68. During my career I was covertly deployed in investigations that targeted serious and organised criminals *[in a range of different operations]*. I was actively deployed against this country's

most dangerous criminal elite. I believe that should I be identified I am at real risk of repercussions. I have no doubt that some of them would seek to cause me very serious harm.

69. I understand that a local risk assessment has been prepared in relation to myself for the assistance of the Inquiry. I understand that the purpose of that document was to provide an objective assessment of the creation or increase of risk to myself if information was disclosed by the UCPI that led to my identity and role being revealed. I understand that:
- a. The risk of physical harm to myself has been assessed as HIGH.
 - b. The risk of psychological harm to myself has been assessed as HIGH.
 - c. The risk of action directed towards myself such as to interfere with my private and family life has been assessed as HIGH.
70. I have no doubt that if my real identity and my role as a trainer or cover/support officer is revealed that I may be at risk. I also believe that this would potentially expose myself and other officers, who are still operating locally and nationally in covert roles, and to an increased risk of physical harm.
71. I have no doubt that some of the criminals that I targeted as an undercover officer would not hesitate to seriously injure or kill me and/or members of my family. In my experience these people neither forgive nor forget.
72. The fact of the UCPI has caused a great deal of stress and concern to both myself and my [spouse]. I had hoped that I had left my covert life and the risk that this carried with it behind. We have always lived in fear of reprisals. There is no doubt that the risk or reprisal is greatly increased as a result of this inquiry.
73. My [spouse] has not provided a statement at this stage as I would prefer [him/her] not to be involved in the proceedings which are already proving to be very stressful.
74. The level of stress is such that I have already seen [a named mental health professional] in connection with this – although I do not propose to rely on medical evidence at this stage.
75. If my identity is disclosed both I and my family will be living in fear of a risk of the most serious harm. There is no legitimate reason why either I or my family should have to bear this fear.
76. I commenced my career in the police service long before I was married and a very long time before I became a parent. Consequently, my family have never had any say in the type of work I have undertaken and it would be unfair for them to be subject to any risk of harm, or indeed to emotional harm and interference with their own private lives because of decision that they have never been permitted or able to take any part in.
77. I has always operated under the clear assumption that my identity would never be revealed. If the possibility of my identity being disclosed had been raised then I would never have undertaken a covert role. I would never have placed myself or my family at any risk of harm.
78. Should this restriction order not be granted, I believe that all the steps I have taken to preserve my family life, and that of my [partner] and children, will be negated.

79. Finally, should my identity be put in the public domain, I would anticipate that it would be necessary to take measures not just to protect me, but also my wider family network. As well as the significant interference that this would present to my family's personal lives, clearly this would impact greatly on the public purse.
80. I have no doubt that individuals that have received lengthy custodial sentences as a direct result of my actions would have no hesitation in commissioning others to do me really serious harm or inflicting such harm themselves. Equally these people would have no compunction about hurting those I love in order to cause me pain.

I believe the facts stated in this statement are true.

Signed:EN29.....

EN29

Date: 6. 11. 17