

Core participants Ruling 47

Recognised Legal Representatives Ruling 39

Cost of Legal Representation Awards Ruling 36

Walter

1. “Walter” applied on 16 September 2022 to be designated as a core participant and for Mike Schwarz to be his recognised legal representative. There have been discussions between the Inquiry team and Mike Schwarz about the application. Hence the time taken to issue this ruling.
2. “Walter” encountered a number of undercover officers in the period covered by Tranches Two and Three and believes, correctly, that at least some of them reported on him. He has a legitimate interest in the issues which the Inquiry is investigating and believes he can provide evidence about them. He has known for some years that the Inquiry is investigating the deployment of many of them and it is not now essential that he should be designated as a core participant to enable the Inquiry to get to the truth about undercover policing in the era in which they were deployed.
3. He has expressed his willingness to provide evidence to the Inquiry and will need the services of Mike Schwarz and named lawyers in Hodge Jones and Allen to enable him to do so. Evidence about his means has been provided to the Inquiry which I accept. It would not be reasonable to require him to meet the cost of providing evidence to the Inquiry and the usual award of legal costs will be made.
4. “Walter” has provided evidence about his personal, working and family circumstances which satisfies me that they would be put at risk of significant interference if he were to be publicly identified in his real name. To that end, steps will have to be taken to ensure, as far as practicable, that the provision of evidence by him does not give rise to that risk.
5. This ruling is supplemented by a confidential note.

Gabriella

6. By a letter dated 6 December 2022 “Gabriella” applies to be designated as a core participant in Category [H], for a restriction order in respect of her identity, for Sarah Kellas to be designated as her recognised legal representative and for an award of costs in her favour. I make each of the orders for which she applies.

UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

7. For many years an undercover police officer conducted an intimate relationship with her during a lengthy deployment. The consequences for her have been, literally, life changing. She has a significant interest in the issues which the Inquiry is investigating and can provide important evidence about them. Although she has known for some time that she had the right to apply to be designated as a core participant, I am satisfied that, by reason of the remarkable circumstances in which she found herself, she was entitled to take the time which she has taken to make the decision to apply.
8. Disclosure of her identity and circumstances would create a real risk of interfering with her rights under Articles 2 and 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights which could not be justified.
9. She will require the assistance of the solicitor who already acts for her, Sarah Kellas, to participate effectively in the Inquiry. I have been provided with evidence about her means which I accept. It would not be reasonable or proportionate to expect her to bear the cost of funding her representation.
10. The events which concern her and their impact on her will be considered in Tranche Five.
11. These reasons are supplemented by a confidential note which will be provided to her legal representatives when arrangements have been made for its secure delivery to them.

John McDonnell MP

12. Mr McDonnell MP applied on 14 April 2023 to be designated as a core participant. His application was prompted by the publication by the Inquiry of a [document](#) created by the Metropolitan Police Special Branch dated January 1983 entitled "Political extremism and the campaign for police accountability within the Metropolitan Police district". It contained a detailed analysis of the proposals then made within the newly elected Greater London Council for the Metropolitan Police to be accountable to the Council, rather than the Home Secretary. It described both the elected and unelected supporters of the proposals in unflattering terms. Mr McDonnell was described as a "long standing Trotskyist". It is not the sort of document which should have been produced by a police force.
13. A small part of the document - the description of the activities of a handful of unelected groups - may have been based, in part, on the reporting of undercover officers, whose deployments have been considered in Tranche One. The Inquiry has found no evidence to indicate that the description of Mr

UNDERCOVER POLICING INQUIRY

McDonnell had, or even might have had, its origin in the reporting of an undercover officer; and nothing to suggest that, at any stage, undercover officers reported on his activities after his election to Parliament beyond noting that he was to address or did address political meetings and/or was to participate or did participate in legitimate political activity as an Member of Parliament. As in the case of all Members of Parliament named in Special Demonstration Squad reports he was identified as an MP, rather than by reference to an RF number.

14. It is not necessary to permit the Inquiry to fulfil its terms of reference that Mr McDonnell should be designated late as a core participant. The Inquiry is already investigating the extent to which undercover officers reported on the activities of elected representatives and has the material to enable it to do so. He does not fulfil the conditions for late designation identified by Sir Christopher Pitchford in his twelfth core participant [ruling](#) dated 15 December 2016. For that reason, I will not designate him as a core participant.
15. It is likely that some documents will be included in the evidential bundles published by the Inquiry which name him. In that event, his name will not be redacted from the documents. Like many others interested in or affected by undercover policing, he will be able to follow the proceedings of the Inquiry as they occur. I acknowledge with gratitude the assistance which he has provided to the Inquiry in support of the Reel family and trust that by the time he has read the Inquiry's reports his wish to understand what took place and why will be satisfied.

27 April 2023

Sir John Mitting
Chairman, Undercover Policing Inquiry