

GISTED WITNESS STATEMENT OF EN401

EN401 has provided the Inquiry with a witness statement comprising 51 paragraphs.

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

Non-italicised text in square brackets below represents where acronyms have been spelled out.

1. I am making this statement in support of my application for a Restriction Order.
2. I have never been an Undercover officer, and I have never been a cover officer.

My Career

3. *[EN401 refers to the month and year that they joined the police. They give a brief summary of their early career development].*
4. *[A few years after joining the police],* I was invited to take part in a covert *[short]* Operation. I was given a location and time to be there, and knew nothing more about it until it began.
5. I met the Detective Inspector of this covert Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]*. They introduced themselves to me and the rest of the team. Even at that point, I was told very little about the Operation, but asked whether I was happy to be part of it. I agreed to join the Operation.
6. The Operation began with the installation of a covert listening device. I was involved in surveillance at that time.
7. I know now that there were Undercover deployments as part of the Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]*. I did not know this at the time. I was not involved in Undercover work.
8. My work then progressed within the Operation to working in the Covert Monitoring Post ("CMP"). Again, I was not involved in Undercover work.

9. I was then given a long-term secondment to the Operation and, at some stage thereafter, *[became aware that there were two Undercover officers involved]*.
10. I did not meet with the Undercover officers. I did not speak directly with them. I am sure that some of the intelligence I received was likely to have come from *[the two aforementioned Undercover officers]*, but I was only told what I needed to know for the purposes of the work that I was doing in the CMP.
11. I should also point out at this stage that I did not even know who the cover officer(s) was/were.
12. *[EN401 refers to the specifics of their covert surveillance Operation and that as a result of the technical expertise developed, they assisted in other operations, primarily concerned with serious crime]*.
13. *[EN401 was promoted. EN401 provides details about their promotion]*.
14. I then returned to the Operation *[EN401 names the Operation and their rank]*.
15. It was at this point that I was told that *[EN401 names the first of the two Undercover officers referred to earlier]* was one of our primary sources of intelligence. I continued with surveillance type work. I still, however, had no contact with *[the first of the two Undercover officers]*. I did not see *[their]* pocket books, nor take part in direct briefing, debriefing or tasking *[the first of the two undercover Officers]*.
16. I was, however, involved in surveillance which supported *[the first of the two undercover Officer's]* deployment *[EN401 provides an example of what that support entailed]*.
17. During this time I continued to carry out CMP work and *[EN401 details the other work they were involved in.]* The Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* continued to be, perhaps, 30% of my working time.
18. *[EN401 refers to the year in which they were offered a new role]*. I accepted this role. I did it for about six months. *[EN401 names the Operation and the year in which it was closed]*. I closed the Operation.
19. *[EN401 describes their role, with specific reference to their surveillance work and their engagement with the use of the Undercover officers.]*

20. During the same period, I met *[the first of the two Undercover officers]* around five times to brief, de-brief or task *[them]*. These were brief meetings which took place whilst the Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* was in the process of being wound down.
21. My only other involvement in Undercover policing was in relation to a historic murder investigation. *[EN401 gives a brief description of the investigation]*.
22. *[EN401 describes a time shortly before the operation was being wound down]* I received a telephone call from the Assistant Chief Constable telling me that the funding for the Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* had been withdrawn because the Operation had fulfilled its aims.
23. I boxed up the notebooks and other documents which had been collected throughout the Operation. I sealed the boxes and drove them to *[a storage location]*.
24. I have not been involved in any Covert policing, including Undercover policing, since that time. *[EN401 describes their career and its development]*.

My health

25. *[EN401 gives details of their current role and the impact that EN401's health has had on EN401's career progression]*.
26. I was formally diagnosed with a medical condition *[EN401 names the medical condition]* in *[EN401 refers to a specific year]*, but I had been suffering symptoms since *[EN401 refers to a specific year]*. *[EN401 refers specifically to the development of their medical condition]*.
27. *[EN401 describes the developing of EN401's medical condition over the course of a number of years.]*
28. *[EN401 describes the impact which the Inquiry is having – and will continue to have – on EN401's health, by particular reference to this medical condition and a particular feature of it.]*
29. *[EN401 notes the impact which EN401's medical condition, and the development of it, have on EN401's family]*.

Confidentiality

30. I do not talk to anyone who was not involved with Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* about my previous experience with Undercover officers. I have always taken steps to protect the security and sensitivity of the Operation from others, despite the Operation having been closed *[many years ago]*. The same is true of the tactics to which I was exposed; I am very aware that the continuing success of the tactics relies on their being kept secret.

31. In particular, I do not speak with people (police officers or otherwise) about the work that I did. My partner is the only person with any awareness of the sort of work with which I was involved. For example, I am relying on my parents *[but]* I am unable to explain this to them.

My concerns

32. I am concerned what may happen if people find out I was involved in Undercover policing. If I am publicly associated with this work, I am concerned about the impact this may have on my family and my family life.

33. I worry what might happen if the *[the target Community]* finds out that I was part of the Operation, and that I was involved in this sort of policing. I know that there are websites which are dedicated to exposing more information about these police operations. It scares me that there are a vast number of people driven to find out personal details about me and the others involved.

34. I can understand the public desire to learn about Undercover policing. However, I am aware that, as I say above, people are taking extensive steps to find out about the personal details of those involved. It is that second point which worries me.

35. If I were to be named as being involved in this work, it would have an impact on my personal life, in addition to a risk of physical harm. I believe that it would specifically affect some of my friendships. I have friends who would not want to be associated with somebody involved with this work.

36. *[EN401 addresses the impact on EN401's family].*

What is in the public domain?

37. I know that it is very easy to identify me as a police officer, in name and rank. *[EN401 gives relevant details of their roles].*

38. I know that the subjects of Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* were suspected of (and many charged with) serious offences *[EN401 gives details of the type of offences]*. I, therefore, believe that these people may be willing to commit offences directly towards me or my family.

39. *[EN401 describes their use of social media in which their personal details were shared.]*

40. However, there is currently no way to connect my public facing identity with covert policing. *[EN401 provides further details of that identity]* I do not fear for my safety as a result of people knowing I am a police officer.

41. I specifically fear for my safety as a result of people knowing I was involved in Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]*. As matters stand, the subjects of Operation *[EN401 names the Operation]* have never seen me and would have no way to connect me – an “overt” police officer – to the operation which targeted them. Furthermore, if I am connected to Undercover policing, I may well become an easy target for aggrieved subjects of other operations.

[EN401 signed and dated the statement on 29th May 2019]