

1 Thursday, 23 February 2017  
 2 (10.45 am)  
 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Ms Cartwright.  
 4 MS CARTWRIGHT: Good morning, sir. Could we call the next  
 5 witness, please, Stephen Holliwell.  
 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 7 MR STEPHEN HOLLIWELL (sworn)  
 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Holliwell, although we happen to be using  
 9 a courtroom, this is obviously an Inquiry so you must  
 10 feel free to sit down if you would like to.  
 11 **A. Thank you, sir.**  
 12 **Questions from MS CARTWRIGHT**  
 13 MS CARTWRIGHT: Good morning, Mr Holliwell, my name is  
 14 Sophie Cartwright and I ask questions on behalf of the  
 15 Inquiry with my learned friend Mr Beer QC.  
 16 You have in front of you a bundle. Can I ask you  
 17 first of all to confirm your full name, please.  
 18 **A. Yes, I am Detective Constable 2998, Steve Holliwell,**  
 19 **from Cheshire Police.**  
 20 Q. Can you assist as to how long you have been a detective  
 21 constable?  
 22 **A. I have been in the police service for 26 years and**  
 23 **I have been a detective constable for probably 20 of**  
 24 **those years, a little bit less.**  
 25 Q. If you open up the bundle, please, in front of you,

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1 DC Holliwell, you should find first of all, please,  
 2 behind tab 1 --  
 3 **A. Tab A is it?**  
 4 Q. -- a statement that you made on 19 June 2012.  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. Could can I ask you to look through that statement,  
 7 please, three pages, and could you confirm that the  
 8 contents of that statement are true to the best of your  
 9 knowledge and belief?  
 10 **A. They are, yes.**  
 11 Q. Thank you. Moving, please, behind tab 2, we see your  
 12 second statement dated 13 October of last year and  
 13 again, moving through that statement, please, could  
 14 I ask you to confirm that the contents of that statement  
 15 are true to the best of your knowledge and belief?  
 16 **A. Yes, they are.**  
 17 Q. Thank you. We can see from your statement,  
 18 DC Holliwell, that in 2012, you were working within the  
 19 Force Intelligence Branch of Cheshire Police?  
 20 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 21 Q. Could you assist us, please, in terms of the role that  
 22 you were performing at that time?  
 23 **A. I am a force intelligence officer, which on certain days**  
 24 **we look at -- intelligence comes into the Cheshire**  
 25 **Constabulary and we look at it and we decide where that**

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1 **goes and where that sits within the force.**  
 2 Q. In terms of the location of the Force Intelligence  
 3 Branch, it is based in Winsford?  
 4 **A. It is in the headquarters at Winsford, yes.**  
 5 Q. In terms of the numbers of officers based within the FIB  
 6 at Winsford, there is reference to Phil Oxtan in the  
 7 documentation?  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. And then also an Officer Twigg?  
 10 **A. Nigel Twigg, yes.**  
 11 Q. Were there any other officers working within the FIB at  
 12 that time?  
 13 **A. At that time, the -- yes, I think there were but**  
 14 **obviously they weren't -- they were on other jobs,**  
 15 **I think it was Pauline Middlebrook and people like that.**  
 16 Q. Sorry, the name was Pauline?  
 17 **A. Pauline Middlebrook. I am just trying to think -- work**  
 18 **out whether she joined after that or before then, she is**  
 19 **a newish recruit.**  
 20 Q. Then can I ask you, we are going to hear a little later  
 21 in your evidence reference to Karen Lawton who is based  
 22 at the intelligence unit at Warrington police station?  
 23 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 24 Q. Could you explain the difference between the  
 25 intelligence unit that is based at Warrington police

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1 station, please?  
 2 **A. If any -- the FIB, Force Intelligence Bureau, will look**  
 3 **at cross border or anything that covers the whole of**  
 4 **Cheshire, intelligence wise, but if, on the areas, you**  
 5 **have the different northern, western, eastern and they**  
 6 **have the own intelligence units that look after their**  
 7 **intelligence, for their certain sort of areas, so they**  
 8 **can deal with that side of it.**  
 9 Q. Thank you.  
 10 Can you assist, the intelligence unit that was based  
 11 at Warrington is that part of the northern unit?  
 12 **A. It would be, yes.**  
 13 Q. Thank you. You mentioned a moment ago that the FIB  
 14 where you were sat in dealt with cross border issues --  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 Q. -- can you assist then so far as you were dealing with  
 17 cross border issues whether there was any specific  
 18 protocol or guidance that affected the work as  
 19 an intelligence officer on cross border issues?  
 20 **A. I mean if any of the intelligence comes in, we are**  
 21 **directed to it, somebody will tell us to go and have**  
 22 **a look at it. We will then review, if we have got any**  
 23 **further intelligence on that, so what we can obviously**  
 24 **decide whether it is intelligence that we can do**  
 25 **anything with in relation to the grading of it. And**

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<p>1 <b>what areas would be best sending that intelligence to</b>  2 <b>or, so that they can do something with the intelligence.</b>  3 Q. When you say areas we could send things to, could you  4 just perhaps clarify what you mean by that?  5 <b>A. If the intelligence comes through to the FIB, and it is</b>  6 <b>a cross border so anything from Merseyside or Wales or</b>  7 <b>something comes over to -- we have some intelligence in</b>  8 <b>relation to people coming over to do crime on us, we</b>  9 <b>will then be able to guide it to whatever area of the --</b>  10 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you mean geographical area?  11 <b>A. Yes.</b>  12 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  13 <b>A. Yes. Then also if there is any certain departments that</b>  14 <b>it can go to, so if it is a traffic thing, if somebody</b>  15 <b>is coming over to, driving disqualified, the traffic</b>  16 <b>then department will then be directed to look at that</b>  17 <b>vehicle and possibly target the vehicle to stop and to</b>  18 <b>deal with it that way.</b>  19 MS CARTWRIGHT: Can I ask then in terms of you as an FIB  20 liaising with an FIB in another force, how that would  21 work, please?  22 <b>A. Well a lot of the -- we do speak to them by telephone</b>  23 <b>but there is forms, if you want information over from</b>  24 <b>different areas, we then have to fill in a document</b>  25 <b>which then requests that information from them.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p>	<p>1 information from Officer Bailey, Gerrard or Crowcroft?  2 <b>A. No. No. The first I knew about it was on that</b>  3 <b>Monday -- sorry, that morning, on the Friday.</b>  4 Q. Thank you.  5 If I can just then take you to a number of  6 documents, just to track how that B21 intelligence came  7 in, because the Inquiry is aware that there had been  8 liaison between Cheshire Police and Greater Manchester  9 Police on 1 March.  10 <b>A. Right.</b>  11 Q. Could I take you, please, it is bundle M1, please, and  12 it is the statement that appears at page 40, please.  13 <b>A. Thank you.</b>  14 <b>Page 40, did you say?</b>  15 Q. Please.  16 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I must have that reference again. 40  17 did you say Ms Cartwright?  18 MS CARTWRIGHT: 40, please, sir.  19 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  20 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see there a statement from Peter  21 Crowcroft dated 30 July 2012.  22 <b>A. Yes.</b>  23 Q. We know that Peter Crowcroft was involved in the events  24 of 1 March and we can see the statement tells us that on  25 2 March the operation had been stood down at 6.00 in the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 7</p>
<p>1 Q. Okay. Now, in terms of your involvement, the relevant  2 evidence you can assist the Inquiry with, I think it  3 relates to 2 March 2012?  4 <b>A. That's correct.</b>  5 Q. Your statement tells us essentially you were provided  6 with some B21 intelligence?  7 <b>A. Yes.</b>  8 Q. Can I just, before we deal with that information and  9 then what you did thereafter, just work out how that  10 information came into the FIB, please, so I know you are  11 not involved with it but I want to take you to a number  12 of documents you may not have seen before --  13 <b>A. Right, okay.</b>  14 Q. -- to clarify how the information came into the FIB on  15 2 March.  16 Can I ask you though, on 2 March, when you were  17 provided first of all with the B21 intelligence, had you  18 any knowledge at that stage that there had been liaison  19 between Cheshire Police and Greater Manchester Police on  20 1 March?  21 <b>A. No.</b>  22 Q. Your statement tells us about the contact you had with  23 Officer Gerrard on 2 March?  24 <b>A. Yes.</b>  25 Q. Just to be clear, on 1 March, had you had any</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 morning, it is the final paragraph on page 40:  2 "Chief Inspector Lawler informed me that the  3 operation would probably be stood down for the weekend  4 period. I requested that the Greater Manchester  5 intelligence unit made contact with the intelligence  6 unit in Cheshire so that the force had knowledge of the  7 operation, as I had just concluded my final night cover  8 locum duty."  9 Can you see that?  10 <b>A. Yes, I can, yes.</b>  11 Q. If I can take you please, I am not going to take you to  12 this document.  13 I will give you the reference, sir.  14 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  15 MS CARTWRIGHT: We have the casebooks of Officer Cousen, who  16 is the senior investigating officer within Greater  17 Manchester Police.  18 Sir, for your reference, it is in bundle K at  19 page 1243.  20 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.  21 MS CARTWRIGHT: We have in the casebook, timed at 7.00,  22 "Stand down, no movement of subjects" recorded by  23 Officer Cousen and then an entry:  24 "DS Hurst is to contact Cheshire regarding  25 disruption, mitigation around cash vehicles in transits</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 8</p>

2 (Pages 5 to 8)

1 in the Culcheth area."  
 2 Then if I could take you to this reference, please,  
 3 I am going to ask you to look at casebook of  
 4 Officer Hurst, please, who was the Deputy SIO on  
 5 Operation Shire.  
 6 Could I ask you to turn to bundle P/176.  
 7 **A. 176?**  
 8 Q. Thank you.  
 9 We can see there an entry for 8.00 in the morning,  
 10 the telephone number of the force intelligence unit has  
 11 been redacted out, but Officer Hurst has recorded:  
 12 "Non-specific intelligence, sus activity in Culcheth  
 13 area, potential robbery? DC Phil Oxtan informed of the  
 14 above."  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 Q. We can put that folder away, now, please we will not be  
 17 going to it again.  
 18 Just to complete that, and I am doing this because  
 19 we heard some evidence yesterday from  
 20 an Officer Fernandes from within Greater Manchester  
 21 Police as to how contact was being made with him during  
 22 2 March. Could I take you, please, to within bundle M7,  
 23 please, at page 70.  
 24 **A. Thank you.**  
 25 Q. We can see there an intelligence submission form; is

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1 that a document you are familiar with?  
 2 **A. Yes. Yes.**  
 3 Q. It has been completed by Phil Oxtan.  
 4 **A. That's right, yes.**  
 5 Q. We have the provenance, information supplied by  
 6 Debbie Hurst GMP Force Robbery Unit and sets out  
 7 underneath that, being managed by DI Fernandes, with  
 8 a telephone number, and then the intelligence in the  
 9 information section:  
 10 "Intelligence suggests that there has been  
 11 suspicious activity around cash delivery and/or  
 12 financial institutions, the intelligence does not  
 13 identify targets, suspects, vehicles, nominals, time or  
 14 if firearms are involved."  
 15 **A. Correct.**  
 16 Q. In terms of I think you essentially then were tasked by  
 17 Officer Oxtan to develop this B21 intelligence that has  
 18 been received.  
 19 **A. Yes.**  
 20 Q. In terms of, could you just explain what an intelligence  
 21 rating and grading of "B21" means, please?  
 22 **A. Obviously B21, they are graded to -- so we can't tell**  
 23 **you what the source is but the grading tells what**  
 24 **roughly where we are with it, what grading it is. So**  
 25 **the B is mostly reliable, the 2 is information is known**

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1 **personally to the source but not known personally to the**  
 2 **reporting officer, and the 1 permits dissemination to**  
 3 **the UK police service and other law enforcement**  
 4 **agencies.**  
 5 Q. Thank you. Could I take you please back within the  
 6 bundle we were in a moment ago, the M7, we have the  
 7 benefit also of the daybook of Nigel Twigg. If I could  
 8 ask you to turn to page 91, within that bundle, please.  
 9 THE CHAIRMAN: 91 in M7?  
 10 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, please, sir.  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I appear to have a gap between 87 and 114.  
 12 **A. So do I.**  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Is yours the same?  
 14 **A. Yes, it is, it is, yes. I do have it -- in my bundle**  
 15 **I have it.**  
 16 MS CARTWRIGHT: What I will do, sir, is I will read the  
 17 entry into the record just for completeness and then  
 18 I think perhaps this is the last of the documents that  
 19 are not contained within Mr Holliwell's bundle.  
 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly. I will take the reference down  
 21 anyway, it is M7/19?  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: Page 91.  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: 91.  
 24 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is the notes of Officer Twigg where he  
 25 records the call from DI Fernandes, GMP, Debbie Hurst,

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1 reference to the Force Robbery Unit, and then reference  
 2 to:  
 3 "Information from DC Oxtan receiving call, available  
 4 dissemination to Cheshire Police that there may be  
 5 a robbery in Culcheth area, speak to [then the name is  
 6 redacted] who would create a heightened alter to all  
 7 drivers to the Culcheth area of Warrington, she would  
 8 research the deliveries for today to establish if any  
 9 deliveries are planned in Culcheth."  
 10 Then there is an entry:  
 11 "GMP request that around Culcheth area a police  
 12 presence be deployed target hardening, intelligence to  
 13 follow."  
 14 Do you recall whether Mr Twigg referenced any  
 15 reference to GMP targeted hardening intelligence to  
 16 follow?  
 17 **A. I don't recall that, I am sorry, no, I don't.**  
 18 Q. Thank you.  
 19 You tell us in your statement that on receipt of  
 20 this information that you then have to develop, you  
 21 start to complete a number of documents and you have  
 22 exhibited and provided those documents with us.  
 23 **A. Yes, that's right.**  
 24 Q. Can you assist, first of all, there is a document called  
 25 the "intelligence log" itself that you provided, which

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1 is slightly different to the one we looked at a moment  
 2 ago that had been created by Phil Oxtan.  
 3 **A. Yes, it the one with my sort of routine of what has gone**  
 4 **on throughout -- it developed through the day of the**  
 5 **list of actions that we did to try and work out what to**  
 6 **do and it shows who I have spoken to, the times and the**  
 7 **information we have received from different people, such**  
 8 **as the Loomis van people and the cash in transit people.**  
 9 Q. Before taking you to the occurrence itself, could I ask  
 10 you, just first of all, please, to turn behind tab 5,  
 11 where we see the copy of the intelligence report with  
 12 the reference IN 12008028.  
 13 **A. Yes.**  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: This is in the witness's own bundle?  
 15 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is, sir.  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Tab 5. Where is the reference, sorry?  
 17 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is tab 5.  
 18 **A. The top paragraph in the top box where it says Cheshire**  
 19 **printed occurrence and it has IN 12008028.**  
 20 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, the exhibit --  
 21 **A. I think it has the sheets back there, sir.**  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, tab 5.  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Does it have a page number?  
 24 MS CARTWRIGHT: Tab 5 of the internal pagination, because it  
 25 is taken from M7, it commences at pages 133.

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1 **A. 135.**  
 2 THE CHAIRMAN: 135, I am sorry.  
 3 MS CARTWRIGHT: The exhibit number is at 134 and we see the  
 4 actual intelligence report at 135.  
 5 THE CHAIRMAN: I have it, thank you.  
 6 MS CARTWRIGHT: Can you assist, please, Mr Holliwell, in  
 7 terms of this document, it has a report time in the  
 8 afternoon of 2 March at 2.18 pm --  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 Q. -- how does this document come into existence, please?  
 11 **A. That is on the NICHE system that the Cheshire Police**  
 12 **use, that has gone into the system and it has to be**  
 13 **completed by Phil Oxtan, which I think is the same**  
 14 **document that Phil Oxtan has done.**  
 15 Q. Yes.  
 16 **A. He has put it into the system and that is when it has**  
 17 **been dealt with by the intelligence officers to clarify**  
 18 **everything on the system and put it in a proper manner.**  
 19 Q. Then in terms of in the first box, where we see  
 20 occurrence with a time of 08.55, can you assist us how  
 21 that time --  
 22 **A. That is when it has gone into the system itself and the**  
 23 **rest of the time --**  
 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, where is the 08.55?  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is in the first box, sir, on page 135.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, there it is. Mine is greyed out and  
 2 it is not easy to see everything. Okay, I have it.  
 3 What is the significance of that time, sorry?  
 4 **A. The 8.55 is when it has been put on the system and that**  
 5 **would have been by Phil Oxtan, DC Phil Oxtan. And then**  
 6 **the report time and entry time is when the intelligence**  
 7 **officers who have looked at that, have recovered that**  
 8 **from the system and they then see if there is any more**  
 9 **development that they can put on it and then it is**  
 10 **basically sent out to the -- whoever needs to look at it**  
 11 **then.**  
 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.  
 13 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.  
 14 Just before moving on, you mentioned the NICHE  
 15 system, could you just explain what NICHE is and how  
 16 that operates, please.  
 17 **A. The NICHE system is the -- it has developed into a lot**  
 18 **more now, but it is where all the incidents or where all**  
 19 **the intelligence for Cheshire is held, so if you need to**  
 20 **do any inquiries you can go on to the NICHE system and**  
 21 **find out different -- and you have different grades that**  
 22 **different people can view. The Force Intelligence**  
 23 **Bureau had one of the top viewing systems, so we can**  
 24 **view a lot more items than some of the PCs and DCs down**  
 25 **the line, basically.**

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1 Q. In terms of the items you can view, can you view the  
 2 police national computer through NICHE?  
 3 **A. No, that is a separate thing all together.**  
 4 Q. But in terms of your ability to access the PNC, that is  
 5 within --  
 6 **A. Yes. Yes, that is something that we do as well. So**  
 7 **I think the majority of police officers can do that.**  
 8 Q. Can I ask, as we go through your documentation, at no  
 9 point within the material we see is there any reference  
 10 to the name of a nominal in respect of this suspicious  
 11 activity in Culcheth?  
 12 **A. No.**  
 13 Q. Do you recall at any point during your involvement on  
 14 2 March whether Greater Manchester Police provided the  
 15 names of any of the subjects or nominals they were  
 16 interested in?  
 17 **A. No. Greater Manchester Police, no. Not to me, no.**  
 18 Q. Had you been provided with names of possible suspects  
 19 would that have been something you would have looked to  
 20 research and develop?  
 21 **A. We could have researched through our systems and seen**  
 22 **what we knew about them, obviously it was an area we**  
 23 **could develop.**  
 24 Q. If you had a name, would that involve you then searching  
 25 on a police national computer as well as part of the --

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1 **A. Yes, probably would have done, yes.**  
 2 Q. Yes.  
 3 A moment ago, I asked you when we are looking at the  
 4 train of events we could see that Officer Crowcroft  
 5 envisaged there would be liaison intelligence unit  
 6 within Cheshire with the intelligence unit in Greater  
 7 Manchester Police. We can see when we go through your  
 8 occurrence in a moment that when you were seeking to  
 9 track down Officer Fernandes I think you spoke to  
 10 someone within FIB in Greater Manchester Police.  
 11 **A. Yes, sorry, I can't remember --**  
 12 Q. Save for that call, it doesn't appear there was any  
 13 liaison between the FIB at Greater Manchester Police --  
 14 **A. No. Well, it was being, from my recollection from it,**  
 15 **it was being run by Inspector Fernandes, who was our**  
 16 **main person we were dealing with at that point in time**  
 17 **in relation to that intelligence.**  
 18 Q. Thank you.  
 19 Could I take you now then, please to the occurrence  
 20 document which is behind tab 4, please, in your bundle.  
 21 For those who have it, it is at M7, pages 127  
 22 through to 132.  
 23 That is the document in your bundle, sir, behind  
 24 tab 4.  
 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Right. Thank you. Yes, I see.

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1 MS CARTWRIGHT: Could you please assist as to how this  
 2 occurrence document then is generated and the purpose of  
 3 generating this document, please?  
 4 **A. This will have come from the incident that was put on by**  
 5 **the force incident manager, where, when it produces**  
 6 **a document in the NICHE system, to -- which correlates**  
 7 **basically what the incident says --**  
 8 Q. Yes.  
 9 **A. -- which I think is 180 that day.**  
 10 Q. Yes.  
 11 **A. This also then has an occurrence, an OEL, which we can**  
 12 **then type on to what we require to be done or what we**  
 13 **have done and just explanation and that is what the**  
 14 **writing is, what I have done on -- what I have completed**  
 15 **on here.**  
 16 Q. Yes. We will look in a moment at the incident 180,  
 17 which obviously the officers can view --  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. -- but who can view the information recorded on the  
 20 occurrence?  
 21 **A. Well, anybody who can go on the NICHE system, basically.**  
 22 Q. In terms of sort of officers on the ground dealing with  
 23 the events in Culcheth, they could freely access this  
 24 information?  
 25 **A. Yes. Yes.**

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1 Q. Can you assist in terms of the time as recorded on this  
 2 document, because if we look at the bottom of the page  
 3 on 129, where you have started making the entries in the  
 4 logs as to matters that took place that day, we can see  
 5 an entry time of 2.19.  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 Q. Can you explain how that operates, please?  
 8 **A. Throughout the day I have been -- I was making notes on**  
 9 **the document that I had started from the start --**  
 10 Q. Yes.  
 11 **A. -- and this is just a take off from that on to the NICHE**  
 12 **system of what I have done. The reasons why it was so**  
 13 **late is because we were busy dealing with that on the**  
 14 **sheet and the people that I had spoken to were the**  
 15 **people that needed to know what was going on, so**  
 16 **everybody was aware of what was going on and they knew**  
 17 **if there was any issues, or anything they needed to ask,**  
 18 **they could come and speak to me and I could explain what**  
 19 **has been done and where we had gone.**  
 20 Q. Thank you. Can I ask, in terms of some of the timings  
 21 and the amount of text that is contained looks like it  
 22 has been cut and pasted from somewhere else --  
 23 **A. It would be from that document, yes, it will be.**  
 24 Q. From the incident?  
 25 **A. No, no, not from the incident. From my document that I**

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1 **set up from the start.**  
 2 Q. The Word document?  
 3 **A. Yes, I don't know what number it is on here, sorry.**  
 4 Q. Perhaps if I just take you to that, just to confirm,  
 5 please.  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 Q. If you look behind tab 3, please, which is M7/122.  
 8 Perhaps if you could just assist in terms of the pages,  
 9 because it appears they are out of order, if we look  
 10 first of all, please, to page 125, with the heading  
 11 "Intelligence has been received by Cheshire Police",  
 12 that is essentially the start of this document, isn't  
 13 it?  
 14 **A. Yes, that is when I start. When Phil Oxtan first got**  
 15 **that I decided to start a Word document, just so we had**  
 16 **a chronological run of what has been done and what --**  
 17 THE CHAIRMAN: This is the document you referred to a moment  
 18 ago when you said --  
 19 **A. Yes, it is.**  
 20 THE CHAIRMAN: What was on the document we just looked at  
 21 was lifted from this?  
 22 **A. Yes, it was.**  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: This is a kind of running Word document?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: In terms of, if we page turn to page 124,

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1 that represents, if we look at the timings, because we  
 2 can see 11.25, that is page 2 of this document.  
 3 **A. Yes, that's correct.**  
 4 Q. Finally, 126 is the final page?  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. In terms of an ability to access this Word document,  
 7 because we can see -- I am not going to take you through  
 8 bundles -- that essentially it is an evolving document  
 9 through the course of 2 March as you research and  
 10 develop the intelligence. In terms of that Word  
 11 document, does anyone have an ability to access that or  
 12 is it then dependent on you forwarding it by email?  
 13 **A. It was dependent on me to pass it on and as soon as we**  
 14 **had the information, the force intelligence manager knew**  
 15 **about the information, so it was intelligence that came**  
 16 **in. I mean it was very lax intelligence so a bit low on**  
 17 **giving information, so that is what we had to work out**  
 18 **what was going on, so.**  
 19 Q. You have just told us that the intelligence was very  
 20 lax, very low on information. Can you perhaps just  
 21 expand upon that, please?  
 22 **A. Well, basically, as you said before, it -- the**  
 23 **intelligence does not identify dates, times, targets,**  
 24 **vehicles, nominals or if any firearms are involved. So**  
 25 **there was nothing -- not a lot to go on apart from it**

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1 **being financial institutions in the village of Culcheth**  
 2 **being targeted, so obviously we had to look and see if**  
 3 **we could develop it any further. That is what I mean by**  
 4 **lax, just it had little information.**  
 5 Q. We can see that you provide this document, on an email  
 6 we will come to later, to the silver commander at  
 7 Cheshire, an Officer Brierley. Can you assist then as  
 8 to, it may seem a silly question, why you would be  
 9 providing to a silver commander a research document as  
 10 to the development of the intelligence that you had  
 11 carried out on 2 March?  
 12 **A. It is somebody who would need to know what has been**  
 13 **going on, so he would need to know the chronological**  
 14 **actions of what we had done throughout the day. I think**  
 15 **that was later on in the day, wasn't it?**  
 16 Q. Yes.  
 17 **A. So it then gave him a picture of what was, what we had**  
 18 **done and what needed to be done really by themselves.**  
 19 **It was really explaining what they needed to do, so they**  
 20 **could make the decisions of where they go with it.**  
 21 Q. Before I then go through in a chronological order what  
 22 was done and the information you obtained, can I just  
 23 ask, from your statement, we can see that your working  
 24 hours were I think Monday to Friday.  
 25 **A. Yes.**

Page 22

1 Q. Was the FIB at Cheshire staffed over the weekend?  
 2 **A. No, it wasn't.**  
 3 Q. What happened over the weekends when someone needed to  
 4 access intelligence or needed research to be developed?  
 5 **A. It would go through to the force intelligence manager**  
 6 **and they have staff there who could develop it over the**  
 7 **weekends. Some intelligence officers have the --**  
 8 **I think there are staff, police staff, who can access**  
 9 **the same systems.**  
 10 Q. We know the force intelligence manager on 2 March was  
 11 Officer Dickinson.  
 12 **A. That's right.**  
 13 Q. So in terms of staff who can develop, you say some are  
 14 intelligence officers, can you assist as to how many  
 15 officers within that would be --  
 16 **A. I couldn't. I really don't know who would be working.**  
 17 Q. No.  
 18 **A. It has all altered a little bit now because we are all**  
 19 **in the same area. Before they were in the force**  
 20 **intelligence, sorry in the -- with the FIM in the**  
 21 **control room.**  
 22 Q. Thank you. In terms of just where Officer Dickinson as  
 23 the force incident manager would be based, where would  
 24 he be located?  
 25 **A. He was at headquarters.**

Page 23

1 Q. At Winsford?  
 2 **A. Yes, he was.**  
 3 Q. Thank you.  
 4 You also tell us in your statement about how  
 5 essentially you create incident 180, which is then  
 6 essentially the running log for Operation Westport.  
 7 **A. Yes.**  
 8 Q. If we can perhaps use the incident itself, and it is not  
 9 contained within that bundle, I am afraid we are going  
 10 to have to go into bundle M1, please.  
 11 Page 123 in that bundle. Your statement tells us at  
 12 9.10 on 2 March you contacted the FIM,  
 13 Inspector Robert Dickinson, disseminated the  
 14 intelligence to him and then at that time this incident  
 15 was created, incident 180.  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Can I ask you, what was the purpose at 9.10 of  
 18 contacting Officer Dickinson, please?  
 19 **A. Obviously the force incident manager would need to know**  
 20 **if there were any -- anything that we would need to know**  
 21 **in the Culcheth area, obviously where the intelligence**  
 22 **received is talking about. They would need to know so**  
 23 **they could resource with staff to go to the area or deal**  
 24 **with it through -- and it would be him to make the**  
 25 **decision of what would, we would need to do as a police**

Page 24

1 **force.**  
 2 Q. Do you recall then when you updated Officer Dickinson  
 3 with the B21 intelligence that had been provided, what  
 4 he indicated to you needed to be done and what you then  
 5 went on to do?  
 6 **A. I think from what I can recall, he asked me to go back**  
 7 **to the -- Officer Fernandes to see if we could get any**  
 8 **more information.**  
 9 Q. Yes.  
 10 Then if we look, then, please at incident 180,  
 11 because I am going to use this document I think to work  
 12 through the events of 2 March and then we will go back  
 13 into the occurrence in your Word document, please.  
 14 **A. Yes.**  
 15 Q. We can see on page 123 the creation of this incident at  
 16 9.02 on 2 March.  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 Q. Can you assist over the page at 124, you will see  
 19 reference to various --  
 20 **A. Call signs.**  
 21 Q. Call signs and then the assigning of them. Is this the  
 22 various officers that were then tasked?  
 23 **A. Well, I am not 100 per cent sure about that. I can't**  
 24 **give a full 100 per cent answer on that. It could be**  
 25 **the ones that are allocated to that or it could be the**

Page 25

1 **ones that are available. So I couldn't give a full**  
 2 **100 per cent answer on that, sorry.**  
 3 Q. Could I ask you then to turn to page 145, please.  
 4 We can see the entry timed at 9.30.19, a request  
 5 for:  
 6 "Please can ND11, ND21 and NU51 default to Culbeth  
 7 to pay some passing attention to the location. Thank  
 8 you."  
 9 This is now Officer Dickinson tasking officers to go  
 10 on the ground?  
 11 **A. Yes, that's right.**  
 12 Q. If we turn over the page, please --  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on.  
 14 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sorry, sir.  
 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, just annotating. Yes, over the page?  
 16 MS CARTWRIGHT: Page 146, an entry at 9.21, which is the  
 17 entry of the FIM, Officer Dickinson, that he has  
 18 discussed it with the bronze, officer HF11. We can see  
 19 recorded:  
 20 "At present this does not merit a firearms authority  
 21 as intel is non-specific, as such HF21 would be in  
 22 northern area and HF31 will be in Culbeth. They will  
 23 be briefed by HF11 who is aware no authority at this  
 24 time, I have left a voice message for the TAC officer,  
 25 PMC ..."

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1 I think that is Phaedra McLean, isn't it?  
 2 **A. Phaedra, yes.**  
 3 Q. "... and I will also update locum CI Brierley."  
 4 Who we know then became the silver commander on that  
 5 day?  
 6 **A. That's right.**  
 7 Q. I wonder if you can assist, because in terms of the  
 8 development between 9.21 here and we can see then over  
 9 the page, please, page 147, the recording at 9.36,  
 10 following on from Officer Brierley speaking to the FIB  
 11 and locum Brierley -- sorry, I apologise, that is at the  
 12 bottom of 146 -- appraising of the tactics:  
 13 "That these are supported or remain in place unless  
 14 further intel is received from GMP, who will be  
 15 contacted by the FIB this morning."  
 16 Then confirmation at 9.36 that the firearms was not  
 17 authorised.  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on. Just slow down a little bit.  
 20 (Pause)  
 21 Yes.  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: I am just going to briefly take you -- in  
 23 fact I will not take you, we will move to it in due  
 24 course but we know later on that morning at 10.59.  
 25 Sir, for your note, it is page 152, that then at

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1 10.52 an armed authority was granted. Can you see that,  
 2 Mr Holliwell?  
 3 **A. 10.52?**  
 4 Q. Sorry, 10.59, I do apologise?  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. The rationale for that being granted is over the page at  
 7 153.  
 8 We can see at 11.02 it is recorded:  
 9 "I have discussed this incident with CI Brierley and  
 10 given intel I am granting HF patrols involved to have  
 11 a firearms authority while escort of cash in transit  
 12 takes place. I have stressed to them the non-specific  
 13 nature of this intel and therefore the threat assessment  
 14 is low, but I cannot discount the use of firearms or  
 15 other lethal weapons should an offence take place. The  
 16 firearms patrols are aware of this and have been  
 17 instructed to be discreet in their dealings at this  
 18 time. CI Brierley will appraise the gold commander,  
 19 ACC McCormick, of this intel."  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 Q. What I would like you to assist us with, please,  
 22 Mr Holliwell is essentially the various calls and  
 23 discussions you had between the sort of 9.00 time when  
 24 you were speaking to Officer Dickinson and what  
 25 information you ascertained during that morning, please.

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1 **A. All right.**  
 2 Q. You have already mentioned to us that essentially  
 3 Officer Dickinson asked you to make contact with  
 4 Rocque Fernandes at Greater Manchester Police.  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. Can you just assist as to why it was that you went to  
 7 seek information from Mr Fernandes, please?  
 8 **A. Well, I have explained before, it was the information we**  
 9 **initially received was quite low in information, really,**  
 10 **so we just needed to try and find a little bit more**  
 11 **information about what it was all about to assist us**  
 12 **into dealing with it correctly.**  
 13 Q. Yes. Can we then, please, move into your Word document  
 14 to track through, please, during this time, as to the  
 15 steps you took, please, and who you spoke to.  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Again it is back, please, behind tab 3.  
 18 THE CHAIRMAN: I have it.  
 19 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is page M7/125, please.  
 20 **A. Do you want me to talk through something?**  
 21 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see on the middle of the page, the  
 22 recording at 9.10 for intelligence disseminated to  
 23 Inspector Dickinson, that you then open the incident  
 24 which we have seen a moment ago, incident 180. Then you  
 25 have recorded DI Karen Lawton, northern intel spoken to

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1 and intelligence disseminated to her.  
 2 Can you assist us as to why you made contact with  
 3 Officer Lawton.  
 4 **A. Karen Lawton, I explained before, she is from the**  
 5 **northern area of Cheshire, which is where Culcheth is,**  
 6 **so she needed to be aware about the information that we**  
 7 **had received.**  
 8 Q. Yes.  
 9 Do you recall the discussion you had with  
 10 Karen Lawton at that time, please?  
 11 **A. I can't obviously word for word, but it would be just to**  
 12 **discuss in relation to the intelligence that we have**  
 13 **received and I can't recall anything else, I am sorry.**  
 14 Q. Can I take you, please, just to keep a finger, please,  
 15 in tab 3, but then to move also into tab 4, please,  
 16 which is M7, page 130, below the 9.10 intelligence at  
 17 the top of the page, please.  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. You have set out in respect of the dissemination to  
 20 Robert Dickinson --  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. -- and then it goes on:  
 23 "DI Karen Lawton northern intel spoken to and  
 24 disseminated to her."  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. Then it goes on:  
 2 "DI Fernandes GMP has been spoken to again and has  
 3 stated that their inquiry is a long term ongoing  
 4 operation, which has identified that there was  
 5 suspicious activity in the Culcheth area of Warrington,  
 6 contact details of operation SIO DI Rob Cousen ..."  
 7 A mobile number was given, and then the contact  
 8 details for DI Deb Hurst. Then is recorded:  
 9 "Possible institutes where suspicious activities  
 10 are: NatWest, Warrington Road; Cheshire Building  
 11 Society, Warrington Road; Thomas Cook, Jackson Avenue;  
 12 and Sainsbury's, Common Lane, Culcheth."  
 13 Then there is an entry:  
 14 "10.30, FIM updated with possible targeted  
 15 institutes."  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Just to be clear, the entry in your occurrences to those  
 18 various possible targets, did that come directly from  
 19 Officer Fernandes?  
 20 **A. Yes, it has, yes. It is a take off from my Word**  
 21 **document here, which was word for word for that. So it**  
 22 **is just a cut and paste on to that sheet.**  
 23 Q. Yes. Do you recall anything directly about that  
 24 conversation with Officer Fernandes?  
 25 **A. I don't really. I can recall the conversation but any**

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1 **detail, I wrote down as much as I could and made**  
 2 **notes --**  
 3 Q. Do you have any --  
 4 **A. -- at the time.**  
 5 Q. Do you have any recollection, we heard evidence  
 6 yesterday from Officer Fernandes, do you have any  
 7 recollection of him almost seeking to indicate that if  
 8 he you needed more information you needed to go to  
 9 Officer Cousen, because his knowledge of this operation  
 10 was limited?  
 11 **A. Yes. And what I was told was that he had been on**  
 12 **two days and that he was not available at that point in**  
 13 **time because he had gone home to rest, so --**  
 14 Q. Yes. In terms of you were directly told by  
 15 Officer Fernandes that Officer Cousen had gone home to  
 16 rest?  
 17 **A. I think that is in my statement as well, so ...**  
 18 Q. In terms of, could you assist as to the extent of the  
 19 limits that Officer Fernandes was putting on his  
 20 knowledge of this operation, please?  
 21 **A. Well, he knew about the operation, obviously, but**  
 22 **I think the SIO, the officer in charge of that**  
 23 **operation, had been on two days and he was just held**  
 24 **there just trying to deal with it probably not as much**  
 25 **information as the SIO had.**

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<p>1 Q. We can see that the telephone numbers for Officer Cousen 2 and Officer Hurst were provided to you. At any point 3 did you utilise those numbers to contact them?</p> <p>4 <b>A. No, as again they had been on two days, that is what 5 I had been told anyway, so I was bearing in mind the 6 fact is I could not really ring them up early doors -- 7 well, I could but it was intelligence at the moment. 8 There was no specific information of what was going to 9 go on.</b></p> <p>10 Q. Thank you. 11 Having then been given a bit more information as to 12 the potential targets, can you assist as to what 13 research you then conducted with that information, 14 please?</p> <p>15 <b>A. We made -- we did checks with the Loomis and the Safe 16 Cash to ascertain when vans or any cash was being 17 delivered to any institutes in that area. There is 18 a list of the ones that I did on the document, which we 19 received from the different companies.</b></p> <p>20 Q. Yes.</p> <p>21 <b>A. They were incoming all the time, so we were aware and 22 I think that is when the officers on the ground were in 23 that area, just making sure that they were safe.</b></p> <p>24 Q. In terms of you being an intelligence officer within the 25 FIB, are there contact details for those who operate</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 33</p>	<p>1 information you have received from Safe Cash to 2 Officer Dickinson.</p> <p>3 <b>A. That's right, yes.</b></p> <p>4 Q. If you could, please, then, turn to page 2, which is 5 124, I think the next entry we see, and you record the 6 further information provided from Safe Cash is two 7 deliveries that day?</p> <p>8 <b>A. I had a phone call at 10.30 which is at the time I was 9 talking to the FIM as well, so ...</b></p> <p>10 Q. Then we can see a further call at 11.25.</p> <p>11 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>12 Q. Excuse me.</p> <p>13 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>14 Q. We can see then that you make further contact back with 15 Officer Fernandes?</p> <p>16 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>17 Q. It is recorded that Officer Fernandes was spoken to and 18 stated that there will be no DSU behind any of the teams 19 today, but they would be returning to the operation on 20 Monday morning?</p> <p>21 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>22 Q. Can you recall that conversation?</p> <p>23 <b>A. I can. I mean unfortunately it was a while -- a long 24 time ago. So ...</b></p> <p>25 Q. I do apologise.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 35</p>
<p>1 cash in transit information that is well known and 2 readily available to you and the FIB, or did that 3 take --</p> <p>4 <b>A. Yes, we use Safe Cash which basically they are -- they 5 have the contacts and they then know what is come in or 6 what has been delivered and they can inform us, and they 7 have given us the details of the different companies and 8 the contact details for them.</b></p> <p>9 Q. I am not going to take you through the detail of all the 10 information that you were given as to the various 11 deliveries timed, because it is recorded on your 12 documentation --</p> <p>13 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>14 Q. -- but were you just seeking information in relation to 15 cash in transit on the 2nd or were you also looking more 16 broadly about when deliveries were likely to be made to 17 the Culcheth area?</p> <p>18 <b>A. It was for the weekend, I think, we were trying to 19 ascertain but obviously on that day, it was information 20 that we had received on that day so we were looking 21 initially for that day so if anything was coming in, it 22 was going to be coming in to tell us, basically.</b></p> <p>23 Q. Thank you. 24 Then we can see on your Word document, at page 125, 25 behind tab 3, that at 10.35 you disseminate the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 34</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes, that is all right. I do recall having that 2 conversation but the detail, it was written down here 3 what was said really.</b></p> <p>4 Q. Can you assist in terms of, we know around this time the 5 firearm authority has been granted -- excuse me, 6 again -- did you receive any information as part of the 7 checks you were making and the development that the 8 nominals would be in possession of a firearm?</p> <p>9 <b>A. No, no.</b></p> <p>10 Q. Could I ask you please to look into your occurrence 11 document, please. We can see, again, entries as to 12 information that was obtained below the 10.30 entry from 13 the Safe Cash and deliveries times, but did you receive 14 any intelligence that there would be deliveries, cash in 15 transit deliveries, the following day on 3 March during 16 your research and checks with the cash in transit --</p> <p>17 <b>A. I think at that time, if they were coming in, they would 18 have gone to, for the following day, I am not sure how 19 Safe Cash work and whether they know exactly when the 20 deliveries are going on the day before, I can't explain 21 on that, but no, the day that we were looking at, 22 obviously we are looking at it now and at that time, to 23 make sure that people are safe in that area and that the 24 vans were safe.</b></p> <p>25 Q. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 36</p>

1 Can I ask, in terms of you obviously sharing this  
 2 information as to the timings of the cash in transit, so  
 3 it could enable the FIM to make decisions about those  
 4 officers on the ground as to whether they had a presence  
 5 near to the institutions.

6 **A. Yes.**

7 Q. Do you recall whether you provided any of the  
 8 information as to the timings of the cash in transit  
 9 back to Officer Fernandes?

10 **A. Sorry. Yes, to Fernandes?**

11 Q. Yes.

12 **A. No. I didn't.**

13 Q. No. Can you assist as to why you didn't share the  
 14 information, intelligence you were receiving back to  
 15 GMP?

16 **A. Because at that time it was -- it was passed on to us to  
 17 deal with the area at that point in time and that we  
 18 needed to know when the vans were there, so we could  
 19 make, we could be in that area to ensure that nothing  
 20 happened to them and people were safe.**

21 Q. In terms of just for clarity, throughout the research  
 22 you conducted on 2 March, at any point did you provide  
 23 the details of the cash drops, by any means, back to  
 24 Greater Manchester Police?

25 **A. No, I didn't.**

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1 Q. There is information in respect of a conversation with  
 2 Officer Lawton and Officer Dickinson, but I am going to  
 3 come back to those after the break. Can I then just  
 4 continue to go through the research and development of  
 5 the intelligence that day, please.

6 When Officer Fernandes told you that there would be  
 7 no DSU behind any of the teams from Greater Manchester  
 8 Police that day, did that raise any issues or a need to  
 9 disseminate that to your FIM?

10 **A. Sorry, I completely -- say that again, sorry, I do  
 11 apologise.**

12 Q. When Officer Fernandes told you there would be no  
 13 surveillance behind the nominals that day --

14 **A. Yes.**

15 Q. -- did that raise any particular issue for you in your  
 16 mind?

17 **A. I think the issues had been raised by Karen Lawton, from  
 18 what I can remember. As she was an ex-GMP -- she had  
 19 worked in Greater Manchester Police for a while and  
 20 I think she may have been aware or thought that the DSU  
 21 that had been with them may be armed or something like  
 22 that, so I think that was something that I obviously had  
 23 given that information by the GMP, I would have  
 24 disseminated that and I did disseminate that to the FIM,  
 25 to make sure he was fully aware.**

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, disseminated what, sorry?

2 **A. About the DSU being behind the ... at that point in time  
 3 I was not told about the, whether it was armed or not,  
 4 but with I think past experience with Karen Lawton --**

5 THE CHAIRMAN: The information that there wouldn't be any  
 6 DSU, are you saying that is what you disseminated, is  
 7 that what you mean?

8 **A. That's right.**

9 THE CHAIRMAN: To the FIM?

10 **A. Yes.**

11 MS CARTWRIGHT: I am going to come on after the break to  
 12 deal with the statement of Karen Lawton, but could  
 13 I just take you to another document which was a report  
 14 created following a discussion with Karen Lawton,  
 15 please. It is back in bundle M7, please, at page 114.

16 We can see that this is a report from DS Massey to  
 17 ACC Hindle dated 12 October 2015. Following on from  
 18 a discussion that Officer Massey had had with retired  
 19 inspector Karen Lawton. It touches upon I think the  
 20 evidence you gave a moment ago about the discussion you  
 21 had with her and reference to her previous knowledge and  
 22 experience of Greater Manchester Police.

23 **A. Yes.**

24 Q. It is recorded in the account in the report of Officer  
 25 Massey that 2 March was Karen Lawton's last day working

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1 as a detective inspector on the northern intelligence  
 2 unit, were you aware of that?

3 **A. I wasn't actually, no.**

4 Q. And that she was giving a handover to DI Peter Case and  
 5 then the document records that she was asked to contact  
 6 you about intelligence that had been received and that  
 7 you then called --

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, where is this?

9 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is the large paragraph, sir.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.

11 **A. A quarter of the way down.**

12 MS CARTWRIGHT: He passed information that GMP robbery squad  
 13 was involved in an operation which related to cash in  
 14 transit robberies and that they may come on to Cheshire  
 15 force area.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Just slow down a little bit. I now have it,  
 17 yes.

18 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you, sir.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Just give me a second to get my bearings.  
 20 Yes, okay.

21 MS CARTWRIGHT: "DI Lawton had formally been seconded on to  
 22 GMP robbery squad for 18 months and knew how they worked  
 23 and the level of criminality they targeted."  
 24 Were you aware of that?

25 **A. I am now I read it, yes.**

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1 Q. But at the time on 2 March --  
 2 **A. No, I wasn't aware.**  
 3 Q. It goes on:  
 4 "She felt sure the suspects would have access to  
 5 firearms. She was therefore concerned that from  
 6 an officer safety perspective a number of unarmed PCSOs  
 7 and/or uniformed patrols had been deployed to Culcheth  
 8 to give passing attention when something serious  
 9 involving firearms may occur."  
 10 Do you recall Karen Lawton giving any of that  
 11 information to you?  
 12 **A. I don't recall, but I do recall the information after**  
 13 **reading it here.**  
 14 Q. You do recall -- after --  
 15 **A. It rings a bell -- sorry, it is the wrong phrase but at**  
 16 **that point, from my recollection of the time, I don't**  
 17 **recall getting that information, but it rings a bell.**  
 18 **Whether it is because I have read it before, I am not**  
 19 **sure.**  
 20 Q. Yes, but in terms of assisting the Inquiry with the best  
 21 evidence, do you have any --  
 22 **A. Yes.**  
 23 Q. -- direct recollection that during this conversation,  
 24 Karen Lawton raised the suspicion that there may be  
 25 firearms involved?

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1 **A. I do recall the suspicion, but I don't know the words or**  
 2 **I can't recall at the moment what words she said to me,**  
 3 **basically.**  
 4 Q. The report goes on:  
 5 "She asked Steve Holliwell to liaise further with  
 6 the GMP robbery squad and obtain a better and fuller  
 7 picture of the intelligence."  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. I just want to ask you about this recording and whether  
 10 this fits with your recollection of anything that may  
 11 have been said or expressed that day?  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 Q. "She felt GMP had not been provided sufficient  
 14 information for Cheshire to properly be prepared. DI  
 15 Lawton spoke with Chief Superintendent Sarah Boycott and  
 16 informed her of the intelligence picture. Sarah Boycott  
 17 informed Inspector Lawton that she would review the  
 18 incident from that point onwards and deal  
 19 appropriately."  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 Q. At any point in the discussion you had with  
 22 Officer Lawton, did she make that express to you, that  
 23 you hadn't had sufficient information?  
 24 **A. I think, yes, I think we all thought that, but**  
 25 **I think -- I can't recall. I do apologise.**

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1 **MS CARTWRIGHT: No.**  
 2 **Sir, I am wondering whether -- we have been going**  
 3 **for just over a little over an hour whether now is**  
 4 **appropriate for a morning break and enable me to take**  
 5 **a little bit more medicine.**  
 6 THE CHAIRMAN: Right, okay.  
 7 How are you doing in terms of your planned  
 8 timetable?  
 9 MS CARTWRIGHT: We are on track, very much, sir.  
 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Ten minutes.  
 11 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.  
 12 (11.38 am)  
 13 (A short adjournment)  
 14 (12.01 pm)  
 15 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, could I thank you for the additional  
 16 time over the break. There has been an additional more  
 17 opened up page of M1/66, which is the statement of  
 18 Officer Dickinson. That has been provided to the core  
 19 participants. I apologise if that took a little time  
 20 and I apologise to the witness too, that you were kept  
 21 waiting.  
 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. You have given me  
 23 a copy of that.  
 24 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, sir. That can be placed for the moment  
 25 behind your tab 13, please.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, I have done that.  
 2 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.  
 3 Mr Holliwell, can I deal with the discussion,  
 4 please, then, at this stage, please, with  
 5 Officer Dickinson --  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 Q. -- around about 10.30.  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. We can see behind tab 13, a now less redacted version of  
 10 Mr Dickinson's statement.  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 Q. Perhaps if I read what is contained within this passage  
 13 as to the discussion with you at 10.30 on 2 March,  
 14 please.  
 15 We can see it is recorded:  
 16 "Shortly after 1030 hours I received further  
 17 information from DC Holliwell that a cash in transit  
 18 delivery was to take place shortly in Culcheth and that  
 19 further intelligence had been received that while there  
 20 was no specific threat against this delivery, any  
 21 offence committed may involve the use of firearms,  
 22 although this was not confirmed. DC Holliwell told me  
 23 this new intelligence was sensitive and not to be  
 24 recorded on the incident, as such I made an entry in my  
 25 daybook."

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1 **A. Yes.**  
 2 Q. Just to follow that through, perhaps if we could look in  
 3 bundle M1, please.  
 4 **A. Could I just revert back to my statement. I have had**  
 5 **time to have a read through it basically and having**  
 6 **recontacted Fernandes, he mentioned a couple of the**  
 7 **outlets that may be but he has also mentioned about the**  
 8 **MASTS team, which is the mobile armed surveillance team,**  
 9 **which obviously gave you a bit more information in**  
 10 **relation to it so it may be something in relation to**  
 11 **arms, so I do apologise if I -- not that I have only**  
 12 **just seen that one again, so.**  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 14 MS CARTWRIGHT: Perhaps if we just clarify the point you  
 15 have just made to us.  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. If we look again behind tab 1, which is your statement,  
 18 the first statement, you are just highlighting at  
 19 page 63 where you recontacted DI Fernandes. You were  
 20 told at that time, he mentioned, that a MASTS team had  
 21 been involved in the follow of the team --  
 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 23 MS CARTWRIGHT: -- and that you understand the MASTS team to  
 24 be a mobile armed surveillance team.  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 **I mean I don't have much, any, dealings with a MASTS**  
 2 **team but I understand it to be if they are armed, it may**  
 3 **be that the following people are armed. That is the**  
 4 **reason why --**  
 5 Q. Thank you.  
 6 Can I just then please just take you to the entry  
 7 that Officer Dickinson made following on from his  
 8 account in his statement as to the conversation with  
 9 you, please.  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. It is at page 77.  
 12 THE CHAIRMAN: 77? Of?  
 13 MS CARTWRIGHT: 1, please, sir.  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: M1.  
 15 **A. Right, sorry.**  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: M1/77. Yes.  
 17 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.  
 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Part of the statement of ACC McCormick.  
 19 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is.  
 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 21 MR BEER: Sir, this is in fact the, if we look at page 70,  
 22 it is the daybook of Inspector Dickinson, not  
 23 ACC McCormick.  
 24 THE CHAIRMAN: I thought it was 71 -- 77 I mean?  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: No, 70 and 71, please, sir.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry, it is my fault entirely. 70 and  
 2 71, yes, I have them. Yes.  
 3 MS CARTWRIGHT: If we look, please, Mr Holliwel on page 71,  
 4 we can see under the reference to 2 March 2012,  
 5 a recording of 07.30 on duty cover FIM, then underneath  
 6 that in brackets SH, which are your initials, and it  
 7 reads:  
 8 "From [I can't read the next bit] FIB may have  
 9 access to firearms."  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. I think that is the entry that Officer Dickinson --  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 Q. Having seen the statement of Officer Dickinson, does  
 14 that refresh your memory as to whether or not you did  
 15 mention firearms to him?  
 16 **A. I think I mentioned firearms in relation to the MASTS**  
 17 **team. I have obviously refreshed my memory with my**  
 18 **statement and being mentioned as a MASTS team, which is**  
 19 **a mobile firearms team, obviously indicates that it may**  
 20 **be that there are firearms there. So I have obviously**  
 21 **mention that to Rob Dickinson, that is why I put that.**  
 22 Q. Can I ask, do you recall whether you said to him, as his  
 23 statement records, that that was sensitive information  
 24 and so it should not be recorded on the incident, can  
 25 you help us with that?

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1 **A. It is an ongoing operation and the incident that is**  
 2 **there is open to everybody to review and I made sure**  
 3 **that everybody who knew -- should need to know about it**  
 4 **should know about the information being the FIM, who is**  
 5 **in control of what resources can be sent to and dealt**  
 6 **with, deal with the incidents, or the situation.**  
 7 **So he was made aware and the reasons why I said that**  
 8 **is because it is an ongoing operation and obviously the**  
 9 **information getting out would, may, jeopardise**  
 10 **an operation.**  
 11 Q. Yes.  
 12 **A. I don't know anything about the operation. I only knew**  
 13 **the factors about this intelligence that came in.**  
 14 Q. Yes, thank you.  
 15 So then, if we could perhaps look at then the change  
 16 that happened, so from no firearms authority being  
 17 granted around about 9.30 to the decision, and  
 18 I appreciate you don't make the decision about deploying  
 19 armed officers, but if we look then as to what happened  
 20 and how the officers on the ground used the information  
 21 that you had gathered about when the cash in transits  
 22 were taking place and how that worked out with the  
 23 authority, please.  
 24 **A. From what I recall, I think they would put a marked**  
 25 **vehicle in the area if and when there was being any cash**

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1 **deliveries.**  
 2 Q. Yes. Perhaps if we use the incident, please, incident  
 3 180, and just follow that through from when the firearms  
 4 authority was granted and how that operated on the  
 5 ground, please.  
 6 If we can go, please, sir, back into bundle M1.  
 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 8 MS CARTWRIGHT: And start, please, at page 152.  
 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.  
 10 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, we looked at this page earlier this  
 11 morning. We can see that the firearm authority was  
 12 granted at 10.59 on page 152. If we turn over the page,  
 13 please, we see the rationale at 11.02, that  
 14 Officer Dickinson set out there:  
 15 "I have discussed this incident with CI Brierley and  
 16 given intel I am granting HF patrols involved to have  
 17 firearms authority while escort of cash in transit takes  
 18 place."  
 19 **A. Yes.**  
 20 Q. We can see if we follow the incident report through,  
 21 that equipped with the information you had given,  
 22 obtained from the cash in transit operatives, the staff  
 23 could essentially follow and go with those vans and have  
 24 a presence?  
 25 **A. As an open presence of police being in that area at that**

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1 **point in time.**  
 2 Q. Yes, so the precise details you had gleaned as part of  
 3 your research has enabled those officers on the ground  
 4 to essentially be utilised to protect the cash in  
 5 transit and have a visible presence to disrupt any  
 6 criminality?  
 7 **A. That's right, yes.**  
 8 Q. So then, if we go over the page, please, to 154, we can  
 9 see at the entry at 11.16, the tactical parameters that  
 10 Officer Dickinson has set out there:  
 11 "Unarmed staff are not to approach or challenge any  
 12 persons seen in possession of any firearms, although  
 13 intel is non-specific at this time, tactical parameters  
 14 for firearms officers are to remain with cash in transit  
 15 until delivery has been safely made."  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Then if we move over the page, we can see again how,  
 18 with the knowledge that you have obtained as to  
 19 essentially the end of the deliveries that day, we can  
 20 see at 11.22, we can see that an officer --  
 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. Okay. Yes.  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see officer HF31 then speaks on the  
 23 ground to the supervisor at the store, before  
 24 instruction from Officer Dickinson not to speak to staff  
 25 but the cash in transit van has been and gone. Then we

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1 see below that, it enables then at 11.27  
 2 Officer Dickinson to rescind the firearm authority --  
 3 **A. Yes.**  
 4 Q. -- because essentially it is known that there is to be  
 5 no more cash in transits.  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 **Then if we go, please, over the page again to 156,**  
 8 **we can again see the research that you have obtained is**  
 9 **put to use again at 12.02 and enables the officers on**  
 10 **the ground to make precise decisions and risk management**  
 11 **decisions.**  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 Q. We can see the entry at 12.02, from Officer Dickinson:  
 14 "HF patrols have been briefed and further cash in  
 15 transits are to be placed on incident and will be viewed  
 16 by HF patrols. They are aware of next planned one for  
 17 12.15 at Nationwide, Jackson Avenue, Culcheth."  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. In fact, I think the timing of this entry at 12.02 fits  
 20 also with the time where we can see that you make  
 21 an email, so perhaps if I could take you to the email  
 22 now, please, in the bundle.  
 23 **A. Yes.**  
 24 THE CHAIRMAN: This is in Mr Holliwel's bundle, is it?  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is, sir. It is behind tab 11, sir.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 2 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is M7/page 24 for those following.  
 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Page 24, yes.  
 4 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see, Mr Holliwel, that at 12.02 you  
 5 yourself email to Christopher Brierley the updated sheet  
 6 regarding the Culcheth/Warrington intelligence as  
 7 discussed earlier.  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. You attach to that the Word document, the Culcheth  
 10 robbery document?  
 11 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 12 Q. Again, in terms of doing that, and the creation of that  
 13 document, would it be a fair summary that you have  
 14 created a document based on the facts you have  
 15 ascertained?  
 16 **A. Yes, it is, yes.**  
 17 Q. You have recorded them so it is easily auditable as to  
 18 where the information has come from?  
 19 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 20 Q. It gives the precision of information and intelligence  
 21 that can be utilised on a risk management basis by the  
 22 officers on the ground, by the gold, silver and bronze  
 23 commanders and the TA?  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 Q. There is also then a record and an audit trail as to the

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1 research you have found out and developed?  
 2 **A. That's right, yes.**  
 3 Q. Which also enables the officers if they want to further  
 4 develop the intelligence beyond what you have already  
 5 discovered?  
 6 **A. Yes, that's right. That's correct.**  
 7 Q. So there is no then ambiguity between perhaps what you  
 8 have passed on verbally to Officer Brierley. There is  
 9 a document that can be gone back to to ascertain and  
 10 clarify information you provided orally?  
 11 **A. That is correct.**  
 12 Q. Would it be fair to say that that is essential in  
 13 circumstances where the information you are providing  
 14 can be used to brief up firearm officers?  
 15 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 16 Q. Perhaps if we can move to your Word document then, as it  
 17 developed following on from 12.02 with the information,  
 18 please.  
 19 It is back behind tab 3, please, sir --  
 20 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I have it.  
 21 MS CARTWRIGHT: -- at page 124.  
 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 23 MS CARTWRIGHT: I wonder if you could assist us, please,  
 24 Mr Holliwel, we can see on page 124 --  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. -- you talk about a conversation with Deputy Chief  
 2 Constable Gerrard regarding a phone call that has been  
 3 received from a superintendent from Greater Manchester  
 4 Police, the day before on 1 March --  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. -- when he was informed that the MASTS team from  
 7 Manchester were following a team into the Culcheth area.  
 8 I think I asked you earlier on as to whether at the  
 9 beginning of the day, when you started your work, you  
 10 had any conversation or knowledge of Officer Gerrard's  
 11 involvement the day before?  
 12 **A. I didn't have any knowledge and I was made aware of it**  
 13 **and I am -- I can't remember who made me aware of it,**  
 14 **whether it was Chris Brierley or whoever, but it made me**  
 15 **go and speak to or ask to speak to the Deputy Chief**  
 16 **Constable Gerrard to obviously find out what information**  
 17 **he knew about what had -- what it was maybe all about.**  
 18 Q. Can I ask you, where we see in your Word document,  
 19 reference to "Attended", did you go and find him --  
 20 **A. Yes, he has a separate area. He is still at**  
 21 **headquarters but he has got his office at headquarters**  
 22 **where I attended at his office.**  
 23 Q. In terms of just to follow through why you would want to  
 24 go and attend physically on ACC Gerrard, can you assist  
 25 us as to why you did that?

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1 **A. To obviously ascertain what information he knew,**  
 2 **because, if he knew more, to assist in what we were**  
 3 **looking at, it would help with us managing what needed**  
 4 **to be done.**  
 5 Q. Yes. Again, seeking out where the information was?  
 6 **A. Yes. Yes.**  
 7 Q. Can I ask you then, you tell us in the Word document  
 8 that information that appears that you are provided with  
 9 from ACC Gerrard --  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. -- we can see recorded:  
 12 "This team are known to be involved in robberies on  
 13 financial institutions and their MO is to break into  
 14 financial institutions overnight and hole up until the  
 15 morning. Wait for the premises to open, including any  
 16 timers on the safe, and then take the money. As they  
 17 were followed by a firearms unit, it is believed that  
 18 the team will be armed. They are using a stolen Audi  
 19 motor vehicle."  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 Q. Can I ask you, beyond what is recorded there about this  
 22 MO of waiting in premises, can you recall anything else  
 23 that was said about that?  
 24 **A. No, I can't. No, I mean it is all -- that is as much as**  
 25 **I can recall in relation to that.**

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1 Q. In terms of that is not you providing that information,  
 2 it was provided by ACC Gerrard?  
 3 **A. Yes, that's correct.**  
 4 Q. In terms of, you have recorded that as an MO, so  
 5 information in the past as their modus operandi, can  
 6 I just seek classification because we are going to be  
 7 hearing evidence from a Phaedra McLean as to whether you  
 8 can assist on some evidence or information she has  
 9 provided in a witness statement on this point. You may  
 10 not be able to assist but just for completeness.  
 11 **A. Yes.**  
 12 Q. Sir, the statement of Phaedra McLean that I am going it  
 13 take the witness to is in bundle M3, and it starts at  
 14 page 17.  
 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 16 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.  
 17 This is Phaedra McLean's statement, I think she  
 18 acted as the TA, both on 1 March and 2 March. Her  
 19 statement is 20 November 2015. I wonder if you can  
 20 assist at all, we see at the bottom of page 18 she  
 21 references, by reference to 2 March:  
 22 "At 9.30 the same date I received a further call  
 23 from the FIM stating further intelligence from GMP was  
 24 that there had been a team break in overnight and that  
 25 the robbery would take place on arrival of the cash

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1 vehicle in transit."  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 Q. Pausing there for a moment, at any point during your  
 4 involvement on 2 March were you provided with any  
 5 information from GMP that there had been essentially  
 6 a break in overnight?  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 Q. No. Thank you.  
 9 Can I ask you also, please, just to look at the log  
 10 that was created by Phaedra McLean for 2 March also,  
 11 that is again, I apologise, it is in a further bundle,  
 12 M5, sir, please.  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: M5?  
 14 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, please.  
 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I put this one I have just taken out away  
 16 now?  
 17 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes. Thank you, sir.  
 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Just a minute.  
 19 (Pause) Yes, I have M5.  
 20 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, the TA log for 2 March of  
 21 Phaedra McLean commences at page 201, please.  
 22 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 23 MS CARTWRIGHT: Just to orientate ourselves with this  
 24 tactical adviser's log, we see it commences at 9.19 and  
 25 we can see essentially she has recorded what you have

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1 already told us about limited intel sent through --  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 Q. -- no location, no time, no vehicle details, no subject  
 4 details.  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. No -- I can't read the next word -- no firearms intel.  
 7 We can ask Phaedra McLean to clarify?  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. Can I ask you, please, just to move, I am not going to  
 10 take you through her log, we will hear from her next  
 11 week, but could I just ask you, though, at the end of  
 12 the log that she creates for 2 March, at page 207,  
 13 please, Mr Holliwel. We can see that she creates  
 14 an entry, timed at 12.30, where it says:  
 15 "SFC, ACC McCormick spoken to, no standing authority  
 16 due to inspecific nature of intel, cash vehicle in  
 17 transit follow."  
 18 We can see that after there was the authority put in  
 19 place, after 11.30, following on from that, there was no  
 20 standing authority granted.  
 21 **A. No.**  
 22 Q. Can I ask you, there is then reference to:  
 23 "FIB to continue to deal with GMP re ongoing threat  
 24 assessment the weekend."  
 25 **A. Right.**

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1 Q. Can I ask you, was there any communication from  
 2 Phaedra McLean to you about the FIB to be involved over  
 3 the weekend?  
 4 **A. I don't recall that, no, no. If there was, we would**  
 5 **have been on but we weren't asked to continue it over**  
 6 **the weekend.**  
 7 Q. No. Did you have any conversation with Phaedra McLean  
 8 on 2 March?  
 9 **A. I don't recall a conversation.**  
 10 Q. Again, you are saying if you had been asked to be on  
 11 over the weekend, you could have been?  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 Q. Similarly you have already told us there was an ability  
 14 anyway within the FIM to have an intelligence researcher  
 15 within it to deal with it?  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Thank you.  
 18 Can I please take you back into your Word document,  
 19 please, as we track through your involvement, please on  
 20 2 March.  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. Back, please, into your bundle, behind tab 3. We can  
 23 see on page 124 that you update the incident at 13.25.  
 24 Then there is a reference to attempting to contact  
 25 DI Fernandes, engaged initially and then no answer.

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1 A further conversation with Karen Lawton to ensure that  
 2 she is fully updated.  
 3 **A. Yes.**  
 4 Q. Can I ask, in terms of the purpose of giving her -- what  
 5 information you gave her at that time, please?  
 6 **A. Just the fact is to keep them updated in what has gone**  
 7 **on so far, so everybody who is required to know, was**  
 8 **aware of what was going on --**  
 9 Q. Yes.  
 10 **A. -- and what we had done.**  
 11 Q. Then we see, please, on the third page of your Word  
 12 document at page 126, you record, at 14.15 --  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I just have a second.  
 14 Yes.  
 15 MS CARTWRIGHT: You recorded:  
 16 "Spoken to Ian Morrison from GMP FIB."  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 Q. Was there a particular reason why you went then to the  
 19 FIB when you could not get hold of the DI Fernandes on  
 20 his contact details?  
 21 **A. It was just a way in to try and locate**  
 22 **Inspector Fernandes to speak to him and see if there was**  
 23 **any update.**  
 24 Q. Was there any substantive conversation with Ian Morrison  
 25 from GMP FIB.

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1 **A. No.**  
 2 Q. No?  
 3 **A. I don't recall one, no.**  
 4 Q. It was simply a tracking down: where is  
 5 Officer Fernandes?  
 6 **A. Yes.**  
 7 Q. You have recorded there, you have been trying to get  
 8 hold of DI Fernandes, several attempts have been made to  
 9 speak to him without success?  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. Can you assist as to how difficult it was to get hold  
 12 of --  
 13 **A. Just frustrating when you can't speak to somebody, so**  
 14 **you just keep ringing them. And I don't know how many**  
 15 **times I rang but I think ...**  
 16 Q. Can I ask in terms, I think the number you have been  
 17 given was a landline number from within the Robbery  
 18 Unit.  
 19 **A. Yes, I think it was in here, wasn't it?**  
 20 **Yes, there was a mobile number as well and I don't**  
 21 **recall whether I have used both, but ...**  
 22 Q. Perhaps then we see that at 14.25, you do manage to  
 23 speak to DI Fernandes.  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 Q. You have recorded, "Who is not the SIO for this

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1 operations". Do you have any memory of this further  
 2 discussion with Officer Fernandes?  
 3 **A. Only from what on here, but yes obviously he has**  
 4 **mentioned that he is not the SIO but is looking after**  
 5 **the inquiry whilst the inquiry team are having time off.**  
 6 Q. Yes.  
 7 When you told us earlier about there was a time when  
 8 he said Officer Cousen is not here, he has been working  
 9 two days, this is a conversation now in the afternoon?  
 10 **A. Yes. That's right, yes.**  
 11 Q. Do you recall also being told that Officer Hurst, the  
 12 Deputy SIO was not around also?  
 13 **A. Yes, I think they had both been on the two days.**  
 14 Q. Then in terms of the information that you then record,  
 15 he stated that the information given to Mr Gerrard last  
 16 night is the same team and is believed to be an armed  
 17 gang?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. Can I ask, in terms of when you become aware that there  
 20 had been involvement between Cheshire and the Robbery  
 21 Unit on 1 March, were you trying to actually see if  
 22 this, the two jobs, essentially were linked?  
 23 **A. Yes, because obviously Mr Gerrard knew about**  
 24 **an operation that he had been told about but wasn't**  
 25 **known whether they were linked. So I just needed that**

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1 **clarifying with the operational team from Manchester.**  
 2 Q. Again, would this be because the nominals were not known  
 3 as to who was involved at this time?  
 4 **A. By Cheshire, we didn't know, yes, or by myself,**  
 5 **certainly.**  
 6 Q. Yes. Again, just if we look then, you have set out:  
 7 "The rationale for this information being given to  
 8 the Cheshire Police is that the robbery team have been  
 9 watching a gang from GMP for the past two nights and  
 10 during this time the gang have visited the group of  
 11 shops in the Culcheth area as mentioned previously."  
 12 **A. Yes.**  
 13 Q. Then you reference:  
 14 "It is believed that one member of this gang are  
 15 known to be involved in breaking into financial premises  
 16 overnight and waiting till the morning to commit the  
 17 robbery. A black bin liner has been seen during these  
 18 observations. Not known what is in this bag. There is  
 19 no definitive intelligence to say that this is their  
 20 intended method or whether they are reconnoitring the  
 21 premises for cash vehicles in transit robberies."  
 22 In terms of all the information you have recorded  
 23 here, was that directly provided by Officer Fernandes?  
 24 **A. Yes, it was, yes.**  
 25 Q. In terms of you recording, "One member of this gang are

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1 known to be involved in breaking into financial  
 2 premises". Do you recall whether Officer Fernandes gave  
 3 you a name or whether you asked for a name?  
 4 **A. No, and I didn't ask for a name either.**  
 5 Q. Why didn't you ask for a name?  
 6 **A. It is an ongoing operation. It is obviously restricted**  
 7 **information that they don't want to give out -- if it is**  
 8 **an ongoing operation they don't want anything**  
 9 **jeopardising their -- and it ... I didn't ask.**  
 10 Q. No.  
 11 Again, in terms of risk assessment, I appreciate  
 12 there is the ability to not frustrate a covert  
 13 operation --  
 14 **A. Yes.**  
 15 Q. -- but again, had you had names, you could have done  
 16 your own research around the risk information relating  
 17 to that nominal?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. Did it very much feel at this time that GMP were very  
 20 much keeping their cards close to their chest as to this  
 21 operation?  
 22 **A. Again, it was a covert operation which they -- generally**  
 23 **you try and work it as tight as you can, so you can deal**  
 24 **with the -- get as much information in relation to that.**  
 25 Q. Thank you.

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1 Can I ask you specifically about the information  
 2 Mr Fernandes gave you about the black bin bag.  
 3 **A. Right. Yes.**  
 4 Q. Are you clear, and your note makes no reference to any  
 5 form of tool or instrument being within that bag or  
 6 being seen --  
 7 **A. No.**  
 8 Q. -- but can I just expressly ask you, do you recall -- or  
 9 if you had been told that there had been a hacksaw had  
 10 been seen, is that some information that you would have  
 11 recorded?  
 12 **A. I would have written it down, yes, I would have, yes.**  
 13 Q. We then see that you record the mobile phone number for  
 14 Officer Cousen and also that he is contactable if there  
 15 are any questions, but again recording he has been on  
 16 for two days?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 Q. I think we then see, following on in your Word document,  
 19 that there is further contact with Safe Cash, and we can  
 20 see that you have recorded at 15.45 an individual from  
 21 Safe Cash has been in contact and has stated that:  
 22 "There will not be any Security Plus or Post Office  
 23 deliveries over the weekend, but there may be deliveries  
 24 from [the two names are redacted]. These companies will  
 25 not know any details until the morning."

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1 **A. Yes.**  
 2 Q. Certainly as of that entry at 3.45, there is no further  
 3 information that there is going to be any further cash  
 4 in transits in the Culcheth area that day?  
 5 **A. Yes, that's right, yes.**  
 6 Q. Then we can see at the bottom of the page on page 126  
 7 you have recorded "Incident updated". Can you just  
 8 clarify what that relates to?  
 9 **A. Just to ensure that what I have, anything further that**  
 10 **I needed to put on the incident was put on.**  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: The incident refers to the other document?  
 12 **A. 180 -- the incident 180, which is --**  
 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Which has the typed small print down the  
 14 right-hand side?  
 15 **A. No, is that is the occurrence.**  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: I know, the incident is the separate one, we  
 17 saw that before, yes.  
 18 MS CARTWRIGHT: Perhaps if we go back, please, into the  
 19 incident, back in bundle M1, please. If we, please,  
 20 work through from where we left off at page 156.  
 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: If we turn over the page, please, to  
 23 page 157, we can see at 12.15 within that document the  
 24 various premises that you had identified.  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 2 MS CARTWRIGHT: Moving over the page, there is a further  
 3 premises at the Pharmacy Lodge.  
 4 THE CHAIRMAN: There are actually two entries for 12.15,  
 5 aren't there?  
 6 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, sir.  
 7 THE CHAIRMAN: The next one you want is over the page and it  
 8 is --  
 9 MS CARTWRIGHT: Moving over then to page 159, please.  
 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 11 MS CARTWRIGHT: We have already touched upon the fact that  
 12 after that firearms authority for that period of time,  
 13 we can see the entry at 12.30, it is recorded from the  
 14 FIM, from locum CI Brierley:  
 15 "No standing firearms authority granted for this  
 16 incident, HF patrols to remain in area [I think it  
 17 should be] and provide support to cash in transit and to  
 18 be in a position to respond should further intel be  
 19 received. HF patrols have acknowledged this and moving  
 20 back to BA7 for comms."  
 21 Can you help us what "BA7" is please.  
 22 **A. There are various channels on the radio, the personal**  
 23 **radios that the police have, and BA7 is for the**  
 24 **operations I think.**  
 25 Q. Thank you. We can see on the bottom of page 159 there

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1 is a reference to an Inspector Fairclough. At any point  
 2 on 2 March did you have any dealings with  
 3 Inspector Fairclough?  
 4 **A. No.**  
 5 Q. Thank you.  
 6 We can see though by reference to the entry though  
 7 at the bottom of page 159 at 12.46:  
 8 "The HF patrols will hand over to late armed  
 9 response vehicles and phase tactic maintaining therefore  
 10 a presence in the area."  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I am just -- yes, that is right at the very  
 12 bottom going over to the next page.  
 13 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is, sir, yes. Thank you.  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Just give me a second to catch up.  
 15 Yes. Okay.  
 16 MS CARTWRIGHT: Could you assist us please, Mr Holliwel, we  
 17 can see on page 161 for 2 March, at 12.49, there is  
 18 an entry:  
 19 "The contents of field source supplied have changed  
 20 from blank to intel of a potential cash robbery in the  
 21 Culcheth/Warrington area."  
 22 Can you assist as to whether you had anything to do  
 23 with that updating from a blank entry to recording  
 24 a potential cash robbery in Culcheth?  
 25 **A. 12.48?**

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<p>1 THE CHAIRMAN: 12.49 and 38 seconds.  2 <b>A. 12.49.38.</b>  3 <b>I have no idea what that means I am afraid.</b>  4 MS CARTWRIGHT: Can I ask you then to move on, please, to  5 page 165. It is the entry, please, at 13.31, and we can  6 see it is recorded that you provided information at that  7 time that a transit van delivery at the Co-op in  8 Culcheth was due any time now and please could patrols  9 be made aware and a unit need to be present for the  10 delivery.  11 <b>A. Yes.</b>  12 Q. Again, a physical presence of a police officer that  13 would disrupt if there was to be any criminality  14 targeting that cash in transit?  15 <b>A. That's right.</b>  16 Q. Then over the page, please, to page 166, we can see at  17 entry at 13.32, that officers were aware of two further  18 drops and then will liaise, so again we can directly see  19 how your intelligence and research is feeding in and  20 being utilised on the ground.  21 <b>A. Yes.</b>  22 Q. Then can I ask you, we can see at 13.42 on page 166,  23 there is an entry from DI Lawton, it says "DC Holliwell  24 ..."  25 THE CHAIRMAN: Can you just pause a second.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 69</p>	<p>1 dropping a little.  2 <b>A. Sorry.</b>  3 Q. At 14.25 you spoke to Fernandes?  4 <b>A. Yes.</b>  5 Q. Can I ask in terms of any ongoing threat to NBCU over  6 the weekend, can you assist us as to --  7 <b>A. I really don't know what NBCU means, I am sorry.</b>  8 <b>North -- no, I don't know. I would be guessing, it is</b>  9 <b>not one that is familiar to me.</b>  10 Q. Can I ask in terms of any threats that may be over the  11 weekend, can you assist us as to what that refers to or  12 whether this was you looking to see if there were cash  13 in transits on the Saturday or the Sunday?  14 <b>A. We were initially looking for that day and having spoken</b>  15 <b>to the DI Fernandes at 14.25, that was the information</b>  16 <b>that we have spoken to earlier on in relation to that,</b>  17 <b>so that was after this.</b>  18 Q. Thank you.  19 Again, I am not going to take you to each of the  20 entries moving forward, but again we can see further  21 evidence of the times that you have ascertained as cash  22 drops being utilised on the ground. If we could move  23 then to page 172, please, we can see an entry at 16.37,  24 and I think you were supposed to finish work at 4.00  25 that day.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 71</p>
<p>1 MS CARTWRIGHT: Of course, sir.  2 THE CHAIRMAN: It is my fault, I just want to make sure I am  3 keeping my notes properly cross-referenced. There is  4 just one note I want to note down. (Pause)  5 Sorry about that, yes, sorry where are we going to  6 now?  7 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is, please, sir, the -- I have lost my --  8 <b>A. 166?</b>  9 Q. Thank you. We can see at 13.42.  10 THE CHAIRMAN: That one, 13.42.  11 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is the DI Lawton entry where she records:  12 "DC Holliwell FIB spoken to, he will maintain  13 contact with GMP and update the incident re any ongoing  14 threat to NBCU over the weekend."  15 NBCU being?  16 <b>A. I am not sure. I really don't know, I am sorry.</b>  17 Q. Can I ask, we can see an entry there about maintaining  18 contact with GMP and updating the incident regarding any  19 ongoing threat over the weekend. Can you assist us as  20 to that?  21 <b>A. Yes, if there was anything we needed further to</b>  22 <b>ascertain, we would contact GMP or I don't think there</b>  23 <b>was. Yes, that is when I spoke to, 14.25 I spoke to</b>  24 <b>Fernandes.</b>  25 Q. Perhaps maybe keep your voice up, I think your voice is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 70</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes, that's correct, yes.</b>  2 Q. We can see recorded for the 16.37 entry, from  3 DC Holliwell contacted by -- who said there was a cash  4 delivery collection due at 16.50 at the Post Office,  5 Jackson Avenue. Then if we follow on from that around  6 the same time again, we see further evidence of an email  7 you sent at 16.31.  8 <b>A. Yes.</b>  9 Q. If I could ask you to please turn within your bundle,  10 please, at page 12, sir.  11 THE CHAIRMAN: Of the?  12 MS CARTWRIGHT: Of the witness bundle, please, sir.  13 THE CHAIRMAN: Which divider, sorry?  14 MS CARTWRIGHT: 12.  15 THE CHAIRMAN: Divider 12, yes, sorry.  16 Yes.  17 MS CARTWRIGHT: We see there, is this essentially a sign off  18 email but essentially, "I am still contactable if you  19 need me".  20 <b>A. Yes.</b>  21 Q. If we look, at 16.33 you have emailed the silver  22 commander, Christopher Brierley, is there any reason for  23 it being a red category, what does that relate to?  24 <b>A. The red category?</b>  25 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, above the free text.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 72</p>

1 **A. Right, I have no idea actually. No idea. No idea at**  
 2 **all. Sorry.**  
 3 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see you set out there:  
 4 "Sir, I have updated the occurrence with the  
 5 enquiries today. Safe Cash have let me know the details  
 6 of possible deliveries for tomorrow. These have been  
 7 placed upon the occurrence also. If you need to speak  
 8 to me you can contact me on my personal mobile and not  
 9 my works number at the moment."  
 10 Q. Is there a reason why you were giving your personal  
 11 mobile rather than the works number?  
 12 **A. I think there was a problem with my mobile, the works**  
 13 **mobile, at that point in time so I had my personal one.**  
 14 Q. In terms of the problem with your works mobile, can you  
 15 help us any more as to what that problem was?  
 16 **A. No, I can't, sorry.**  
 17 **My works mobile is on the bottom of this anyway, so**  
 18 **there was no reason why ...**  
 19 Q. Yes.  
 20 Then perhaps, if we just look finally at the  
 21 occurrence again, please, because I think you have set  
 22 out there that it was updated before you finished your  
 23 duties that day, please.  
 24 This is back in the witness bundle, please, sir.  
 25 Behind tab 4.

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1 We can see that the final two entries on page 131,  
 2 behind tab 4, on the occurrence -- sorry, there are  
 3 three times, and 4.00. Can I ask you first of all the  
 4 16.05 entry for 3 March, you have recorded, as against  
 5 your entry for the 2.25, at the bottom of that:  
 6 "Holliwel has spoken to DI Fernandes, who has now  
 7 contacted DCI Brierley to update him on the  
 8 intelligence."  
 9 **A. Yes.**  
 10 Q. Were you essentially passing over a further line of  
 11 contact directly to the silver commander?  
 12 **A. Yes, that's right, yes.**  
 13 Q. So there is a direct line of communication from Greater  
 14 Manchester Police into the silver commander of Cheshire?  
 15 **A. Yes, I felt that was easier than going through a third**  
 16 **party.**  
 17 Q. Yes. Again in terms of, if a silver commander needed  
 18 further intelligence developed over a weekend, it would  
 19 be an easier thing for a silver commander to put in  
 20 place?  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. Then we see at 16.07, that is the time you made the  
 23 entry but we can see it is referenced to the 3.45, the  
 24 entry about Safe Cash.  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. Then we see the final entry recorded at 16.40 on  
 2 2 March, the grapevine of contact to you regarding Post  
 3 Office deliveries or collections and they are expected  
 4 to be at Culcheth Post Office at 16.50, which is the  
 5 entry we saw in the incident log.  
 6 Officer Holliwel, having completed the occurrence,  
 7 updating it with your involvement that day --  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. -- was there anything else or any other involvement you  
 10 had on 2 March?  
 11 **A. No.**  
 12 Q. To summarise in terms of when you went off duty on  
 13 2 March, you have left with the silver commander a Word  
 14 document that reflects the research and the facts that  
 15 you found during the events of 2 March?  
 16 **A. Yes, and all those details are in the occurrence as**  
 17 **well, so everybody has got the view of that.**  
 18 Q. The silver commander directly has a document that is  
 19 auditable that he can use and utilise as part of risk  
 20 assessment process moving forward and as things develop?  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. You have additionally updated a system within Cheshire  
 23 Police that similarly repeats and replicates the events  
 24 of the day as to contacts you have had?  
 25 **A. That's correct.**

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1 Q. So not just your research, but also dealings with other  
 2 individuals and in particular the officer that was left  
 3 looking after matters as updated to Cheshire,  
 4 Officer Fernandes.  
 5 That you have ensured that when you went off duty  
 6 that you have provided essentially the baton of  
 7 a contact with the silver commander, Mr Brierley?  
 8 **A. Yes, that's correct.**  
 9 Q. It is known that in addition, so those that don't have  
 10 your Word document can freely access your research and  
 11 audit what you did in the occurrence documents?  
 12 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 13 Q. Additionally it is almost duplicated once again within  
 14 the running incident 180 log that we have seen and been  
 15 through --  
 16 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 17 Q. -- that we know continued throughout the events of  
 18 3 March?  
 19 **A. That's correct, yes.**  
 20 Q. So if any officer needed to look back as to what had  
 21 happened over the events of 2 March, it could be easily  
 22 communicated from that document?  
 23 **A. Yes.**  
 24 Q. Again, anything that is recorded on the incident 180,  
 25 that could be delivered over communications to officers

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<p>1 on the ground, can't it?</p> <p>2 <b>A. Yes, that's correct, yes.</b></p> <p>3 MS CARTWRIGHT: Just excuse me for one moment, please,</p> <p>4 Mr Holliwell. (Pause)</p> <p>5 Mr Holliwell, that concludes my questioning, thank</p> <p>6 you.</p> <p>7 <b>A. Thank you.</b></p> <p>8 MR THOMAS: Sir, no.</p> <p>9 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr Thomas.</p> <p>10 Ms Whyte, do you have any questions for this</p> <p>11 witness?</p> <p>12 MS WHYTE: No, thank you.</p> <p>13 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, Mr Holliwell, thank you</p> <p>14 for helping the Inquiry. That is the end of your</p> <p>15 evidence, you are free to go.</p> <p>16 <b>A. Thank you very much.</b></p> <p>17 THE CHAIRMAN: It is a little early but would it be sensible</p> <p>18 to break off now and start again at 2.00 or not?</p> <p>19 MS CARTWRIGHT: Please, sir.</p> <p>20 The next witness is Jeanette McCormick, she is the</p> <p>21 only witness for today and I suspect we will easily</p> <p>22 achieve her evidence in the afternoon session, so if we</p> <p>23 could convene at 2.00.</p> <p>24 THE CHAIRMAN: Certainly. Thank you.</p> <p>25 (12.49 pm)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 77</p>	<p>1 can see that you were an Assistant Chief Constable from</p> <p>2 March 2012.</p> <p>3 <b>A. I was, yes.</b></p> <p>4 Q. Can you assist the Inquiry how long you had been</p> <p>5 an Assistant Chief Constable at that time?</p> <p>6 <b>A. Yes, I was an Assistant Chief Constable in Cheshire from</b></p> <p>7 <b>2010, so two years.</b></p> <p>8 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>9 If we look, please, behind tab 1, we see a first</p> <p>10 statement dated 16 April 2012. Could I ask you to look</p> <p>11 through that four-page statement and can you confirm</p> <p>12 that the contents of that statement are true and</p> <p>13 accurate to the best of your knowledge and belief.</p> <p>14 (Pause)</p> <p>15 <b>A. Yes, they are.</b></p> <p>16 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>17 We can see that within that statement, you make</p> <p>18 reference to an "Operation Spire", which we can see in</p> <p>19 your second statement behind tab 2.</p> <p>20 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>21 Q. Which is a matter you correct in that statement of</p> <p>22 20 April 2012.</p> <p>23 <b>A. It is, yes, I had noted in my -- the daybook that it was</b></p> <p>24 <b>"Spire" and it was actually "Shire".</b></p> <p>25 Q. Thank you. In terms of that second statement dated</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 79</p>
<p>1 (The Luncheon Adjournment)</p> <p>2 (2.05 pm)</p> <p>3 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, Ms Cartwright.</p> <p>4 MS CARTWRIGHT: Good afternoon.</p> <p>5 Could I next call Jeanette McCormick, please.</p> <p>6 MS JEANETTE MCCORMICK (sworn)</p> <p>7 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms McCormick. Although we are</p> <p>8 sitting in a courtroom, this is in reality an Inquiry</p> <p>9 room, so if you want to sit down, please feel free.</p> <p>10 <b>A. I will stand for now, if that's all right.</b></p> <p>11 THE CHAIRMAN: Fine.</p> <p>12 Questions from MS CARTWRIGHT</p> <p>13 MS CARTWRIGHT: Good afternoon, ACC McCormick, my name is</p> <p>14 Sophie Cartwright and I appear on behalf of the Inquiry</p> <p>15 lead by my learned friend Mr Beer.</p> <p>16 Could I ask you first of all to give the Inquiry</p> <p>17 your full name, please.</p> <p>18 <b>A. Yes, I am Jeanette McCormick, I am actually the Deputy</b></p> <p>19 <b>Chief Constable of Cheshire Constabulary.</b></p> <p>20 Q. Can you assist the Inquiry as to when you became the</p> <p>21 Deputy Chief Constable?</p> <p>22 <b>A. I became the Deputy in August 2014.</b></p> <p>23 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>24 Going back to 2012, we see from your witness</p> <p>25 statement, perhaps there is a bundle in front of you, we</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 78</p>	<p>1 20 April 2012, can you confirm please that the contents</p> <p>2 of that statement are true and accurate to the best of</p> <p>3 your knowledge and belief. (Pause)</p> <p>4 <b>A. Yes, they are.</b></p> <p>5 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>6 Turning then, please, to the first witness statement</p> <p>7 behind tab 1, please. You tell us in that witness</p> <p>8 statement that you had been an accredited strategic</p> <p>9 firearms commander since 2006, and that your involvement</p> <p>10 in respect of Operation Shire commenced on 2 March 2012.</p> <p>11 <b>A. It is, yes, I was accredited from 2006 and have</b></p> <p>12 <b>subsequently been re-accredited.</b></p> <p>13 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>14 You tell us that on 2 March that you were on</p> <p>15 strategic firearms command cover for the force.</p> <p>16 <b>A. I was, yes.</b></p> <p>17 Q. And your involvement in the events commenced at</p> <p>18 approximately 11.30 in the morning?</p> <p>19 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>20 Q. Pausing there for a moment, the Inquiry has information</p> <p>21 that on the previous day, 1 March, there had been</p> <p>22 Cheshire involvement with Greater Manchester Police in</p> <p>23 the operation.</p> <p>24 <b>A. Hmm.</b></p> <p>25 Q. As of 11.30 that day, had you any knowledge of the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 80</p>

<p>1 events of 1 March?</p> <p>2 <b>A. Not that it was linked to this. Another of my</b></p> <p>3 <b>colleagues was firearms commander at the time, I knew</b></p> <p>4 <b>they were involved in some firearms incidents but not</b></p> <p>5 <b>the detail of it.</b></p> <p>6 Q. Could I just then take you, please, to an email relating</p> <p>7 to the events of 1 March, just to confirm in respect of</p> <p>8 that information, can you first of all confirm who the</p> <p>9 colleague was that you made reference to who had been</p> <p>10 involved on 1 March?</p> <p>11 <b>A. It was the Deputy Chief Constable at the time,</b></p> <p>12 <b>Graham Gerrard.</b></p> <p>13 Q. Thank you. Could I ask you, we have an email that was</p> <p>14 provided from Greater Manchester Police on 1 March 2012.</p> <p>15 That is contained within -- excuse me a moment, it is</p> <p>16 bundle M5, please.</p> <p>17 THE CHAIRMAN: M5, Mrs Shaw, if you could dig that one out.</p> <p>18 I have my copy here.</p> <p>19 Yes.</p> <p>20 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is page 105 in M5, please.</p> <p>21 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>22 Q. We see there an email from 1 March, the bottom part of</p> <p>23 the email deals with the email from Michael Lawler to</p> <p>24 a number of GMP officers, but we see at the top of the</p> <p>25 page an email from Michael Lawler to Nicolas Bailey at</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 81</p>	<p>1 <b>A. Yes, the force incident manager.</b></p> <p>2 Q. Thank you. Can you assist as to what was said to you at</p> <p>3 that time by Officer Dickinson please in respect of the</p> <p>4 Greater Manchester operation?</p> <p>5 <b>A. Yes, he informed me at the time that there was -- he</b></p> <p>6 <b>rang me up in relation to an authority. He informed me</b></p> <p>7 <b>at the time that there was potential cash in transit</b></p> <p>8 <b>robbery that might take place in the Culcheth area, that</b></p> <p>9 <b>he had deployed armed officers, he talked me through the</b></p> <p>10 <b>tactics and I made some notes of that and either at that</b></p> <p>11 <b>time or shortly afterwards he told me that he had</b></p> <p>12 <b>rescinded the authority in relation to that.</b></p> <p>13 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>14 Could I take you, please, to the typed up notes that</p> <p>15 you created from the handwritten notes you made in your</p> <p>16 daybook. They should be behind tab 10 in the bundle in</p> <p>17 front of you, please.</p> <p>18 Can I just ask, in terms of what we see recorded</p> <p>19 there with the time of 11.30, are these typed notes that</p> <p>20 you have transcribed from your handwritten notes that</p> <p>21 you made at that time?</p> <p>22 <b>A. Yes, I've got those with me if you need.</b></p> <p>23 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>24 I think they are also in the bundle, sir, but I am</p> <p>25 going to use the typed versions that were created by</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 83</p>
<p>1 4.26 in the afternoon on 1 March?</p> <p>2 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>3 Q. Where Mr Lawler is providing to Nick Bailey, an officer</p> <p>4 of Cheshire Police:</p> <p>5 "For your information, and that of your DC only,</p> <p>6 please, if required I will ensure any unarmed officers</p> <p>7 in Cheshire are not at risk during this operation.</p> <p>8 I will also arrange our full brief to be forwarded to</p> <p>9 you. Please speak if you have any issues. H9 once</p> <p>10 brief done to Nick above please."</p> <p>11 <b>A. Hmm.</b></p> <p>12 Q. You have mentioned Officer Gerrard being involved in a</p> <p>13 GMP operation on 1 March, was there any information you</p> <p>14 had been provided with at that stage that that</p> <p>15 information was being kept to a select few?</p> <p>16 <b>A. It would be normal, Nick Bailey would have been the</b></p> <p>17 <b>tactical firearms commander. The Deputy,</b></p> <p>18 <b>Graham Gerrard, would have been the strategic firearms</b></p> <p>19 <b>commander. I was aware of an operation but the details</b></p> <p>20 <b>I was not aware with.</b></p> <p>21 Q. Then if we move to 11.30 on 2 March, when you did have</p> <p>22 contact from the force incident manager,</p> <p>23 Inspector Dickinson, who made you aware of an incident</p> <p>24 in the Culcheth area. Mr Dickinson that day was</p> <p>25 performing the role of FIM; wasn't he?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 82</p>	<p>1 this witness.</p> <p>2 THE CHAIRMAN: Right, so this is page 84?</p> <p>3 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, sir.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.</p> <p>5 MS CARTWRIGHT: Can we, please, go through the notes from</p> <p>6 your daybook for 11.30 on 2 March.</p> <p>7 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>8 Q. We have:</p> <p>9 "Authority firearms, GMP info FIB potential cash in</p> <p>10 transit with firearms, limited info, phones not working</p> <p>11 correctly."</p> <p>12 Pausing there for a moment, can you assist as to</p> <p>13 what the "phones not working correctly" refers to?</p> <p>14 <b>A. It related potentially to information that we were</b></p> <p>15 <b>receiving in relation to the cash in transit -- the cash</b></p> <p>16 <b>in transit.</b></p> <p>17 Q. Okay.</p> <p>18 I asked that because we have heard some evidence</p> <p>19 today from Officer Holliwel that he was having problems</p> <p>20 with his work mobile phone.</p> <p>21 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>22 Q. And that is what --</p> <p>23 <b>A. Yes, it was, yes, sorry, at the time we had changed</b></p> <p>24 <b>mobile phones and the problems were with our phones.</b></p> <p>25 Q. Right.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 84</p>

1 We then see you have also recorded:  
 2 "ARV with standing authority, tactics direct  
 3 contain, contain, (no pursue?)"  
 4 You then have the name Rob Dickinson, that is the  
 5 information he provided?  
 6 **A. Yes, he provided that information, yes. Direct contact  
 7 and contain, no pursuit.**  
 8 Q. We have been through the incident that was created,  
 9 incident 180, I don't intend to take you through because  
 10 the Inquiry heard this morning about how that authority  
 11 was rescinded. Can I ask you, we see reference in your  
 12 notes to:  
 13 "Need to review the intelligence for ongoing  
 14 actions. CI Brierley to review and consider threat  
 15 assessment."  
 16 **A. Yes.**  
 17 Q. Could you explain what that relates to and what you then  
 18 did having formed that view?  
 19 **A. There had clearly been some information that there might  
 20 be cash in transit. It had been rescinded because we  
 21 felt that the threat was not there anymore, but I was  
 22 concerned that there was ongoing information and  
 23 potential threat to the Culcheth area, so Chief  
 24 Inspector Brierley was the locum, our on duty tactical  
 25 firearms commander at the time, and so I wanted him to**

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1 **go back and find out what the original intelligence  
 2 related to, where the source was and to validate it to  
 3 see whether there was an ongoing threat in relation to  
 4 that area. Either that day or subsequently.**  
 5 Q. We can see that you have also recorded "Authority to be  
 6 forwarded", what does that relate to?  
 7 **A. Yes, the force incident manager will fill in a template  
 8 in relation to that initial authority and it has brief  
 9 details of the incident and the tactics and rationale.  
 10 They by email will forward it to us.  
 11 If an authority is authorised by an initial firearms  
 12 commander, and it is of a dynamic nature so they don't  
 13 have time to speak to the strategic commander, it might  
 14 have already been done and dusted and rescinded. What  
 15 we asked them to do within Cheshire is forward all those  
 16 through to us so that we can review them to check that  
 17 they have informed us in a timely manner and with  
 18 a deployment accurate as part of their sort of  
 19 continuous professional development, so would they  
 20 forward through that authority.**  
 21 Q. Can I ask you just on the basis of the review that you  
 22 have just told us about, if we could look at a document,  
 23 please, that is contained within bundle M5 at page 46,  
 24 please.  
 25 THE CHAIRMAN: 46.

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1 I have it. I'm sorry, Ms Cartwright. I did ...  
 2 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sorry.  
 3 We can see commencing at page 46 an operations  
 4 incident form. Is this the type of form you were  
 5 telling us about by way of review after there has been  
 6 an authority?  
 7 **A. Yes.**  
 8 Q. Can I ask, we can see the times for 2 March for that  
 9 authority, time 9.02 and then time 11.27.  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. We see at the bottom of page 46, that that is the time  
 12 they were stood down and de-arm on the document?  
 13 **A. Yes, the authority was rescinded, yes.**  
 14 Q. Could I ask you then to move to page 48, please, we know  
 15 from the evidence you have already given that you had  
 16 not been involved with decision making in respect of  
 17 that firearms authority.  
 18 **A. No.**  
 19 Q. Can I ask, we have you recorded here as the gold  
 20 strategic commander, is that simply because you were the  
 21 gold commander on duty that day?  
 22 **A. Yes, and because they should inform us as soon as  
 23 practicable so it would come through to me to review  
 24 whether the time it was authorised to the time that  
 25 I was told was a reasonable time, given the dynamic**

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1 **nature of the job.**  
 2 Q. Yes. Can I ask then, in terms of the process to create  
 3 these operation incident forms, is it a document, there  
 4 is reference to Chronicle, that is created on Chronicle.  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. What is Chronicle, can you tell us?  
 7 **A. Chronicle is a database that stores all our firearms  
 8 authorities, the tactics we use, the commanders, their  
 9 training, et cetera. It is a regional database.**  
 10 Q. In terms of when --  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: When you say "regional", could you be a bit  
 12 more specific.  
 13 **A. So all forces within the north-west --**  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: I see.  
 15 **A. -- so that includes GMP, Cumbria, Lancashire.**  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Not just Cheshire anyway?  
 17 **A. Not just Cheshire. Put their data on this system.**  
 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.  
 19 MS CARTWRIGHT: Is there a process where when there has been  
 20 a firearms authority, then it flags up so you review  
 21 this document and this incident form?  
 22 **A. Yes, this would come by email to me, I would review it  
 23 and if I felt there was anything of note on I would do  
 24 that and I would be the one that would forward it to the  
 25 Chronicle administrators and put it on the system.**

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1 Q. Thank you. If I could just take you through the  
 2 document, please, to page 49. We can see under  
 3 "Incident resolution result":  
 4 "Two G4S cash in transit delivery vehicles were  
 5 escorted in the area, both of which left the area  
 6 without incident. Unknown number of subjects with  
 7 an unknown capability."  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. In terms of the review you conducted of the information  
 10 leading up to the firearms authority being granted and  
 11 rescinded, was there any information you gleaned that  
 12 any information was given relating to names of  
 13 individuals?  
 14 **A. No, I was literally told that the authority had been  
 15 given, that it had been rescinded, as per the timings,  
 16 that we didn't know potentially who the subjects were or  
 17 the timing of it but there were some cash in transit  
 18 drops going on in that area at that time and there  
 19 weren't any subsequently.**  
 20 Q. Can I ask, we then see on the bottom two boxes at the  
 21 bottom of the page, there is reference to the incident  
 22 was debriefed by whom: there is then reference to  
 23 silver, "Method of debrief: in person". We know that  
 24 the silver commander that day was Mr Brierley.  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. Can you help as to what happens in the debrief and how  
 2 that takes place, please?  
 3 **A. So that would be that the tactical firearms commander,  
 4 in this case Chief Inspector Brierley, would go and sit  
 5 with the -- either the tactical firearms officers or the  
 6 force incident manager to see if there were any issues  
 7 in relation to the deployment, any lessons that we could  
 8 learn. In this case, specifically around if there was  
 9 any further intelligence that we needed to prepare  
 10 a firearms operation for on an ongoing basis. Ie: was  
 11 this a one off or was there an ongoing intelligence  
 12 picture?**  
 13 Q. Yes. Can I ask then, when we see the entries below that  
 14 box, the text, do we know then who is the author of that  
 15 information, would that be Mr Brierley?  
 16 **A. It could be or it could be the force incident manager.**  
 17 Q. Mr Dickinson?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. We can see points raised:  
 20 "Concerns raised that GMP felt there was sufficient  
 21 threat to inform Cheshire FIM, however they would not  
 22 divulge what the threat was. This might have placed  
 23 Cheshire officers at risk, which may have been mitigated  
 24 with more information from GMP."  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. In terms of, as of during the day on 2 March, did you  
 2 review that? You knew that had been the sort of the  
 3 learning from this firearms authority?  
 4 **A. Whether I reviewed that document on the day, I don't  
 5 know but in terms of reviewing the information that we  
 6 had, the deployment that had taken place, and the review  
 7 of intelligence that we had, I was aware of that on the  
 8 2nd.**  
 9 Q. Then we see the result of the debrief, outstanding  
 10 issues:  
 11 "It was discussed that to take mitigating action was  
 12 the most appropriate tactic in the circumstance in order  
 13 to protect the public. It was suggested that better  
 14 sharing of information from GMP would be beneficial in  
 15 future incidents."  
 16 Yes?  
 17 **A. Yes, I can see that.**  
 18 Q. Can I ask then, in terms of communication of that, here,  
 19 obviously, there is an issue relating to better  
 20 information would assist in the future. Is there a way  
 21 that that information is then communicated to here as it  
 22 is GMP? Is there a process?  
 23 **A. It was, there was -- in terms of this incident itself,  
 24 I asked Chief Inspector Brierley to go and speak to the  
 25 intelligence officers at GMP to look at what the**

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1 **information was and what it was on an ongoing basis. So  
 2 in relation to this particular one, it was verbally  
 3 communicated. We went back and actually asked for that  
 4 information.**  
 5 Q. Okay.  
 6 Thank you.  
 7 Can I ask you then, because you have already told us  
 8 that even though you had not been involved in the  
 9 authority being granted, you then did conduct a review  
 10 and you tell us a little about that in your witness  
 11 statement.  
 12 **A. Hmm.**  
 13 Q. You tell us that having reviewed the authority, and you  
 14 were satisfied that the threshold had been met for armed  
 15 deployment and that this was a proportionate response.  
 16 Could you just explain that to us, please?  
 17 **A. We would do that in any, and part of that is sort of  
 18 continuous professional development for the firearms  
 19 commanders. I looked at the information that they had  
 20 at the time. We had information that, although it was  
 21 limited, there was potentially a cash in transit. The  
 22 initial firearms commander had authorised deployment of  
 23 firearms officers on that basis. It was for  
 24 a disruption tactic, those were the tactics there would  
 25 be around high visibility disruption, it seemed very**

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1 **proportionate and appropriate for the information that**  
 2 **we had got to protect the public and protect officers**  
 3 **potentially attending an incident.**  
 4 Q. Yes, and so in terms of then moving forward, to see  
 5 whether or not there had to be further firearms  
 6 authorities that day, that is why you tasked Inspector  
 7 Brierley to get the further information?  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. Can I ask you, we see within the incident that, then,  
 10 there continues to be cash in transit deliveries that  
 11 have been researched by the intelligence officers and,  
 12 following on throughout 2 March, there is no further  
 13 firearms authority because no standing authority is  
 14 given?  
 15 **A. Hmm.**  
 16 Q. Can you assist as to that and why moving forward then  
 17 there was no consideration of a need for firearms  
 18 authorities further that day?  
 19 **A. A standing authority is basically that firearms officers**  
 20 **will have the ability to deploy and be deployed to**  
 21 **an area, rather than based on a specific threat,**  
 22 **a specific time, a specific subject. Rather than having**  
 23 **something that has firearms officers on the ground when**  
 24 **we don't know what that is, that brings inherent dangers**  
 25 **in terms of the public and the officers themselves, so**

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1 **I tasked for further information to be got in relation**  
 2 **to when the cash in transits were, what the information**  
 3 **that we had, so if we had to do an authority, we could**  
 4 **brief the firearms officers specifically about the**  
 5 **tactics that we wanted, when and where.**  
 6 Q. Yes.  
 7 **A. So that is why I didn't approve the standing authority,**  
 8 **because I felt that we didn't have sufficient**  
 9 **information to mitigate the risk it would put by putting**  
 10 **that standing armed response officers on the ground.**  
 11 Q. Thank you.  
 12 Can I then complete going through your entry in your  
 13 daybook, please, for 2 March, behind tab 10, please.  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: Can I just have a second -- sorry, to note  
 15 down Ms McCormick's last answer.  
 16 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes.  
 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Didn't have sufficient information to  
 18 mitigate the risks that would result from a standing  
 19 authority?  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 THE CHAIRMAN: That is why you didn't grant it?  
 22 **A. In my view.**  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 24 Sorry, Ms Cartwright.  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Where are we going to now?  
 2 MS CARTWRIGHT: Back behind tab 10, please, sir, to complete  
 3 the note of page 84.  
 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 5 MS CARTWRIGHT: Just to complete the note that you made at  
 6 that time:  
 7 "Review of authority, Chief Inspector Brierley,  
 8 Op Spire [you have already confirmed it is  
 9 Operation Shire] FIB liaised and currently no specific  
 10 threat re date, time, previous firearms linked to  
 11 subjects but non-specific on us at present."  
 12 Then there is recorded:  
 13 "GMP to stand down and review next week re ongoing  
 14 action. High profile agreed and disruption pending more  
 15 specific intel as proportionate response, cash in  
 16 transit to be firearms, although no specific intel  
 17 potential target. No request for firearm authority  
 18 based on above intel at this stage. Threat mitigated  
 19 through disruption."  
 20 **A. Yes.**  
 21 Q. Can you perhaps just explain what is summarised within  
 22 your note there, please?  
 23 **A. So, as I said then, the information that we had was that**  
 24 **there was no specific intelligence that we had got from**  
 25 **GMP in relation to a subject, a time, a location. We**

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1 **believed it was broadly around that area, it might be**  
 2 **related to cash in transit. But we didn't have anything**  
 3 **specific, though there was therefore that was reviewed**  
 4 **and the tactical firearms commander felt that it was not**  
 5 **appropriate in terms of us putting a firearms authority**  
 6 **in place, so there was no request to put one in place.**  
 7 **I had some concern about if we had to respond to**  
 8 **that area, did we have the capability to do it. So in**  
 9 **terms of disruption, we looked at not with an authority**  
 10 **but ARVs, armed response vehicles, being deployed to the**  
 11 **area, so that they could respond potentially with that**  
 12 **capability at a quicker pace, and visible high profile**  
 13 **uniformed presence in that area.**  
 14 Q. Yes.  
 15 Again, in terms of your assessment as to that to be  
 16 the best tactic or process moving forward, that was  
 17 considered to be the proportionate response to the  
 18 assessment of the intelligence?  
 19 **A. I felt it was because otherwise we would have put armed**  
 20 **response -- armed officers on the ground with no**  
 21 **specific time, location or subjects and that would bring**  
 22 **a risk in itself. So until we got more information,**  
 23 **I felt that disruption, visible presence, uniformed**  
 24 **officers was the best response.**  
 25 Q. Thank you.

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1 You go on to tell us in your statement that later  
 2 that day, having tasked Officer Brierley to make further  
 3 enquiries, you received an email with the briefing of  
 4 Operation Shire and the threat assessment operation  
 5 order associated with it.  
 6 If I can take you to that document and email,  
 7 please, I think we find that behind tab 4, please.  
 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Tab 4. I have it.  
 9 MS CARTWRIGHT: Is this the email you are referring to in  
 10 your statement, the email timed at 5.20 in the afternoon  
 11 from Chris Brierley to yourself, but also CCed to  
 12 Geraint Jones and Paul Williams.  
 13 **A. Yes.**  
 14 Q. Can you assist in terms of why it was CCed to  
 15 Geraint Jones and Paul Williams, who they are and what  
 16 roles they were fulfilling that day?  
 17 **A. At that time they were within the CID were the**  
 18 **investigators that were on duty at the time and they**  
 19 **were on cover that weekend as well.**  
 20 Q. Thank you. We can see attached to the email was the  
 21 attachment "Shire Op MASTS 2 March 2012" PowerPoint  
 22 document, although it is then recorded deleted by  
 23 yourself.  
 24 **A. Yes.**  
 25 Q. In terms of just, if I can take you -- would you

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1 remember that document if I took you to it?  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 Q. I think we will find that within bundle F, at 447,  
 4 please.  
 5 THE CHAIRMAN: Bundle F, page?  
 6 MS CARTWRIGHT: 447.  
 7 THE CHAIRMAN: 447.  
 8 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, have you found that document?  
 9 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes.  
 10 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is just me that is taking the longest.  
 11 Is that the document that was attached, the  
 12 PowerPoint for 2 March 2012?  
 13 **A. Yes, the operation, yes.**  
 14 Q. Thank you.  
 15 If we then look at the content of the email, please,  
 16 that was provided to you, it reads:  
 17 "Ma'am, just to give utter update re the GMP  
 18 operation that has been running last night. A request  
 19 was made for authority to Mr Gerrard last night for  
 20 authorisation for them to possibly run a MASTS, see  
 21 below PowerPoint. The initial intel I received this  
 22 morning from FIB did not link the two incidents, that  
 23 came later after numerous contacts with various members  
 24 of GMP."  
 25 Pausing there for a moment, before receiving this

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1 email from Officer Brierley had you linked together what  
 2 had happened the day before as to being the same  
 3 incident you were now reviewing as the gold commander?  
 4 **A. Not fully. But it was not coincidence maybe that they**  
 5 **were in a similar area and similar firearms.**  
 6 Q. So really this email was clarifying that the events of  
 7 1 March was the same operation?  
 8 **A. Yes.**  
 9 Q. The email then continues:  
 10 "I have eventually spoken to DI Rob Cousen, who is  
 11 running Op Shire. He has made no specific request for  
 12 us to do anything with regards to this, as there is no  
 13 victim, location, time, and the OCG has been surveilling  
 14 have visited numerous locations as well as Culcheth.  
 15 They also visited Leigh and GMP are putting no plans in  
 16 place for that location. In light of this and having  
 17 discussed what we have at length with Detective  
 18 Superintendent Geraint Jones, duty, I feel it is  
 19 appropriate to adopt a similar position. GMP have  
 20 technical on a vehicle stolen that is being used by the  
 21 group and will notify Cheshire via the FIM if intel  
 22 suggests they are coming on to us tonight or any other  
 23 night over the weekend."  
 24 Pausing there for a moment, it may seem a silly  
 25 question but did you understand what reference to

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1 "a technical" meant?  
 2 **A. Yes.**  
 3 Q. So you understood that there was a vehicle tracking  
 4 device so the team essentially would know as soon as the  
 5 vehicle was moving to notify Cheshire if it did move?  
 6 **A. Yes, I was aware of that.**  
 7 Q. Thank you:  
 8 "If this is the case, we can treat it as  
 9 a spontaneous incident and react accordingly. Also, if  
 10 they do target and enter a premises overnight, then  
 11 according to DI Cousen, a potential MO is for the  
 12 offenders to await the arrival of staff inside the  
 13 building and strike when the safe is opened. But again  
 14 there is no specific intel, both Geraint and I are on  
 15 this weekend as is Paul Williams, and so we will be  
 16 familiar with the incident. I hope this meets with your  
 17 approval, regards Chris B."  
 18 Can I ask you, in terms of receiving that  
 19 information, there is reference that Mr Brierley has  
 20 given to you that GMP were saying if there was to be any  
 21 movement of the vehicle, Cheshire would be notified.  
 22 **A. Yes.**  
 23 Q. Can I ask when you read that information, how did that  
 24 factor into your decision making in terms of you would  
 25 be told if the OCG were heading to Culcheth?

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<p>1 <b>A. It sort of validated that there was not a specific time,</b>  2 <b>location and dates, in terms of imminence and immediate</b>  3 <b>threat nothing had to be put in place. I felt that</b>  4 <b>again in terms of a standing authority, rather than</b>  5 <b>keeping armed officers on the ground, we would have</b>  6 <b>enough time to be able to mobilise staff with</b>  7 <b>a spontaneous deployment and that was still a safe and</b>  8 <b>more proportionate approach to take. So it reaffirmed</b>  9 <b>the decisions that I had taken already and felt that we</b>  10 <b>would be given early notification if we were required to</b>  11 <b>deploy ourselves or GMP were to.</b></p> <p>12 Q. Can I ask, in terms of reviewing the information that is  13 contained within the Cheshire material, and in  14 particular the TA log we see from I think Mr Pope was  15 carrying out and your documentation, was any information  16 provided from Greater Manchester Police on 3 March that  17 the subjects were moving to Culcheth before we see the  18 notification that essentially there had been the  19 incident where a subject had been shot?</p> <p>20 <b>A. Yes, I got -- there was a contact at I think it was 8.20</b>  21 <b>in the morning on the Saturday morning, not in relation</b>  22 <b>to them moving but in relation GMP wanting to put armed</b>  23 <b>assets into Cheshire in relation to that incident. So</b>  24 <b>my presumption was that there was movement taking place.</b></p> <p>25 Q. Perhaps then if we deal with the entry that you do make</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 101</p>	<p>1 potential if lost, CI to brief at stay safe for officers  2 in location, ARVs to have default patrol to location in  3 event needed."</p> <p>4 First of all you mentioned a moment ago that there  5 was further information provided at 8.20 when I asked  6 a question about the subjects moving in the vehicle.</p> <p>7 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>8 Q. There is no information provided at 8.20 about the  9 subjects being out of their vehicle is there, moving?</p> <p>10 <b>A. No, at 8.20 I got contacted by Chief Inspector Brierley</b>  11 <b>with that information that potentially there was going</b>  12 <b>to be an armed operation and GMP wanted to come into our</b>  13 <b>area. So it was an assumption that obviously there was</b>  14 <b>movement and they were maybe following a vehicle and the</b>  15 <b>potential was to come into our area and asked me to</b>  16 <b>contact their silver commander.</b></p> <p>17 Q. We were just going to come to deal with the contact you  18 had both with ACC Sweeney and Superintendent Granby, but  19 just before moving off there, you make reference to  20 cross border protocol within this note --</p> <p>21 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>22 Q. -- can I ask you, in terms of first of all the  23 management, command and deployment of armed officers,  24 can I ask you, please, we have a policy and procedure  25 bundle hopefully, under there. Thank you.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 103</p>
<p>1 then, on 3 March at 8.20, which we can find the typed  2 copy of your notes behind tab 9, please.</p> <p>3 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on a second.  4 Tab 9, yes.  5 Yes.</p> <p>6 MS CARTWRIGHT: In terms of the note you have made for  7 3 March at 8.20, we can see:  8 "Briefed Chief Inspector Brierley re Op Shire,  9 contact from tactical commander regarding updated  10 information. Planning operational deployment with  11 firearms, potential for cross border deployment of  12 firearms assets and requesting cross border protocol to  13 be put in place with gold strategic commander and  14 resources to remain with GMP. Current intelligence  15 picture means threshold for deployment contact requested  16 with Superintendent Granby re protocol. Agreed based on  17 current threat and assets in place and dynamic nature of  18 the operation that command and assets best placed to  19 remain in GMP. Strategic and tactical command to remain  20 in GMP, no resources required.  21 "In event of containment, phased transfer of command  22 to be undertaken, agreed protocol in line with this, no  23 community impact, no ongoing tensions in area, not been  24 subject to policing restrictions, potential issues/risks  25 for officers unarmed deployed on route. Patrol</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 102</p>	<p>1 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, what should I now be looking at?</p> <p>2 MS CARTWRIGHT: There should be a policy and procedure  3 bundle, sir.</p> <p>4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I do vaguely remember that. We looked  5 at this at an earlier stage. Do I need to have it in  6 front of me?</p> <p>7 MS CARTWRIGHT: No, sir, I am sure -- it is one paragraph.</p> <p>8 THE CHAIRMAN: Right.</p> <p>9 MS CARTWRIGHT: Could I ask you, please, to turn to  10 page 340. The pagination is in the top right-hand  11 corner.  12 Before I get to that, could I ask you to in fact go  13 to the page before, page 329.</p> <p>14 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>15 Q. In terms of as of March 2012, was this guidance you were  16 familiar with?</p> <p>17 <b>A. Yes.</b></p> <p>18 Q. Thank you. We can see at paragraph 5.57, the manual  19 deals with cross boundary and multi agency operations.  20 Sets out:  21 "It is often necessary for AFOs to operate outside  22 their assigned policing boundary. This may as a result  23 of a pursuit, provision of mutual aid to a neighbouring  24 force or policing area or as part of an operation which  25 transcends territorial policing boundaries. This may</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 104</p>

1 include armed support to surveillance operations,  
 2 protection or escort duties. AFOs may also be involved  
 3 in multi agency operations.  
 4 "In these circumstances it is important there is as  
 5 much clarity as possible in respect of command,  
 6 jurisdiction, standard operating procedures and  
 7 interoperability, capability of those involved in the  
 8 incident and powers and roles of respective agencies."  
 9 We are going to come on to deal with your input in  
 10 respect of the authority of Sweeney and Granby but can  
 11 I ask you, in terms of though bullet points of command,  
 12 jurisdiction, the operating procedures, capability of  
 13 those involved in the incident and the various roles,  
 14 how you factored those into the process when you were  
 15 contacted by GMP and had input with that authority?  
 16 **A. I am aware that the nature of the incident that they**  
 17 **were doing may mean that they may have to follow**  
 18 **vehicles into a number of policing areas, including our**  
 19 **own. And therefore there was the potential for their**  
 20 **armed assets to be in Cheshire, so we had to be clear in**  
 21 **terms of who had command and control of the incident,**  
 22 **who was the strategic commander, tactical commander,**  
 23 **whose resources they were, whether they were going to be**  
 24 **GMP's that were going to follow or we were going to use**  
 25 **our own resources and clear who was going to command**

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1 **those.**  
 2 **So that would be part of the agreements that we**  
 3 **would have as part of that protocol, that agreement**  
 4 **between ourselves and GMP at the time.**  
 5 Q. Can I ask, in terms of the knowledge you gleaned on  
 6 3 March relating to the capability of the subjects that  
 7 GMP were treating as part of Operation Shire, what  
 8 information you received from GMP?  
 9 **A. My information was that they had potential for -- it was**  
 10 **going to be a firearms deployment because they had**  
 11 **capability and access to firearms. And therefore that**  
 12 **it would be an armed deployment that potentially would**  
 13 **be coming over into Cheshire, given the location that**  
 14 **they had.**  
 15 Q. Can I ask, in terms of the guidance at paragraph 5.59,  
 16 there is reference to:  
 17 "The operational carriage of firearms across  
 18 policing boundaries is a regular occurrence and police  
 19 forces should adopt a pragmatic and effective approach  
 20 to managing such situations. Where it can be planned  
 21 for in advance, deployment of armed officers across  
 22 boundaries should be catered for by way of local  
 23 protocols and memoranda of understanding."  
 24 Can you assist as to whether there existed between  
 25 GMP and Cheshire any additional memoranda or protocol

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1 relating to cross boundary operations?  
 2 **A. There are the -- there are no formal memos of**  
 3 **understanding, other than where -- but they are not**  
 4 **written, other than where for example you might have**  
 5 **a VIP escort, a firearms escort and they are just**  
 6 **driving through an area but there is no written**  
 7 **protocols or memos of understanding.**  
 8 **That would be normally by way of contact with the**  
 9 **silver or gold commander and we would verbally agree it**  
 10 **and that might be sometimes followed up with an email.**  
 11 Q. Okay.  
 12 Can I then look with you, please, in respect of the  
 13 agreement that we see recorded within the various books  
 14 of Officers Sweeney and Granby. I think we see from  
 15 that that what you maintain is essentially the command  
 16 of this operation was to remain with Greater Manchester  
 17 Police, unless essentially they were on Cheshire, and  
 18 contained within a building. Is that correct?  
 19 **A. Yes, that it was going to be a dynamic deployment,**  
 20 **probably vehicle based. The only time we consider**  
 21 **handing over that command, because in my view they were**  
 22 **better placed in terms of commanding it, in terms of**  
 23 **intelligence feed and actually in terms of their**  
 24 **capabilities of their staff and the resources that they**  
 25 **had got. The only time that we would consider it is if**

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1 **it was a protracted incident and perhaps they were**  
 2 **contained in a building and it was more appropriate for**  
 3 **us to put that armed containment on, or even to provide**  
 4 **staff for an outer cordon in terms of unarmed staff as**  
 5 **well. So it could be armed or unarmed, but we would**  
 6 **agree that at the time as a phased transfer of command.**  
 7 Q. Can I just ask in terms of practicalities and logistics,  
 8 in terms of being in a situation and the awareness of  
 9 an operation and it is dynamic and there could be  
 10 movement from somewhere in Greater Manchester to  
 11 Cheshire. How quickly can Cheshire, if notified of  
 12 a movement towards your territory, put in place  
 13 a tactic, put in place armed officers, a visible  
 14 presence?  
 15 **A. We have very limited amount. To give you a flavour at**  
 16 **the time, we probably had three double-crewed armed**  
 17 **response vehicles for the whole of Cheshire, and that**  
 18 **goes over to the Welsh boundary. So for us to do**  
 19 **a pre-planned incident like this, we need time to pull**  
 20 **together those resources and that is why we looked to,**  
 21 **if there is a potential threat, to deploy our resources**  
 22 **closer to that area but we have limited capability**  
 23 **within Cheshire to respond.**  
 24 Q. In terms of where we saw in the email reference to GMP  
 25 saying:

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1 "If they are moving to your area we will notify  
 2 you."  
 3 Was that an important contingency that needed to be  
 4 considered by Cheshire to then best use your resources  
 5 to deal with a moving situation?  
 6 **A. We would do, we would specifically ask GMP if they**  
 7 **wanted our resources, either armed or unarmed, in the**  
 8 **area and they didn't in relation to this.**  
 9 **But I suppose it is comfort, belt and braces for**  
 10 **myself as the gold commander in Cheshire, to have assets**  
 11 **that might be required near to that location without**  
 12 **compromising this incident itself.**  
 13 Q. I think that in fact took place in respect of the  
 14 operation. Were there not armed response vehicles  
 15 essentially laid up at Risley?  
 16 **A. Yes, we deployed them close to that area, yes.**  
 17 Q. Again, if there had been communication that the subjects  
 18 were moving from the Greater Manchester area towards  
 19 Cheshire, decisions could have been made as to how to  
 20 deploy that armed response vehicles very near to  
 21 Culcheth at Risley?  
 22 **A. No, I probably wouldn't have done because the command of**  
 23 **that incident and the control of it at that time was**  
 24 **within GMP. We had specifically requested do they want**  
 25 **any armed response officers or unarmed, and they didn't.**

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1 **By me deploying on my command into that area, armed or**  
 2 **unarmed officers, could compromise it, it could**  
 3 **compromise the safety of those officers and the public.**  
 4 **So I wouldn't do that.**  
 5 **They are quite close, I know the area, they are**  
 6 **quite close and they are able to respond at short notice**  
 7 **if they had have had to, but I wouldn't have done that.**  
 8 Q. Could I ask you then to look at your witness statement,  
 9 again, behind tab 1, and it is the second page, please,  
 10 where the contact is made in the morning --  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on. Let me clear some of this away  
 12 I think.  
 13 This is the second page, is it?  
 14 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is, yes, page 306, sir, please.  
 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Second page of the statement, yes.  
 16 Whereabouts are we looking at?  
 17 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is the second paragraph of that page, you  
 18 have already told us that Officer Brierley contacted you  
 19 at approximately 8.20 and stated that GMP had made  
 20 contact and requested deployment of armed officers in  
 21 the Cheshire area under a cross-border protocol for  
 22 Operation Shire. You then contacted Mr Granby, the  
 23 tactical firearms commander, and was briefed in relation  
 24 to the ongoing operation and:  
 25 "... you were aware from the briefing you had

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1 previously received the operation threat assessment and  
 2 he requested under GMP firearms command and authority  
 3 the deployment of GMP firearms and surveillance officers  
 4 into Cheshire, likely in and around the Culcheth area."  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. Can I ask you then, if we look the recordings we have in  
 7 respect of notes that have been made by the various  
 8 officers. Could I ask you, please, to go into bundle F,  
 9 please. It is page 442.  
 10 I apologise, that is a bad reference.  
 11 THE CHAIRMAN: I think it probably is.  
 12 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is. F, please, 399.  
 13 **A. Is it page 399.**  
 14 MS CARTWRIGHT: That may be a bad reference too, just give  
 15 me a moment, I apologise.  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Take your time.  
 17 MS CARTWRIGHT: Third time lucky, F/422, please.  
 18 THE CHAIRMAN: Is that page 422?  
 19 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, apologies.  
 20 **A. Is that page 422?**  
 21 Q. Please.  
 22 **A. I've got that now.**  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sorry, Ms Cartwright.  
 24 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see here notes and the operation log  
 25 made by Officer Granby and we see the recording for 8.15

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1 on 3 March, that:  
 2 "CI Chris Brierley briefed of circs, will update ACC  
 3 and [something] arranged for her to call me."  
 4 Which I think is the context you have already told  
 5 us about.  
 6 Then the entry at 8.30:  
 7 "Briefed ACC McCormick with situation and plan,  
 8 command and control of operation remains with GMP ..."  
 9 And a contact telephone number.  
 10 Can you recall what was included in the briefing  
 11 that was given at that time?  
 12 **A. He told me it related to Operation Shire. I had already**  
 13 **had the brief from the day before, and said it was**  
 14 **related to the same three individuals in that briefing,**  
 15 **he told me that there was potentially a relation to**  
 16 **a cash in transit robbery involving firearms and that**  
 17 **they were looking to do -- they had a surveillance on**  
 18 **and they were looking to do mobile armed support to**  
 19 **surveillance tactic that might come into the Culcheth**  
 20 **area.**  
 21 Q. We can see the next entry is at 8.45 by  
 22 Officer Brierley. There appears to be maximum  
 23 15 minutes for this call. Can you assist us from your  
 24 memory as to how long the discussion with Officer Granby  
 25 lasted?

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1 **A. Yes, it was probably that sort of length of time.**  
 2 **I told him that I was aware of the operation. Was it**  
 3 **linked to the intelligence pack that I had already got?**  
 4 **So I had already read that. He said yes, and we**  
 5 **discussed the tactic that he was doing and I was very**  
 6 **familiar with that tactic anyway and I asked that he**  
 7 **update ACC Sweeney that we had agreed the protocol. So,**  
 8 **yes, it would probably be about that time.**  
 9 Can I ask you, in terms of you had been given the  
 10 pack for 2 March that we have seen via email, was there  
 11 an offer to provide you with the pack that was relevant  
 12 and most up to date to for 3 March?  
 13 **A. No, but neither would I expect that. In terms of the**  
 14 **decision that I had to take at the time, it was did I –**  
 15 **was I agreeing for GMP, with the intelligence that they**  
 16 **had, to come into Cheshire to potentially do an armed**  
 17 **intervention. Were they best placed to do it in terms**  
 18 **of their capability as per the manual? Were they in the**  
 19 **best position to command it in terms of the assets and**  
 20 **the intelligence? And I felt they were, so in terms of**  
 21 **getting further detail, I didn't feel that was needed at**  
 22 **the time. I thought the decision I could take on that.**  
 23 Q. Could I ask you then to look at notes that we see in  
 24 Officer Sweeney's SFC log, please. They are in the same  
 25 bundle, at page 339, please.

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1 We can see there is an entry at 8.46,  
 2 Officer Sweeney contacting Superintendent Granby. Could  
 3 I just be clear, was your discussion solely with  
 4 Mr Granby?  
 5 **A. Yes.**  
 6 Q. You were not party to the discussion that was held  
 7 between Mr Granby and Mr Sweeney?  
 8 **A. No, I just asked Mr Granby to say to ACC Sweeney that we**  
 9 **agreed the cross-border protocol on that basis.**  
 10 Q. We can see that Officer Sweeney has recorded as for  
 11 8.46:  
 12 "Intelligence strategy and tipping points,  
 13 intelligence remains in place. No overnight change.  
 14 Teams deployed to rest up location, Leigh police  
 15 station. Conference ACC McCormick ..."  
 16 THE CHAIRMAN: Is that "conference" or "confirm", I am not  
 17 sure? It is "conference" is it?  
 18 MS CARTWRIGHT: No, I think it is "confirm", sir I think you  
 19 are correct:  
 20 "... confirm ACC McCormick Cheshire, and Cheshire  
 21 TFC briefed and comfortable with plan."  
 22 In terms of what is recorded there, does that fit  
 23 with your recollection of what you relayed to  
 24 Officer Granby?  
 25 **A. Yes.**

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1 Q. Can I ask you in terms of the tactical plan that was in  
 2 place at that time, can you assist as to what you  
 3 understood the tactical plan to be?  
 4 **A. There was armed surveillance on at least one or two**  
 5 **subject vehicles that they were looking to MASTS – that**  
 6 **is mobile armed support to surveillance tactic, that**  
 7 **they would follow the vehicle, that subject to when they**  
 8 **felt that they could intervene and do an arrest, that**  
 9 **might be using a MASTS tactic or it might be even going**  
 10 **it a premise. That would be dynamically assessed and**  
 11 **those tactics were in place.**  
 12 Q. Could I ask you to turn to the tactical plan as recorded  
 13 by Officer Sweeney, please, at page 334.  
 14 THE CHAIRMAN: 334. Yes.  
 15 MS CARTWRIGHT: We can see the tactical plan with the  
 16 reference to the mobile armed support to surveillance  
 17 which you have already told us about, but we also see  
 18 part of the plan was:  
 19 "Use of special munitions at the direction of TFC,  
 20 CS canister, Hatton rounds to disable vehicle tyres."  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. Were you aware there was also then provision for these  
 23 special munitions, CSDC and the Hatton rounds to be used  
 24 as part of the tactical plan potentially?  
 25 **A. My presumption was those would be considered because**

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1 **they would be considered as part of this tactic.**  
 2 Q. Why do you say your presumption was that they would be  
 3 considered as part of the tactic?  
 4 **A. Because as part of that tactic you may have to disable**  
 5 **the vehicle, you may have to do a distraction in the**  
 6 **vehicle. So the tactical commander may ask for**  
 7 **authority for, if you like, those two additional tactics**  
 8 **that go with the MASTS. They don't always have to go**  
 9 **with the MASTS, but they predominantly do go with the**  
 10 **MASTS because of the nature of the tactic.**  
 11 Q. In terms of use of a CS canister, did you understand  
 12 that was the potential use of a CSDC canister?  
 13 **A. Yes, because I have been in tactical firearms commander**  
 14 **as well.**  
 15 Q. Within Greater Manchester Police?  
 16 **A. I have been a tactical firearms commander within Greater**  
 17 **Manchester Police.**  
 18 Q. Your knowledge of the use of a CSDC on a MASTS, does  
 19 that come from having worked within Greater Manchester  
 20 Police?  
 21 **A. Yes.**  
 22 Q. Can you assist in terms of your period of service before  
 23 you became an ACC, was all of that time at Cheshire --  
 24 sorry, at Manchester?  
 25 **A. Sorry, it was all the time was in Manchester. I left**

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1 **Manchester in 2010.**  
 2 Q. Okay, and just in terms of, to look at the background,  
 3 so from when did you commence your service as an officer  
 4 within Greater Manchester Police?  
 5 **A. 1989.**  
 6 Q. So 1989 through to 2010?  
 7 **A. Yes.**  
 8 Q. And then moving to Cheshire --  
 9 **A. As an ACC.**  
 10 Q. -- as an ACC in 2010?  
 11 **A. In 2010.**  
 12 Q. Moving back to your statement, please, having dealt with  
 13 the discussion with Mr Granby, the next part of the  
 14 chain of chronology as to your involvement was a contact  
 15 at 7.30 pm from Mr Brierley that there had been  
 16 a deployment and a subject had been shot?  
 17 **A. Yes.**  
 18 Q. Can I ask you in terms of the material that has been  
 19 provided from Cheshire, there is no evidence that we  
 20 know and the Inquiry has heard evidence that in the  
 21 evening, some time around about 6.30 pm, the subjects  
 22 moved in their vehicle taking the route to Culcheth and  
 23 obviously the vehicle tracking device was tracking them  
 24 on their route and it was known that was the likely  
 25 place they were going in terms of the staffing of the

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1 surveillance officers.  
 2 At any point from the evening of around about  
 3 6.00/6.30 time, was there any information provided to  
 4 Cheshire that the subjects were moving on to your  
 5 territory?  
 6 **A. I don't know about in terms of Cheshire but I don't**  
 7 **recall anything to myself.**  
 8 Q. Again in terms of the email we saw where GMP were saying  
 9 that Cheshire would be informed as soon as the subjects  
 10 were moving by reference to technical as well, would you  
 11 have expected GMP to have notified Cheshire that the  
 12 subjects were on the move?  
 13 **A. Not necessarily to me. If they came close to the**  
 14 **Culcheth area, because at this time there was**  
 15 **potentially a number of locations that it could have**  
 16 **gone to, I was aware of the tipping point in the**  
 17 **briefing that we had been given. If and as they came**  
 18 **towards Culcheth I would expect them to contact our**  
 19 **force incident manager to make us aware that they may be**  
 20 **coming onto the area. It would be sort of custom and**  
 21 **practice as they came over the boundary -- if they had**  
 22 **time, accepting it is very dynamic -- that they would do**  
 23 **that, just to let us know.**  
 24 Q. Can you assist in terms of if it was a route along the  
 25 East Lancashire Road where the boundary would fall in

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1 terms of the requirement to notify there was going to be  
 2 potential to be crossing on to your territory?  
 3 **A. It is very difficult around that area because literally**  
 4 **within half a mile you have got three forces, so knowing**  
 5 **that area, if they were sort of the Astley area, they**  
 6 **could go to -- stay on GMP and go to Leigh or go to**  
 7 **Culcheth. So probably, I am talking local knowledge**  
 8 **here, but there is a roundabout just on the border with**  
 9 **Cheshire, if they turn left they are coming into**  
 10 **Cheshire if they turn right they are into GMP, if they**  
 11 **go straight on they are into Merseyside. So at that**  
 12 **sort of area I would expect them potentially to contact**  
 13 **us.**  
 14 **That said, it is only if they are able to because of**  
 15 **the dynamic nature.**  
 16 Q. You mentioned a moment ago about the tipping point, you  
 17 are aware of the tipping points and you had agreed the  
 18 tipping points I think you said.  
 19 **A. I didn't agree the tipping points, those tipping points**  
 20 **are for the tactical firearms commander. I was aware of**  
 21 **them because they were contained within the briefing**  
 22 **that we had been given for the initial operation in**  
 23 **terms of Spire. I was presuming those were similar**  
 24 **points for this operation as well.**  
 25 Q. What did you understand the tipping points to be?

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1 **A. That if they -- I would have to refer to the actual**  
 2 **document itself, but it was around if it came to the**  
 3 **Culcheth area. I think the document talks about if they**  
 4 **have -- if they are able to arrest, they have got enough**  
 5 **to arrest. So I was aware that in terms of coming to**  
 6 **our area, that that was of the tipping points if it came**  
 7 **to that location.**  
 8 Q. I asked you a moment ago about the fact that you had not  
 9 been provided with the 3 March briefing, but if the  
 10 tipping points had changed between the 2 March and the  
 11 3 March briefing, would you expect to have been updated  
 12 with the most current tipping points?  
 13 **A. No, I wouldn't because the command of that and those**  
 14 **points are relevant between the strategic commander and**  
 15 **the tactical commander in terms of deploying the**  
 16 **tactics. At that stage they are in command, they in**  
 17 **control of their asset so I would not expect to be**  
 18 **informed about their ongoing and updated tactical plan.**  
 19 Q. Can you assist in terms of at 7.30 when you were  
 20 contacted by Chief Inspector Brierley, were you still  
 21 located, where were you at that time when you received  
 22 the information?  
 23 **A. I was off duty, but I was near the location.**  
 24 Q. Can I ask you, in terms of -- there is some information  
 25 from, certainly it appears that we will be hearing from

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1 Mr Brierley that he had been or information had been  
 2 provided that the subjects would be stopped before they  
 3 reached Culcheth. Was there any of that information  
 4 provided to you or did you have knowledge about any  
 5 officer from GMP saying that the subjects would be  
 6 stopped before they reached you?  
 7 **A. Only in relation to the original briefing, which was,**  
 8 **you know, if you are able to arrest somebody prior to**  
 9 **them getting to that area, they would look at arresting**  
 10 **at the first possible location. But, you know, that was**  
 11 **just from general knowledge rather than particular**  
 12 **briefings that I was given.**  
 13 Q. When you say the original briefing, do you mean the  
 14 2 March PowerPoint that you have been provided with?  
 15 **A. 2 March PowerPoint, yes. That talks about the ability**  
 16 **to arrest as soon as possible, so if you could arrest**  
 17 **before they got to Culcheth, I would have expected them**  
 18 **to arrest before they got to Culcheth.**  
 19 Q. Can I just be clear then, in terms of the material that  
 20 you had had provided to you relating to the 2 March  
 21 authority, was it simply that PowerPoint and so what is  
 22 contained within that document?  
 23 **A. Yes.**  
 24 Q. You tell us in your statement that you had the contact  
 25 at 7.30 to indicate that a subject had been shot --

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Could you just point me to that? I have been  
 2 hunting for it and I can't find it, it is my fault.  
 3 MS CARTWRIGHT: Tab 1, 306, "At approximately 7.30 I was  
 4 contacted by CI Brierley ..."  
 5 It is the penultimate paragraph.  
 6 THE CHAIRMAN: I am looking at the wrong one.  
 7 Yes, thank you. I have it.  
 8 MS CARTWRIGHT: The statement then tells us you were then  
 9 informed that the location was the car park in Culcheth.  
 10 **A. Yes.**  
 11 Q. Cheshire have managed to retrieve a number of telephone  
 12 calls from round the time which I think record as you  
 13 were made aware of the situation and the developing  
 14 picture.  
 15 **A. Hmm.**  
 16 Q. I don't intend to read out transcripts but if we just  
 17 plot what has been obtained as to contact, please, if we  
 18 look behind tab 5, please, we can see there is  
 19 a transcript of a recording of a call from 7.39 pm when  
 20 you were contacted by the force incident manager,  
 21 Mr Fairclough.  
 22 **A. Yes.**  
 23 Q. Can you help us as to how long Mr Fairclough had been on  
 24 duty as the force incident manager on 3 March?  
 25 **A. I don't know when he would take over, normally it would**

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1 **be around 7.00, but I don't know on this occasion.**  
 2 Q. 7.00 in the evening?  
 3 **A. Yes, but I don't know on this occasion.**  
 4 Q. We can see that Mr Fairclough was telling you at that  
 5 time that he had spoken to Mr Brierley, and the latest  
 6 update he had from the superintendent about two or three  
 7 minutes ago was that it might prove fatal and he  
 8 records:  
 9 "The circumstances he gave me, I can tell you those  
 10 direct, is that they surveilled a team into Culcheth,  
 11 they stopped in the car park in a vehicle with three  
 12 subjects in the vehicle. The decision was made that it  
 13 was evidentially the time to make an arrest."  
 14 Yes?  
 15 **A. Yes.**  
 16 Q. Then we can see you were asking over the page at  
 17 page 85: who was the gold? Is it Terry Sweeney? Can  
 18 you assist as to why you were asking that question?  
 19 **A. Because if it would be an incident, even if it had not**  
 20 **proved fatal that we would have informed IPCC, we would**  
 21 **have done a post-incident procedure, the normal protocol**  
 22 **would be that the strategic firearms commander, which**  
 23 **was Terry Sweeney would implement that post-incident**  
 24 **procedure but it was probably more complicated because**  
 25 **the incident had happened on us. So that is why I was**

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1 **asking in essence who was in charge, had they handed it**  
 2 **over or was it still Terry.**  
 3 Q. You were asking that because you had known in the  
 4 morning he was the gold, but you were covering whether  
 5 or not he had handed over?  
 6 **A. Yes, he could have done.**  
 7 Q. You can see reference to Penny Wilson, can you assist as  
 8 to Penny Wilson's involvement in the post-incident  
 9 procedure, please?  
 10 **A. Yes, she was our silver cover on the night, so she -- if**  
 11 **we had needed a tactical firearms commander, she would**  
 12 **have done that but if we had got any critical incidents**  
 13 **she would act as silver commander for that.**  
 14 Q. Can I take you, please, to another document within your  
 15 witness pack, please, which is I think actually the  
 16 document from your casebook again, your transcript  
 17 behind tab 11, please.  
 18 Which is, for those following, in bundle M8.  
 19 We can see the note made at 7.30, so when we see the  
 20 transcript of that call at 7.39 had all of these notes  
 21 and entries been made at that time?  
 22 **A. That was when I started, so that would be the time**  
 23 **I started to write.**  
 24 Q. Perhaps if we can plot what you knew before the call --  
 25 what had been recorded before the call at 7.39. So

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1 7.30:  
 2 "CI Brierley briefing re Op Shire [Spire, sorry]  
 3 been informed interdiction took place in car park in  
 4 Culheth and shots fired. Believed person injured and  
 5 may be fatal. Unknown at this stage re other injuries.  
 6 Two persons arrested, authorities still in place under  
 7 command of GMP. ACC Sweeney [we redacted it],  
 8 Superintendent Granby and officers at the scene."  
 9 In terms of then you clarifying who the gold was in  
 10 the call, would it be fair to say perhaps the only thing  
 11 you recorded before that transcript was the first three  
 12 lines we see there?  
 13 **A. It may well be, but in terms of me saying: is it still**  
 14 **Terry Sweeney? I almost might have been talking to**  
 15 **myself as well.**  
 16 Q. Can I ask then, if we see within the note you made in  
 17 your daybook, please, it says:  
 18 "Scene being contained and post-incident management  
 19 to be started. Superintendent Wilson gaining briefings  
 20 on updated situation ..."  
 21 THE CHAIRMAN: I am really sorry about this. What should  
 22 I be looking at?  
 23 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is behind tab 11, sir.  
 24 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I have that.  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: Page 86.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: I have that, but I can't quite see it. Where  
 2 on the page is it?  
 3 MS CARTWRIGHT: It is on --  
 4 THE CHAIRMAN: Whereabouts on the page, I just can't find  
 5 the bit you are reading out.  
 6 MS CARTWRIGHT: What would be the fifth paragraph, sir.  
 7 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, yes, starting, "Scene attended"?  
 8 MS CARTWRIGHT: Yes, just before that:  
 9 "Assuming gold at PIM process at this stage."  
 10 Can you see that just above "Scene attended":  
 11 "... putting structure in place to manage scene,  
 12 officers and ongoing investigation."  
 13 Could you assist in terms of then just clarification  
 14 around the post-incident management. Who initially, who  
 15 was responsible for the post-incident management after  
 16 the fatal shooting, please?  
 17 **A. It should be the strategic firearms commander, but**  
 18 **because it was in Cheshire we had to agree who was going**  
 19 **to do what. And that is why I subsequently contacted**  
 20 **Terry Sweeney to agree who was going to do what and it**  
 21 **seemed sensible for him to do the actual post-incident**  
 22 **suite and for us to do the scene.**  
 23 Q. When you say him to do the post-incident suite and you  
 24 to do the scene, what do you mean by that?  
 25 **A. The manual of guidance that we have gone through doesn't**

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1 **actually set out who should do what if it crosses over**  
 2 **different boundaries, it just says the strategic**  
 3 **firearms commander should put in place these things**  
 4 **until it is taken over by the IPCC. So when I contacted**  
 5 **Terry Sweeney, because the officers were probably best**  
 6 **catered for in terms of their welfare, in terms of going**  
 7 **back to Manchester, and actually one had already gone**  
 8 **back to Manchester, it would be better that he ran the**  
 9 **arming and conversations with the firearms officers in**  
 10 **Manchester, and that was managed there. But in terms of**  
 11 **the scene, it was in Cheshire, so we were better putting**  
 12 **in an investigating officer, overseeing the scene in**  
 13 **Cheshire and we would take responsibility for that.**  
 14 Q. You mentioned one officer went back first, is that Q9  
 15 that returned back to Openshaw first?  
 16 **A. I am presuming Q9. I have not got it in my statement,**  
 17 **but if ...**  
 18 Q. Can I ask in terms of you setting out that essentially  
 19 the suite would be taking place back in Manchester. To  
 20 your knowledge, was any non-conferring warning given to  
 21 the officers, so the firearms officers that had been  
 22 involved in the events on the car park?  
 23 **A. Not to my knowledge.**  
 24 Q. You have told us that ordinarily the -- I think you said  
 25 the SFC would be responsible for the post-incident

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1 procedure. Can you assist by the time that Cheshire  
 2 officers got down to the car park, had a scene cordon  
 3 already been established by the Greater Manchester  
 4 officers?  
 5 **A. I believe so, an initial one, but certainly when I got**  
 6 **down there, we had officers there and the cordon was on.**  
 7 **My understanding is that yes, they had set it up**  
 8 **initially.**  
 9 Q. Can I ask you, to the best of your knowledge, at any  
 10 point did any Greater Manchester officer indicate that  
 11 there needed to be a search of bins in the area?  
 12 **A. Not to my knowledge.**  
 13 Q. We can see in your note, back behind tab 11, please,  
 14 page 86, you give a number of bullet points as to what  
 15 you found when you attended the scene:  
 16 "Cordons in place to preserve the scene.  
 17 "Bronze, Inspector Griffiths, in place and  
 18 managing."  
 19 Is that a GMP officer or a Cheshire one?  
 20 **A. It is a Cheshire officer, our operational commander.**  
 21 Q. Then you give reference in respect of the weapons, and  
 22 I think the weaponry essentially went back to the  
 23 armoury in Manchester?  
 24 **A. Yes, we escorted it back with the officers.**  
 25 Q. We can see that there was:

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1 "At the scene a basic search and no weapons were  
 2 found in order to ensure safety. Full search not  
 3 undertaken."  
 4 It is right, isn't it, that very quickly it was  
 5 established that there was no weapons contained within  
 6 the stolen Audi?  
 7 **A. Yes, I was told that.**  
 8 Q. I am not going to go through each of the steps that were  
 9 taken but can I ask you one question, we know then the  
 10 scene, light was fading but also I think the weather  
 11 then rain set in. Can you assist as to when the rain  
 12 started that evening?  
 13 **A. I can't, no.**  
 14 Q. No. Can I ask about the tent, because there was some  
 15 issue in respect of procuring or obtaining a tent to  
 16 cover the car. I think it didn't in fact arrive until  
 17 4th, the following day. Is that right?  
 18 **A. Yes, my understanding is we tried to get hold of one,**  
 19 **yes.**  
 20 Q. In terms of scene preservation, the vehicle where we  
 21 know that the window had already been shot through, with  
 22 the rain it was not in fact covered with any form of  
 23 tent until the follow day?  
 24 **A. My understanding is that, yes.**  
 25 Q. I think was it right that Cheshire had to go to another

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1 force to find a tent or a tarpaulin that was big enough  
 2 to cover the car?  
 3 **A. Yes.**  
 4 Q. Can you assist as to the role of Officer Spooner, post  
 5 incident, please?  
 6 **A. Yes, Helen Spooner is a detective inspector, she was in**  
 7 **charge of the initial investigation at the scene. She**  
 8 **wasn't the initial investigating officer, that was**  
 9 **Detective Superintendent Geraint Jones, but she was**  
 10 **acting on his behalf at the scene, carrying out the**  
 11 **initial actions on behalf of the IPCC.**  
 12 Q. Can you assist then in terms of, when you arrive on the  
 13 scene then, Cheshire then take over the post-incident  
 14 procedure?  
 15 **A. At the scene, yes.**  
 16 Q. Can you help as to the liaison with the involvement of  
 17 the IPCC and the IPCC's attendance to Culcheth?  
 18 **A. Yes, so one of the first actions was to appoint the**  
 19 **initial investigating officer, which was Superintendent**  
 20 **Geraint Jones. I also contacted the force incident**  
 21 **manager to try and contact one of our professional**  
 22 **standards department because they would be the ones that**  
 23 **would normally make contact with the IPCC. We didn't**  
 24 **have any on call officers, so in the end Geraint**  
 25 **actually contacted the IPCC to notify them. But that**

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1 **was one of the first things that we did.**  
 2 Q. Can I just in terms of going back to the preservation of  
 3 the car and in fact Mr Grainger was also I think at the  
 4 scene until the following day, when it was clear that  
 5 a tent could not be procured, what attempts were made to  
 6 try and as much as possible preserve the car and  
 7 coverings at that time?  
 8 **A. Yes, I asked what we could get. Not just for the car**  
 9 **but in terms of the dignity of Mr Grainger, what we**  
 10 **could do to cover that area.**  
 11 Q. Yes.  
 12 **A. And asked for what actions could be done, if we could do**  
 13 **that. I am not aware what time they came down though,**  
 14 **because I left the scene.**  
 15 Q. Do you know if there was anything able to be put in  
 16 place before the tent arrived on 4 March?  
 17 **A. I am not sighted on that, I know that we asked -- sorry,**  
 18 **I asked for that.**  
 19 MS CARTWRIGHT: Excuse me a moment.  
 20 Thank you very much indeed.  
 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.  
 22 MR THOMAS: No, sir.  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Weatherby?  
 24 Ms Whyte?  
 25 MS WHYTE: Very briefly.

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1 Questions from MS WHYTE  
 2 MS WHYTE: Officer, I ask questions on behalf of the Greater  
 3 Manchester Police. My name is Anne Whyte. Can I you  
 4 please to go to bundle M1/30. There should be an email  
 5 from a GMP officer called Michael Lawler to  
 6 Nicolas Bailey. Do you have that?  
 7 **A. Yes.**  
 8 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on a second, I don't.  
 9 MS WHYTE: Of course, sir.  
 10 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, got it.  
 11 MS WHYTE: Thank you. Mr Bailey I think you have already  
 12 confirmed was the acting TFC on 1 March; is that right?  
 13 **A. I think he was, yes.**  
 14 Q. Yes and we can see that the subject of the email is the  
 15 Operation Shire authority that was in place. He says  
 16 this:  
 17 "Nick FYI, and that of your DCC only, please."  
 18 Can you think, using your knowledge of when border  
 19 forces ask for your assistance in covert complex  
 20 operations that may involve firearms, why there might be  
 21 that degree of circumspection?  
 22 **A. It may be to keep the information as tight as possible.**  
 23 **Particularly if the, in this case, the deputy chief**  
 24 **constable at the time was going to carry on and be on**  
 25 **cover for Cheshire over a period of time.**

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1 Q. Thank you.  
 2 We see there, "I will arrange for our full brief to  
 3 be forwarded to you ..."  
 4 It goes on to say:  
 5 "Please speak if you have any issues."  
 6 So one force can contact another and if they feel as  
 7 though they have any concerns or they don't have enough  
 8 information, they would presumably in a perfect world be  
 9 nothing to stop that recipient force from asking for  
 10 more information if they felt they needed it?  
 11 **A. Yes, as we did the next day.**  
 12 Q. Yes. Similarly, for example if the PowerPoint  
 13 presentation which you received the next day caused you  
 14 any concern or again led you to think you might need  
 15 more information before making informed decisions at  
 16 your end of business, you could have asked for that if  
 17 need be?  
 18 **A. Yes.**  
 19 Q. Thank you.  
 20 Could I ask you, please, now, to put that bundle  
 21 away and finally, go to bundle O1, and probably  
 22 page 317.  
 23 THE CHAIRMAN: Hang on.  
 24 We are looking at O, did you say?  
 25 MS WHYTE: O1, please, sir.

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: And the page number was.  
 2 MS WHYTE: 317.  
 3 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, Ms Whyte.  
 4 MS WHYTE: I will speak up, sir.  
 5 THE CHAIRMAN: It is not your fault, I keep turning my back.  
 6 For the benefit of the transcript the reason I turn  
 7 my back is to get at the files, it is not anything else.  
 8 MS WHYTE: I will not take it personally, sir.  
 9 THE CHAIRMAN: 317?  
 10 MS WHYTE: Yes, please.  
 11 If that is the most convenient picture, I don't  
 12 know, officer, we will have a look. Can you see that is  
 13 an aerial photographic view of the car park in question.  
 14 We can see obviously it is a little later on because  
 15 there is a tent in situ. Are you able to assist us from  
 16 your recollection of whether the yellow taping that you  
 17 see in place there, and if you turn over it is visible  
 18 again on the next photograph and the next, was in place?  
 19 **A. On the entrance, the yellow taping?**  
 20 Q. Yes.  
 21 **A. I think it was but you are asking from memory.**  
 22 Q. Sure.  
 23 **A. My recall is that that was the inner cordon and there**  
 24 **was an outer cordon as well.**  
 25 Q. Do you know where the outer cordon was?

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1 **A. I think it was -- it sort of naturally has three roads**  
 2 **that go into it and actually, you know, I am not sure**  
 3 **that was the initial outer cordon that I can see on each**  
 4 **edge of the picture, but think it was around about**  
 5 **there.**  
 6 Q. In your statement, tab 1, page 307, for anyone that  
 7 needs it, you say:  
 8 "I arrived at the car park at about 8.30, an outer  
 9 and an inner cordon had been established. I entered the  
 10 inner cordon around the boundary of the car park and  
 11 spoke to Mr Griffiths."  
 12 I think that accords with what you have just said.  
 13 **A. Yes.**  
 14 MS WHYTE: Thank you very much.  
 15 Thank you.  
 16 Thank you, sir.  
 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Ms Cartwright, anything else?  
 18 MS CARTWRIGHT: No thank you, sir.  
 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ms McCormick, for helping the  
 20 Inquiry. Thank you very much.  
 21 That is the end of your evidence.  
 22 MS CARTWRIGHT: Sir, that concludes the evidence for today.  
 23 We can reconvene at 10.30. Please.  
 24 THE CHAIRMAN: 10.30 tomorrow. Certainly.  
 25 MS CARTWRIGHT: Thank you.

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1 (3.26 pm)  
 2 (The Inquiry adjourned until 10.30 am the following day)  
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