



**The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry**

**Witness Statement**

**Detective Sergeant Kevin Petrie**

**Taken by [REDACTED] via Microsoft Teams on Tuesday 14 March 2023**

**Witness details and professional background**

1. My full name is Kevin Petrie. My date of birth is in 1981. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
2. I am a Detective Sergeant in the Criminal Investigation Division ("CID"). I have been in this role for about two-and-a-half years.
3. I've got just over 21 years' service just now. I started as a response officer as everybody does, worked in that for about five years before moving into CID. I think it was early 2007. I was in CID from there for a number of years before doing some Temporary Sergeant stuff. So I'd done temporary uniform Sergeant, I think around about 2017/2018, Temporary Detective Sergeant, and then was promoted in 2020, I think it was, to uniform Sergeant, and then come back as Detective Sergeant, where I've been last two and a half years or so.

Signature of witness.. [REDACTED] .....

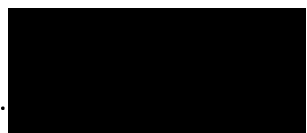
### **Role as at 03 May 2015**

4. On 03 May 2015, I was a Detective Constable here at Levenmouth Police Station, in the same office, Reactive CID, covering Levenmouth and North East Fife. That's basically investigating and detecting more serious crime, or crime that comes to us for further investigation from response and also deaths as well; we would carry out investigations on any deaths and things too. That was predominantly my role at that time.
  
5. I know exactly what shift I was working that day. It was eight until five. At that time, I think we were doing the treble two shift pattern. The first two days we would start at seven, if I remember right. Then eight o'clock and then we'd do a couple of later shifts as well. I'm certain I'd done days and lates at that time anyway.

### **Learning about the incident involving Sheku Bayoh**

6. My recollection is a little bit sketchy – fair, given the time that's passed now. However, I know specifically I was working an eight to five that day. The reason I know that is I started eight o'clock; DS Graeme Dursley was my line manager at that time and there was also another couple of Detective Constables that should have been working with me that day, but they started at seven. Before I started that day, or maybe just when I started at eight, I was made aware that they had been taken through to Kirkcaldy in relation to an incident that had happened there. I remember speaking to Graeme Dursley at some point, either round about the time I started or just after and asking if I was required through there. At that point we were told that we weren't required, and we were to remain in Levenmouth, just to carry out normal duties. It was myself and Gordon Miller that was working together that day.

Signature of witness.



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7. I have been referred to my operational statement dated 29 April 2015 (PIRC-00144; "my First Statement"). It has been highlighted to me that the date on my First Statement must be a mistake. I noticed that when I was reading it and I have no recollection of when I actually provided that statement, but I did notice at the bottom I basically said that I've done it there and then. I don't know if I've been asked to write the statement that night or the next day, so it would be within a day that I've provided that.
  
8. I have been referred to the second paragraph from the bottom of page one of my First Statement, in which I refer to being made aware of the circumstances of an incident in Kirkcaldy. I am asked if I recall specifically when I first learned about the incident. I would imagine it was pretty much round about eight o'clock if not shortly afterwards. I think I might have received a phone call on the way into work that day, but I can't be specific, just informing me that they were going to Kirkcaldy with no real detail around it, because I was coming in and the office would have been empty, because Gordon started at a different station than me. When I came in, I did phone DS Dursley at that time and asked him basically if they were needing us through there. I didn't know anything about it, and we were told no, to remain there. I can't remember what detail he went into around what had happened in Kirkcaldy. I wouldn't like to be specific around that. I was certainly aware there was an incident in Kirkcaldy.
  
9. I am asked if the information I received about the incident all came from DS Dursley. I can't remember speaking to anyone else that day. There was a transmission over the radio later on that day that was specifically about the house, but in relation to the incident, the only knowledge I probably would have had was any conversation over the phone. I think it was only DS Dursley I spoke to early in the morning. I never heard anything over the radio in relation to what had happened in Kirkcaldy. We were on a different channel from them, so I wouldn't hear that anyway.

Signature of witness...  .....

10. In the second paragraph from the bottom of page one of my First Statement, I state:

*“During the course of my shift I was made aware of the circumstances of an incident in Kirkcaldy and the requirement to secure an address at **Saeed home address** in relation to this incident.”*

I am asked if I recall what I was told or what my understanding was in terms of the relationship between the incident and the property. No. Prior to me going to that address, I had no information as to what that connection was. I did become aware that there was a male, I think I probably his name was Zahid Saeed, that had been taken away from that address earlier, but I wasn't aware of that up until the point we'd attended that address.

11. I am asked if I recall what was my understanding as to why that address had to be secured. No. It was basically a message that was passed, informing us. I don't even know if they said it was relevant to the incident in Kirkcaldy, but I assumed it was, given it was DS Dursley that passed that. I think it was a message over the police airwave radio from DS Dursley. Either that, or there was a phone call made basically asking for uniformed officers to attend an address in [REDACTED] as it become relevant to the inquiry that he was involved in. From my recollection, there was mention that Major Investigations Team (“MIT”) officers had been there, attended that address, a male had been taken away, and they were now requiring that address to be secured, and that there was nobody in there. I remember being told there was nobody in that address. As much as I knew it was required to be secured and then that was it, that was all that was passed to us. We weren't directed to go, so Gordon and I remained either out and about in the car or in the station, and uniformed officers attended there.

12. A short time later, there was another message passed saying, “We've attended that address, however, there are people within”. Uniformed officers

Signature of witness...

[REDACTED]

.....

had attended and they were looking for a bit of assistance in trying to secure that address. Gordon and I went to that address.

13. I am asked if I recall whether DC Miller and I were asked to attend or decided to attend the property. We weren't instructed to attend initially. It was the uniformed officers that were instructed to attend initially. The message that was passed, the initial message I heard was that there was nobody within there, but when the uniformed officers got there, there clearly was several other people in that address, and they've shouted up probably to highlight that fact. I don't know if we were then asked to go, or if because of that message we just went to offer our assistance because there was potentially nobody else available to actually go and do that at that time.

**Attending at** [Saeed home address]

14. I am asked if I recall what, if anything, I had been told about [Saeed home address] and its occupants prior to attending at the property. Nothing.
15. I am asked if I recall whether DC Miller and I discussed, prior to attending at [Saeed home address], the fact that we were attending, what we expected to find or what we were being asked to do. No, I don't recall any discussion. Obviously we were aware that that address was required to be secured and that's something that we had done previously in another incident so there wasn't any discussion or anything really more said. I had no knowledge of who the occupants were as well so that wasn't relevant to any discussion of what happened.
16. I can't remember anything I'd done really throughout that day up until attending at the address.
17. I am asked if I recall what PCs Aitken and Fraser, to whom I refer in the last paragraph on page one of my First Statement, told me when I arrived at [redacted] [Saeed home address]. I couldn't say now what they've said. I'm aware over the

Signature of witness.. [redacted] .....

message that they initially thought there was nobody there and then they've passed over to say that there was persons within there. What detail they've given us about who was in the address, I couldn't say now.

18. I am asked if I recall how many other officers were in attendance at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] when I arrived. I don't think there was any other officers there when we arrived, other than Aitken and Fraser. Because they thought the address was empty, I think they too have attended themselves on that basis, and to the best of my recollection, I don't think anybody else attended other than DC Miller and I after that as well.
19. I am asked whether officers who attended at the property but didn't enter the house would be recorded on the scene entry log. I wouldn't say that would necessarily be the case. If they haven't entered the property, which is what was being secured, then they probably wouldn't be put onto that log unless their attendance in that area was relevant, but I don't know. As I say, I don't believe there was anybody else there at all when Gordon and I were there.
20. I am asked whether DC Miller and I were the only plainclothes officers in attendance at the property. We were the only ones that attended then. However there obviously was other officers that attended prior to us.
21. I am asked whether DC Miller and I would have been in reasonably close proximity throughout the time that we were at [REDACTED], and if we would have been within earshot of each other. No. Most of the time we were, but not all the time, no.

**Entering the property**

22. On getting there, there was a number of people, a few people within certainly, including young children, a disabled male. On our attendance, I think the uniformed officers were in the address at that time speaking to them, so we've also entered and we've got in there.

Signature of witness.. [REDACTED] .....

23. I am asked if I entered the property immediately upon arrival. My recollection is that uniformed officers were there before us, and I believe they were all in the property. I would imagine that we probably wouldn't have just walked straight in, so we'd probably met uniformed officers sort of at the back door or there or thereabouts and then we went into the address at that point with them being in there, but that's my recollection. We wouldn't have just walked straight in the address at that point without speaking to one of the officers that was there, certainly.
24. I can't even remember the front door. There may have been but the officers were there first, so I'm assuming that that's the way they went in. We went through the back door, and I can't remember but I would imagine we had been met by them there, they told us something but I just can't remember what, and then we went in and spoke to Mrs Rashid.
25. I remember Mrs Rashid being in the living room, so I think that's where my first engagement with her was.
26. I am asked if I recall whether I was invited into the property. I don't recall that. I can't even really remember entering the property to be honest. I just know that there were other officers there beforehand, so we would have spoke to them before I went in, but I can't recall.
27. I am asked whether in May 2015 there were grounds other than the consent of the occupants or a warrant on which an officer could enter a property. There is other grounds that you could enter, but predominantly it would be either consent or a warrant, but we have got common law powers that allow us to enter properties for various different reasons.
28. I am asked whether any of those common law powers would have applied in relation to entering Saeed home address. That's difficult for me to say because I wasn't the first one that was there but, certainly, when I attended, there was nothing there that really gave me the power to enter around any disturbance

Signature of witness. [REDACTED] .....

or anything like that that was there. Part of the common law powers allow us to go and secure an address if we think there's something relevant forensically in the prevention or detection of any sort of crimes, but when I got there, there was nothing relevant to that, but we haven't entered the property. By the time we got there, there was other officers there. Just walking into an address, that isn't something that we'd done.

29. I am asked whether I recall what was my understanding of the authority that was being employed for officers entering [REDACTED]. The message that was passed was, to my recollection, that address was a crime scene and that they were requiring to secure it, so at that time my belief would be that it was under common law powers in securing the evidence. That's why we were there: to secure that address. Obviously, we didn't have any more information when we initially attended, but that was what came up on the radio, and that's something I've certainly done numerous times before that and numerous times since that. It's not uncommon for us, so it was something I was aware of.
30. I have been referred to paragraph four on page two of the statement Mrs Saadia Rashid gave to the Inquiry on 13 January 2023 (SBPI-00260; "Mrs Rashid's Statement"), in which she states that she told an officer that the occupants of the property would not vacate it unless officers "had a warrant". I am asked if I recall being asked for a warrant at any time. I don't recall. Personally, I don't recall me being asked for a warrant or any mention of a warrant at that time.
31. I have been referred to paragraph nine on page three of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states that:

*"The tall officer forced himself into the house. He walked into the house, pushing me towards the sitting room because as he walked towards me I had to walk backwards. He came through the kitchen and stood in the sitting room. I was panicked at this stage, I was worried*

Signature of witness...

[REDACTED]



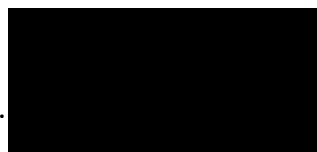
*about the safety of my children, my disabled brother and my elderly mum.”*

It has been explained to me that Mrs Rashid does not mention in her statement the names of officers. I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. Certainly, when we arrived that's not something that had happened. My recollection was that Mrs Rashid was probably in the living room when we got there, and that was the first contact I've had. I don't know what's happened before we got there, but it's certainly nothing that's happened when we arrived.

### **Initial interaction with the occupants**

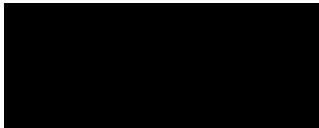
32. I believe it was Mrs Rashid and her mother were in the living room, which was just a short distance from where the door was that we entered. I think it was a kitchen then the living room. We went in. She was quite irate, asking questions, so we basically just tried to speak to her, tried to explain what was happening. I can't be specific around what it was but I think it had been explained to her by the officers that they were there to secure that address and they probably asked her if there was anywhere else to go, but I'm assuming that because I haven't been party to that conversation.
33. We've spoken to her. Due to the passage of time, I couldn't really tell you the full ins and outs of the conversation but we probably just reiterated that we'd been asked to attend there, there was some evidence there related to an incident that was ongoing, and we were looking to secure that address. I don't know how it all came about but then we were obviously then made aware that she had young children in the house and that her brother was there who was disabled and was in a wheelchair, had a sort of room adapted for other things like that and the conversation went on from there.
34. We've had a conversation, we explained to her the reasons that we're there, and we were asked to secure the address in relation to an incident that we

Signature of witness...



weren't involved in and had very little knowledge of. I couldn't really be drilled down in exactly how it went because of the passage of time but we didn't know much information when we went there. As much as I would have told her was what we knew: that there was an ongoing incident in Kirkcaldy; their address had become relevant to that inquiry. I don't even know if at that time I knew who her brother was, but I knew he'd been taken away from that address and we'd explain to her that we'd been informed that there was evidence in that address linking it to the incident in Kirkcaldy and that we were being asked to secure it.

35. At that time, we would have asked them if there was anywhere else for them to go because the information that we had received was that they were wanting that property vacated. That would have been the general conversation to start with and then it obviously led from there to us finding out what the circumstances were of the family, I'm guessing.
36. I am asked if I had any discussions with Mrs Rashid's mother or brother. This is where it's difficult because I know we're at the property for around two hours, so there was a huge amount of discussion in that two-hour period, but how it all came about, I can't remember. I do remember her mum. Her mum was there. It must have been Mrs Rashid that told us that she didn't speak any English so any conversing that we had was, at that time, through Mrs Rashid and anything being asked was probably coming through her. We did speak to the brother at some point, but I think that was a little bit later on. I'm sure he was doing his bedroom when we initially went in. All the conversation on the initial attendance would have been with Mrs Rashid.
37. I have been referred to paragraph four on page two of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states that an, "officer in a suit said they didn't need to disclose any information, and that we needed to vacate the house.". I am asked if I recall a discussion in those terms with Mrs Rashid, involving either me or anybody else. I can't be specific as to the exact wording in any

Signature of witness  ....

conversation, but we did have a discussion with her. I don't think we would have said that we don't need to disclose any information. We've obviously told her that from the information we had there was evidence there relating to an incident in Kirkcaldy. At that specific moment in time, that's all the information that we really knew as well, to be honest. What we said to her was that there was an incident in Kirkcaldy, and because of that at that time we were then asking her if there was anywhere that they could go to facilitate or secure that address, and basically, I was just trying to make any arrangements that we could for them to go elsewhere at that time.

38. I have been referred to the final paragraph on page two of the statement that Mr Saeed Ahmed gave to the Police Investigations and Review Commissioner on 24 August 2015 (PIRC-00386; "Mr Ahmed's Statement"), in which he states:

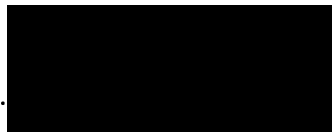
*"On entering the house, I observed that there were two detectives (male) inside the house. I asked for an explanation as to what was happening, I informed them that my daughter had told me that they had to leave and I wanted to know why. This detective told me that he could not tell me and that it was a crime scene and that we had to leave now."*

I am asked if I recall any such discussion. No.

### **Treatment of the occupants**

39. As the conversations developed, we were made aware of the issues that they had within the address around the children and the disabled male, and there was some mention of dad coming in to be a carer for that male or to assist in removing him from that address.

Signature of witness..



40. I remember, at some point, I think it was myself, or it might have been Gordon who contacted DS Dursley. He was the only one that we knew was linked to that because obviously the message had come from him in relation securing that address. Just highlighting the issues that we had there around the children, trying to get a wee bit more information as to the reasons why we were there. Can't remember specifically what we were told. We were basically informed that, as part of the inquiry they were involved in, that address was required to be secured as there was items of relevance within that address. I don't think we were told what they were. We explained to them the issues around the disabled male and the kids and that being there, but he basically told us, "No, it needs to be secured", and that we're asking them to see if they can find alternative accommodation or assist them in that.
41. So we've relayed that. It was obviously a pretty stressful situation. There was a lot going on at the time.
42. I have been directed to the second paragraph on page three of Mr Ahmed's Statement, in which he states:

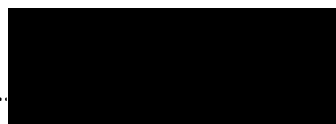
*"I do remember my wife telling the detectives that she was not leaving. She was told by one of the detectives that they would force her to leave by throwing her out."*

I am asked if I recall any such discussion. No, that definitely was never said, nor would it have been.

43. I have been directed to the third paragraph on page three of Mr Ahmed's Statement, in which he states:

*"At one point one of the detectives told my son that if he attempted to enter the house then they would arrest him. I can't remember for what other than the word 'contempt' being used."*

Signature of witness..



I am asked if I recall any such discussion. No. There was certainly no discussions along those lines. I can't really remember. The other son arrived, and I do know there was somebody else coming up, but I don't think I spoke to him.

44. I have been referred to paragraph five on page two of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which, in response to being told by police that the occupants had to vacate the property, she states:

*"I told them that we couldn't do that, and that I had to speak to my dad as I have a disabled brother. I explained to them that [REDACTED] can't walk, he needs support to move around and get into a vehicle and told them that I couldn't do that on my own because I was looking after my children and had had an operation and was not strong enough to do that."*

I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. There certainly was some discussion around the brother and she would have highlighted to us initially that he was disabled, and there was mention about the dad caring for him. There was a phone call made to the dad. I've got a feeling that the dad was maybe contacted before we arrived, potentially. He'd arrived reasonably quickly after we'd got there, but there certainly was a discussion around the kids as well. I remember them talking about one of the children had had an operation recently. I think it was for [REDACTED] if I remember right, but I could be wrong with that, and I don't remember Mrs Rashid talking about having an operation. There would have been a discussion around that sorts. I couldn't be specific of the exact words, but my recollection is around the dad caring for her and obviously her own child having an operation.

45. I am asked what I would typically be prompted to do if I attended at a property in order to have it vacated and secured and received the response described

Signature of witness. [REDACTED] .....

by Mrs Rashid. I know what our reaction was that day. We've asked her some more questions around about that. I don't think we gained a huge amount of detail at that time in relation to it, but we're trying to offer her as much assistance as we could with that. I do remember having a discussion with DS Dursley. I don't know when that came in, but the conversation would have been around: we'd attended this address, we obviously thought it was empty, we're now being told it isn't empty, there's people in here, specifically the brother that was requiring care, he has equipment there that was specific to his care, and then it wouldn't have just been a case of asking what they wanted us to do because I had no knowledge what was in that address that was relevant. I didn't know why they were securing that address, so I would have been just seeking clarity as to "This is what we've got here. What do you want us to do?" So that's what we did do, and if I was to turn up to that again today, I would ask that information of them around what the needs were, what was required and feed that back into the line managers because ultimately they were the ones that decided that that address was required to be secured and I wasn't involved in the inquiry, so I had no knowledge as to what, if any, relevance that had to the inquiry.

46. I have been referred to paragraphs 15 and 16 on page four of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states:

*"...I was still on the phone with [REDACTED] when the tall police officer grabbed my phone and disconnected it.*

*The officer looked at it to see who I was phoning when it was disconnected. The tall officer listened to the whole call before grabbing it off me. He then started to scroll through my phone. I asked for my phone back. I had to repeat this three or four times before he gave it back. At this point I felt like he was treating me like a criminal who had something to hide."*

Signature of witness.. [REDACTED] .....

I am asked if I recall that. No, that certainly never happened when I was in the address. There's obviously other officers that had been there before me, so I couldn't say that that hasn't happened, but that certainly wasn't me that had done that, and it didn't happen in my presence. To be honest, there was no need. We were probably quite welcome to her making phone calls because we were requiring that assistance to try and help with the brother and everything else that was on the go there as well, so that certainly wasn't something that I'd done or was aware of.

47. I am asked if I recall whether I remained downstairs in the property at all times or if I also went upstairs. I was upstairs. The kitchen was at the back door, so I was in the kitchen. I remember being in the living room. The brother, who was in there, the disabled male, he was within a room downstairs that was adapted for him because I remember being in there at some point, and I can't really remember the other room, but I remember going upstairs with Mrs Rashid, at some point, into her room up the stairs.
48. I have been referred to paragraph 28 on page six of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states:

*"It felt like they were trying to look for something in the house. Nothing made sense as to why we were removed from our house. We were made to feel like criminals with no rights, we were treated like second-class citizens. We felt vulnerable and victimised."*

I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. That's certainly not the case when we were there. I can understand that it may be intimidating, albeit there wasn't a lot of officers there at the time, but we turned up to tell her that it was an address that was required to be seized for a crime scene. I suppose there would be a bit of unknown for them, I would say, or wonder why we were there. We certainly weren't looking for anything at the address

Signature of witness.....  .....

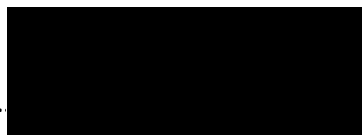
because I didn't know what we were looking for anyway, so it wouldn't be something we would be looking around for.

49. I have been referred to paragraph 42 on page eight of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states that the officers who attended Saeed home address, "were uncaring and I felt almost like we were being treated differently because we were Pakistani and Muslims.". I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. No, that's not true at all. I didn't know who they were before I even arrived there and, upon arrival, that wasn't relevant to anything. I didn't know they were Muslim to be honest. If they were Muslim, that wasn't something that was highlighted to me.
50. I am advised that at various points in her statement, Mrs Rashid makes references to officers being "rude", "abrupt" and "intimidating". I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. That certainly wasn't the case. To my recollection, we were there for a good couple of hours trying to offer as much assistance as we could. I can see how she might have felt intimidated by the police coming up at that address and explaining to them that it was a crime scene, but we certainly weren't rude or in any shape or form acting aggressively, or anything like that. That wasn't the purpose for us being there. We were there to try and facilitate them as best as we probably could at that time after we were told that that house was required to be secured.

### **Vulnerable individuals**

51. I have been referred to the final paragraph on page one of my First Statement, which continues onto page two and in which I state, "A short time later another two family members attended at the house and assisted in removing persons within, DC Miller noted details of them.". I am asked why, to my recollection, assistance was needed from those family members. It was highlighted that there was another male within the house who was disabled. I think it was Mrs Rashid that made us aware that her father was predominantly

Signature of witness..





the carer for him, and to facilitate him going elsewhere, that the dad would need to be present to actually physically remove him or take him away from the property because there was wheelchairs. I think he needed to be lifted into the wheelchair and things like that. It wasn't something that she could do, so that's why they've attended at the address.

52. I am asked if I recall the level of detail that was gone into in discussions about Mrs Rashid's brother's needs. No. I don't think there was a huge amount of discussion around his needs. It's really difficult because I know throughout the course of the two hours, we were gaining a little bit more understanding because we actually did speak to the male himself at some point when we were there. We got, I wouldn't say an understanding of his needs, but an understanding as to how he came about his injury. It wasn't an illness; it was an injury, he told us. The dad's probably told us his needs, so I was aware that he required carers. I was aware that his room was adapted for him. I think there was a hoist in there and stuff as well, because I was in that room. I remember seeing it, but to what detail around what care he required or needed, I couldn't be specific.

53. I am asked whether I recall what [REDACTED] told me about his injury. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Signature of witness. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

54. Once we left, we had an understanding of some things, but in the initial circumstances, the understanding was that he was disabled. He required a wheelchair and that his dad was his carer. That's why Mrs Rashid was asking for her dad to come and assist with that. That was the initial conversation, as much as I'm aware.
55. I am asked whether I recall what, if anything, I did, beyond passing information back to DS Dursley, to try to give assistance to the occupants in relation to [REDACTED] care and support needs. Yes. As much information as we gained, we'd pass that back to DS Dursley. From that point, we've then had the conversation with the family. I think by the time Mr Ahmed arrived, the conversation around that was mostly with him. I can't remember having much conversation with Mrs Rashid around it after that, just because he was the carer, he was the one that was facilitating him leaving the address. Most of the conversation around his care would have been with Mr Ahmed at that time, and he's told us that he required carers. There was a hoist there. We asked if there was anything we could do around transportation, but we were told by Mr Ahmed that, no, that's something he would arrange. He just needed to be able to get him in his wheelchair and then move him. I can't remember any conversation around equipment. I'm aware he obviously had equipment there but his room was adapted, so there was never any discussion around any equipment that he was needing to take from that address because I'm guessing that there probably wasn't anything that could have been removed, but I can't remember much detail as to what else we offered our assistance.
56. I'm aware that when we've come back, we've phoned social work and the hospitals and stuff like that to see if we can assist with some care or some equipment that they may need, so I'm guessing that's been a discussion

Signature of witness... [REDACTED] ...

we've had in the address with him, but I can't remember it. That's as much as I can really remember around sort of his care. It would have been for us to see what assistance we could offer them, basically, was the main gist of the conversation.

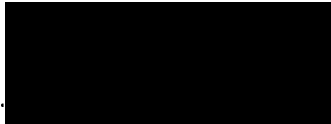
57. I have been referred to the second paragraph on page three of Mr Ahmed's statement, in which he states:

*"At one point I told the detectives that they could do what they wanted in the house and that I would keep my family in the one room and out of their way. They refused telling me that they wanted the house empty."*

I am asked whether I recall any such discussion. I don't remember any discussion around them wanting to stay in one room, no. All the information we gained, we fed it back in, and the information we got was that they were looking for them, with our assistance, to see if there's anywhere else they could go, but certainly there was no discussion around them staying in one room, and that was never anything that I'd discussed with DS Dursley.

58. I am asked whether letting occupants remain in one room is something that police would ever do, and if so in what circumstances that might be an option. I don't know. It's really difficult for me to answer, in these circumstances, as to how relevant that would be, because I wasn't really aware of what we were looking for or where that might have been. I think it also might have been difficult to go in one room because the male that was in there had his room adapted and things, so I think there would be some sort of movement between different rooms and it wasn't discussed.

59. Certainly, staying in one room, I'm not saying it's something that happens regularly. It's far easier for us to have control of anything forensically within that address with nobody being there, because then we're not needing to monitor anyone in that address, their movement or what they're picking up,

Signature of witness.  ...

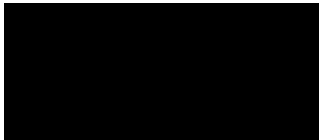
but there has been occasions where that has happened, that somebody has stayed in one room and we've examined another room. In these circumstances, it would be if there was one room of specific note to me that would be of relevance, and it's difficult because sometimes you don't know what else it would be, but certainly that has happened on occasions, that the family have stayed in and we've examined one room.

60. I have been referred to the second paragraph on page two of my operational statement of 04 December 2015 (PIRC-00145; "my Second Statement"), in which I state:

*"...DC Miller and I attended at this property and assisted uniformed officers in clearing this property and then securing it (as per previous statement provided). This proved particularly problematic due to there being small children and a disabled man within."*

I am asked what about the circumstances made it "particularly problematic". These statements I provided haven't been in much detail. There was never any real need for me to provide any detail around that previously, but the "problematic" was pretty much as I've said there. There was people within that address that had specific needs, and it wasn't just a case of turning up and there being a family in there and then going and moving to another address. There was young children in there, one of them who I knew had recently had an operation, and there was a disabled male that was in there that was requiring to be moved, physically moved from the address by family members. That's kind of what I mean by problematic.

61. It wasn't problematic in they were causing us problems, it was problematic in the respect that there was issues in there beyond what I was expecting, or what would normally be expected for when we attend at an address, or at least I never had that information before I went, so that made it problematic as well, I would say.

Signature of witness  .....

62. I am asked what, in May 2015, would have been normal procedure for managing the securing or seizing of a property if any of its occupants had physical disabilities or impaired mobility. I think going back to 2015, I don't think it would be much different to what it would be now. We'd went there and we found that there was difficulties in there. I can't remember if it was me or Gordon, but there had a couple of conversations with DS Dursley, so we've fed that back through our line management, with the information that we had to see what they were wanting to do with that. When it'd come to the point that we were informed that the property was to be vacated, then we've tried to offer as much assistance as we possibly could at that time to facilitate that, so I would imagine that would be similar to what we would do now. Without knowing any information, you gather that information when you attend there and then I fed that back into the people who were making the decisions around securing that address.
63. Normally, when I would go to an address, I would have a bit of knowledge as to what it was or what we were looking for, which would assist me in being able to obviously inform them of what we were there for, but also feed it back in as well, but I had no knowledge. Certainly, on the initial attendance, I had no knowledge on that.
64. I have been referred to paragraph 38 on page eight of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she describes the way her brother, [REDACTED] and family were treated and states:

*"There was no compassion for him, no dignity or care. He deserved better treatment, and we deserved better treatment. Instead, we were all treated like we did something wrong, like we were criminals. I hate to think what would have happened if I wasn't there because my poor mother doesn't speak English and [REDACTED] can't speak clearly and has disabilities."*

Signature of witness. [REDACTED] .....

I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's description. I don't think that's accurate from our attendance there. Obviously, the circumstances were really difficult in that they were being asked to leave their address. I'm sure from their point of view the easiest solution would have been to remain within that address, but that wasn't what was passed to us. To say we've not treated with him any compassion or dignity or care, I would say is inaccurate. I mean, we have had a conversation once, so we haven't just been ignoring him or, you know, doing things just to try and speed things up. We've spent a bit of time in speaking to him.

65. To say, "I hate to think what would have happened if we weren't there," because the mum doesn't speak English and [REDACTED] can't speak clearly, obviously we had a conversation, so we understood that, but if she wasn't there, we would have to put different measures in place about that. She was there and she spoke English and we were able to communicate with her, and that's how we were able to gather that information, so I don't agree with the comment there was no compassion or dignity. I understand their concerns around having to leave their address, and the last comment I would say is a bit hypothetical because if she wasn't there, there would have been different measures put in place.

### Searching the property

66. I am asked whether to my knowledge [REDACTED] Saeed home address was searched. I don't know.
67. I have been referred to paragraphs 13 and 14 on page four, paragraph 19 on page five, and paragraph 24 on page six of Mrs Rashid's Statement, in which she states:

Signature of witness... [REDACTED] .....

*"[13] ...there were police officers upstairs, looking into each room. They wouldn't let me see what they were doing.*

*[14] They had gloves on, so I knew they were looking for something. I don't know what they were searching in the rooms but they were definitely looking in all the rooms. I wasn't aware of them taking anything from the house.*

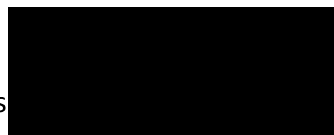
*[19] The officer stood outside and once I got changed he then watched my every movement while I was gathering everything. He then looked in my bag.*

*[24] ...I put the stuff in my car and while I was still parked the police searched my car."*

I am asked for my reaction to Mrs Rashid's descriptions. No search at all took place when we were there. I actually still don't know what they were looking for that day, so we wouldn't have any reason to search. I do remember a conversation because Mrs Rashid's Statement talks about medication and things like that. I do remember having a conversation with DS Dursley because it was obviously at the point that we were aware that we were asking them to leave. They had made us aware that there was stuff they would need to take from that address, so I had fed that back into DS Dursley. Certainly, if it wasn't me, it would have been Gordon, I can't remember now, has fed that back in to make sure that there wasn't any issues with that. I can't remember being told what we were looking for. I remember being told that there was not any issues with them taking any of that equipment away with them, or anything like that.

68. Mrs Rashid talks about an officer standing outside her door. I did go up the stairs with her at one point because she's made me aware that there was equipment she was needing to take with her. I went up to basically see what

Signature of witness



...

that equipment was, to make sure, again, without knowing what we were looking for, there was nothing in that room that was relevant or anything that stood out to me as different from any equipment that she might need. Then I've left. I think there was another uniformed officer, so it would've have been either PCs Fraser or Aitken who came up the stairs with me at that point. I do remember when I was up there, I think that's when her dad arrived, and he was speaking and had gone to the back door, so I went and joined Gordon. I've not stood outside her room, but I did go up to the room with her.

69. I am asked whether the occupants of the property would have been subjected to a 'pat down' search before they left. There could be circumstances that they would be. I'm not saying that that wouldn't happen, but in this circumstance, no. There was no need for us to do that. If that had been something that had been asked of us, or we were made aware of what they were looking for, that might be relevant. I'm not saying that we wouldn't do that, if there was anything evidential we thought they were taking away, but it certainly never happened on this occasion because I didn't know what we were looking for. We've tried to manage it the best we could, with the information we had, to make sure there was nothing that we thought was relevant that was being taken. Medication and child equipment, I'd already run that past DS Dursley. There was no issues with them taking that, so we've not had any reason to search. Certainly, they weren't searched. There might be reasons or circumstances that would mean that we would do that, but not on this occasion.

70. I can't think of any occasions when I'd go into an address and personally search somebody leaving, because I should have an understanding as to what they're taking away with them because of the conversations we've had or being there around about the time. If there was something, say it was drugs, for instance, then, yes, that might be something. There's obviously legislation that would allow us to do that as well, but if we were to do that, it would be a pat-down search, as it has been put to me. I don't know if that's

Signature of witness...





how I would refer to it, but it would be a search. It's not something that I can think of doing on any occasion I've attended at an address, unless it was a suspect or something, obviously, and on this occasion it wasn't.

**Occupants vacating the property**

- 71. We'd been there for a number of hours, probably two hours, and trying to speak to the family, trying to come to some sort of resolution and effectively, they have left.
  
- 72. I have been referred to the third paragraph on page two of my First Statement, which begins, "The occupants of the dwelling thereafter left the property". I am asked what I recall about the occupants leaving the property and what, if anything, was discussed at that time. By the time they were leaving, obviously we had more information that's all been gathered throughout the time. I was aware that Mrs Rashid stayed in Glasgow. I don't know if we got that when we initially went there or if that's just the conversation we had at the time. My understanding is that she was going back through to her home address in [REDACTED], and her vehicle was obviously what she was requiring to be able to drive her back through to [REDACTED]. That was where she was going. Regarding Mr Ahmed and his son and his wife, the last conversation was that they were going to go to another family member's address. By the time we were leaving, their main concern at that time was getting back in before [REDACTED] was requiring to go to bed, and I'm sure it was ten o'clock that they kept on going on about – that they needed back into the address by ten o'clock. We have said that we would make some phone calls when we got back to the station, we would be back in touch with them once we'd done that, and that's when we went back and phoned social work, the hospitals and stuff – never got anywhere. Then we fed back to DS Dursley that they were needing back in that address at that time. That was sort of the last conversation. It was more around what was going to happen afterwards. We didn't know what was happening with the address and around

Signature of witness.... [REDACTED] .....

any searches or examinations of the address, but we were basically saying that we would be back in contact with them with regards to when they could get in the address and that we would try and push that through for them, given the needs and the concerns that they had for getting back in later on.

**Zahid Saeed's car**

73. At some point during the phone call with Graham Dursley when we explained to them the issue around the disabled male and the kids, I was aware that there was a vehicle that was linked to that inquiry, and he asked me if it was there. I remember looking outside and confirming that it was there. When it came to the point of the family leaving, the female there had made us aware that her car was blocked in by this car, so I contacted DS Dursley back, advised him that that car was there, but there was a car requiring to be moved. I was asking if his intentions were either to seize that or what he was wanting us to do, and I remember being told to move the car back, allow the female to go. We were wearing gloves and things like that, so I think Gordon Miller done that and then the female left.
74. I am asked if I recall when that conversation with DS Dursley was had. I think the main purpose of this statement is around this because that's the only relevance really to anything evidential. As far as I'm aware, I had one or maybe two conversations with DS Dursley when I was at the address, and during one of the conversations, he's asked me regarding this vehicle whether or not it was there and I have obviously checked. It was like a square driveway out the back and that car was parked there, so I made him aware of that. I've assumed, or maybe I'd been told, that that was relevant to whatever they were looking for. When it came to the point of them leaving the property, Mrs Rashid's vehicle was blocked in by this vehicle. Knowing that it's been relevant to whatever DS Dursley was discussing, I've contacted him and I can't remember the conversation but I've probably asked him, "What's the intentions with this vehicle? Are you going seize it because it's blocking in,"

Signature of witness.  .....

and Mrs Rashid was obviously wanting away. At that point, he's given us this information that I've said in my First Statement; he's asked us to move the vehicle wearing gloves and putting a bag down on the seat, to allow Mrs Rashid to go, and then to then move the vehicle back into position. DC Miller's carried that out. What relevance it was, I don't know. I don't know what relevance the vehicle was or why he's asked us to do that, but that was the instruction we received at the time.

75. I am asked whether moving using gloves and a production bag as requested by DS Dursley was at that time normal procedure in terms of interacting with a vehicle that was to be seized. Again, I don't know what relevance it was. If there was anything, forensically, that they were looking for, then best practice would be to seize the vehicle, I would imagine, and not to disturb it, so I don't know what it was. I've certainly moved cars wearing gloves before, but that would be in probably slightly different circumstances where a stolen car was found and was being recovered or something along these sort of lines. It's not something that I've really done before, or if I have, I can't recall it. Putting a bag down and gloves to move it – the first option, if it was something forensic, would be to seize it because then you're not disturbing anything that's within it but, again, we were only going on instruction. I didn't know what relevance the vehicle had or what they were looking for. I suppose if there's nothing that they thought was relevant in the driver's seat, then it wouldn't be appropriate. I don't know.

**After leaving the property**

76. I am asked whether I recall what time I left Saeed home address. I don't know. My recollection was we were there for around about two hours, but that's just a guess really. We were certainly there for a reasonable period of time. It wasn't 10, 15 minutes and then we're back out the door. It was probably a couple of hours, but I couldn't be specific. I don't know if that's recorded in

Signature of witness. [REDACTED] .....

some of the logs, the crime scene log that was initiated. I don't know if it's in there, but I've certainly no recollection.

77. I am asked what I did after leaving the property. The house was secured at that point by uniformed officers. We drove back to the station straight away. I don't know if we had any other discussion with DS Dursley at that time. Probably not, because at that time they'd left that address, so it was time to facilitate any assistance or help that they could have.
78. Between us, we'd made phone calls. I couldn't tell you exactly who anyone had phoned, but I remember that the hospital was phoned and the social worker was phoned, really to see around about [REDACTED] care because they mentioned carers and he had the equipment he needed to assist with him moving about. We phoned to see if there was any way that carers could attend the address that they were going to, or if there was any beds within the hospital that would allow [REDACTED] go to for a short period of time, but we were met with very little success with that. Given it was a Sunday, there was nothing really that they could offer us.
79. I remember specifically the hospital, which makes me think that I've spoken to them. Obviously [REDACTED] had his room adapted for him with the bed and there was a hoist, I think, in there as well. I probably looked for some assistance around a bed or somewhere he could go, to at least offer the family that as an alternative to wherever they ended up going, but we were basically told there was nothing. There was nothing at the hospital.
80. Conversations with the social work probably would've been around any equipment like that that they could offer to the family when they weren't in the address or any care that they could offer away from his home address. I can't remember what they've offered but I don't think there was really anything because I do remember our last bit of contact was: they're wanting back in there for ten o'clock at night, so if we could speed that up, that would probably

Signature of witness [REDACTED] .....

help everybody out. From that, I'm guessing that they never got much assistance from any of the agencies to help facilitate anything that evening.

81. I am asked what I was ultimately trying to achieve by contacting various bodies when I returned to Levenmouth Police Station. I'm guessing some of the phone calls was probably made out of conversations we've had with the family at the address. I can't remember now but, that's not something we would normally do, just come back and just phone hospitals and that. I'm guessing there was information we got, that they were requiring or looking for something that would help. The reason for us doing that was to try and make it as easy and as comfortable as we possibly could for the family and to facilitate any care that [REDACTED] was needing from being away from that address. That's been our main purpose of it. There's no other reason than to try and offer any assistance or help that we could to them. Obviously, we couldn't do it but other agencies might've been able to, so that's why we've contacted them.
82. At that point, we have fed it back in to DS Dursley. I remember specifically that the male who turned up at the address had said that they were requiring back in there that evening to assist the male going to bed because there was no facilities anywhere else to be able to do that. We fed that back in.
83. I think DC Miller spoke to the family again. I might've done and I just can't recall it, but my recollection is that it was DC Miller that fed that information back in. I don't think I spoke to them after I left, but I'm sure DC Miller did, probably to explain that to them. I would think some of that had been discussed before we left. That's why we went and done it when we got back, and then ultimately the last part would be that we've spoken to the officers in Kirkcaldy who're dealing with the incident and they're going to make efforts to get you back in there as soon as they can. I would imagine somebody will be in touch because we would've passed their details on to DS Dursley, I would imagine, because he's the one I remember who spoke about it.

Signature of witness, [REDACTED] .....

84. I am asked whether I recall what the family's reaction was to the inquiries that we had made with social work and hospitals. No, and that's what makes me think it wasn't me that phoned because I can't really remember any conversations about that. I couldn't say.
85. It was left with the inquiry team. I didn't know what they were going to do at that address, when they were going to be back in. We even expressed the issues that had arisen and the need for them to be back in early to see if they can push that through. I think that was done. I'm sure it was done that night and they got back in, but I don't know. We were off duty by that time. Really that was our involvement.

**Data Protection Concerns**

86. I have been referred to the second paragraph on page one of my Second Statement, which states:

*"I have been requested to provide a statement in relation to my access to computer systems relating to the death of Sheku Bayou. This specific access relates to accessing crimefile records of Mohammed Zahid Saheed on the 3rd May 2015."*

I am asked whether I recall specifically why I was asked to provide my Second Statement. That statement was specifically in relation to that. I'm assuming that PIRC have done a review of computer systems and anybody that's accessed it, and they would want to make sure that everybody was legitimately accessing the systems for whatever needs. My name's obviously shown as looking at a Crimefile record for Mohammed Saeed. I can't remember it, but that'll be what the statement's for.

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87. I can't remember the request, exactly the wording for it. Obviously, the statement does mention that I have accessed it. I can't remember coming back and making phone calls and looking at the systems. As to why I was looking at it, I believe it was to get details around the family to feed back into the social worker in the hospital. It was through a phone call, so it would probably be postcodes or dates of birth or something like that. I can't remember exactly, but that's my recollection of why I've done it and why I was asked to write the statement.
88. I am asked whether accessing those systems would have been something I would have done of my own volition, or if someone would have tasked me with that. I don't think I would have been tasked specifically to look at systems in relation to the persons because I wasn't involved in the inquiry, so there was no reason. I'm guessing we were trying to facilitate the family, so to do that we would need to feed in information to the social worker, so that would be why I was accessing the systems. It wasn't for a specific need for the inquiry. It was more a specific need for ourselves to be able to feed that in, I think; but it certainly wasn't for the inquiry.
89. I am asked whether I might have accessed other Police Scotland systems, or just Crimefile. I would imagine it would just be Crimefile. I'm guessing whatever I was looking for, I probably got it off one search, a couple of searches on Crimefile. It would be dates of birth and addresses, or maybe the phone numbers that I was looking for specifically, and that does hold that information, so if I was looking for that, I've got it from there. I've certainly not looked at any other systems in relation to Mr Saeed or anybody else.
90. I am asked when, to the best of my recollection, I might have accessed those systems. I think it was pretty much as soon as we'd come back from that address, when we were making the phone calls, I've looked at it. I can't see any reason why I would have looked at it at a later point in relation to that incident, and certainly from the statement, the way it reads there, it was

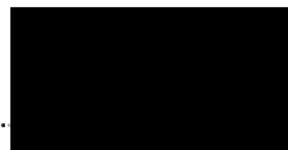
Signature of witness..  .....

accessed on 03 May, so I'm guessing that's been the only day that I've accessed it.

91. I am asked whether accessing Crimefile for purposes such as these would have been a typical use for the system. It can be. There's obviously data protection needs around Crimefile and the other systems that we've got, so you would need to access them for a legitimate purpose, but that system would contain specific information around addresses and phone numbers and dates of birth and that would all be held on one system, so that would be one of the first systems I would look to search for if I was looking for information in relation to somebody.
92. I am asked whether I recall finding anything on Crimefile that might have been of assistance. The only thing, looking back on it now, that I would have been looking for would be either dates of birth or phone numbers, but I'm guessing that I have found that information that I was looking for through that search because I haven't went in and looked at anything else or anybody else. I'm guessing from that search I've obtained what I was looking for, but I can't remember. I couldn't be specific around that.
93. I am asked whether I recall having used Crimefile for similar purposes prior to 03 May 2015. I would imagine so. I'd been in the police for 14 years by that time, so that is a way that I would obtain information, either to get a contact phone number for somebody if we need to speak to them or things like that, but it probably has been something I've used before like that, yes.
94. I am asked whether I recall having used Crimefile for similar purposes since 03 May 2015. Again, I would imagine so. I couldn't be specific around any times or occasions, but I would imagine so.

## Training

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95. I am asked whether I recall having had, prior to 03 May 2015, any training in relation to interacting with witnesses. That's a difficult one to answer because, yes, I've had plenty of training on speaking to witnesses but predominantly that would be around obtaining statements from them, I would say. With regards to interaction with witnesses, I'm guessing that would formulate some of that, but we weren't there to take any statements from any of those people so it was really just a conversation. That would have formed a part of training around witness statements, but it's a difficult one to say because I suppose you build that knowledge up yourself from speaking to people throughout the years when you're doing that as well.
96. I am asked if I recall whether I had had any training on interacting with people with additional needs or disabilities. Again, I would imagine that there has been some training. I couldn't think of anything specifically relating to that. It would be around everybody's needs and that and, again, that would be built up through experience and rapport-building and speaking to people, which would form the conversations you could have with anybody, I would imagine. I can't remember anything specific training-wise, no.
97. I am asked whether I recall any training that I had received that would have touched on the authority for seizing properties. I think that would probably form part of officers' initial training at Tulliallan, around your common law powers and things along those sort of lines. I'd obviously been on a detective course by that time as well. I'd been a DC for a number of years by then. So I can't remember it being part of that training but I would imagine there would have been something that would have touched upon that. So, training-wise, the only thing I would think of would be the initial training course. I joined the police in 2001, and I had 12 weeks of initial training and then a year in I had another six weeks.
98. I am asked if I recall ever being given any training in relation to investigating deaths in custody. No. Again, it might formulate some of my initial stuff in the

Signature of witness..  .....

DC's course that I've attended but I can't recall any specific death in custody training.

99. I am asked whether I recall any training I had received in relation to racial awareness and equality and diversity. Yes. So, I believe that would have formulated some of my initial training at Tulliallan when I joined, and I also attended-- I think it was a two or three-day course at the old police headquarters in Glenrothes around equality and diversity. That would have been towards the end of my probation, and then from there I don't think there was any specific training that I attended, but it would form part of other courses. I can't remember. It's difficult, but I've been in custody training since then as a custody sergeant and that forms part of that, and since then I've had other training, but, in 2015, definitely my initial course and the diversity training. I think it would have been towards the end of my probation, which would probably be 2003-time or something. It's two years your probation runs, so I joined in October 2001 and my probation would end in October 2003.
100. I am asked whether I recall having been given any training in relation to interacting with Muslim women. Muslim women specifically, I would imagine it formulated some of the training I'd received then. Definitely Muslims in general. Whether it was women or men or whatever gender, I don't know, but there would have been training in relation to Muslims and I'm guessing Muslim females would have incorporated that. I can't remember specifically, but there would have been some of that, yes. I've never had specific training in relation to one group of people. That would incorporate equality and diversity training. We've talked about various stuff on religions and race and things like that.
101. I am asked whether I recall any training that I would have received in relation to the use of Police Scotland IT systems. I can't recall it, but I would imagine you would get that training when you joined and when you first got access to the systems.

Signature of witness..  .....

102. I am asked whether I recall any training that I would have had prior to 03 May 2015 that might in any other way have related to any of the tasks that I carried out on that day. Other than the training that I've mentioned, no, I can't think anything off the top of my head, no.

**Race**

103. I am asked if I have ever witnessed any examples of racial discrimination, including inappropriate comments, jokes, 'canteen culture', formal complaints and criminal complaints, by police officers or police staff during my time as a police officer. No, I've certainly never witnessed or experienced that.

104. I am asked what my response would be if I did observe any conduct that I felt was inappropriate on the basis that it involved discrimination on a racial basis, and how such things should be dealt with. If I was there at the time then I guess it would depend on the nature of what that was, but if it was comments then I would certainly challenge it at the time and speak to whoever was involved in it. That's certainly how we are taught and what we've been told previously, and if it was something of a more serious nature, or I thought it wasn't something that could be dealt with by the way of challenging it, I would raise that through my line management as well. That's another option that would be there to me.

105. I am asked whether incidents that require intervention either by me or by senior officers are always ultimately fed back to the Professional Standards Department or if they are sometimes managed 'Sergeant-to-Constable' or 'Inspector-to-Sergeant', etc.. It's difficult for me to say because I've never had to do that, but I'm certainly aware that there is part of the complaints you could deal with something as a first line manager by giving somebody advice. That should be recorded on the systems. I suppose if you were challenging somebody and it was a discussion and it never actually made it to the

Signature of witness..  .....

complaint, then that might not be recorded anywhere, but as I say, it's not something I've ever had to do or have ever taken part in, so I don't know.

**Media**

- 106. I am asked if I have ever spoken to anybody from the press about the incident involving Mr Bayoh. No.
  
- 107. I am asked if I am aware of anyone else having spoken to anybody from the press about the incident involving Mr Bayoh. No.
  
- 108. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that this statement may form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and be published on the Inquiry's website.

Date..... March 24, 2023 | 12:26 PM GMT

Signature of witness..... 