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Summary of meeting

Response to Guardian Article re phone tapping

Friday 17th July 2009 at 8am

Room 556 (ACSO Office) – Victoria block, NSY

Attendees:

AC John Yates - Chair (JY)
DCS Clive Timmons (CT)
DCS Phil Williams (PW)
D/Supt Keith Surtees (KW)
D/Supt Dean Haydon - minutes (DH)
DI Tim Alexander (TA)
Colin Barker (CB)
Sara Cheesely (SC)
Emma Harroway (EH)
Mark Spanton (MS)

Previous minutes agreed and previous actions updated.

Action - FR to confirm with DPS if there are any investigations involving Police corruption / money transactions etc.

Done but SC to check last 10 yrs in press records.

Action - KS to confirm from files who was informed and when.

Ongoing.

Action - PW to confirm with CPS why they require this information.

Complete all details provided for purposes of CPS press release.

Action - KS to obtain David Perry's QC opening on the previous court case as there could be material in here, in public domain that we could rely on.

Complete. Copy with DH.

Action - Colin Barker to confirm what will be required and timings.

Complete. DH informed.

Action - DH to prepare Home Office response to Peter Edmundsson.

Complete.

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DPP has now produced their press statement which is supportive. One issue that needs clarity is that relating to whether CPS saw all our material. PW stated Louis Maberly (Junior Counsel) spent 2/3 days reviewing all material for purposes of disclosure. Therefore if asked we could confirm Police / Counsel had access to and reviewed all relevant material as part of our disclosure obligations under CPIA.

JY stated he had spoken with Chris Huhne MP and he has raised the question as to why the MPS did not pursue Neville Thurlbeck. PW stated that this formed part of his wider prosecution strategy relating to both suspects and victims, which is still robust to this day.

PW emphasised the lack of co-operation from News of the World during this investigation, to include no comment interviews, resistance during searches and refusal to co-operate with telephone data requests. Advice was taken at the time re access to journalistic material which proved difficult.

Action - PW to draft some lines covering this position that can be used for MPA and HASC meetings next week, to include journalistic material issue.

Action - JY to complete File note of Chris Huhne discussion.

SC stated there was little interest being shown in media now but this may increase next week when Andy Coulson and others appear at HASC.

CB stated HASC had not confirmed if they were calling MPS yet and it depends on what information we provide in the briefing notes.

Action - All to review HASC and Culture Committee briefing note and provide feedback to DH by midday today. Copy of report also to be forwarded to Home Secretary and MPA Chief Executive.

All outside requests for information and letters to be forwarded and co-ordinated by DH.

Commissioner at Full authority next week so response to Jenny Jones letter also needs to be completed.

To ensure the MPS has captured all names in the seized material, PW is scoping costs to scan all on ALTIER to enable it to be searched and indexed in the future. He will report back on Monday 20th with outcome. This would protect the MPS position relating to civil cases if requests came in asking what material the MPS held on intrusion of privacy issues.

DS Rob Green and DS Mark Maberley are original team, brought back to work on this enquiry. JY will visit them later.

JY to confirm date and time of next meeting.

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