

Witness: Sir Paul Stephenson
Statement No: 2
Exhibits Referred to: SPS/1
Date Statement Made: 17 March 2012

The Leveson Inquiry into the Culture Practices and Ethics of the Press

This is the exhibit marked 'SPS/1' referred to in the second statement of Sir Paul Stephenson, dated this 17th day of March 2012.

The opportunity to offer
 for the Commission was not
 close (closed) @ 12 noon
 today. I will not be
 (I have not) put my
 name forward through
 both powers of + granted
 for the enormous support
 + encouragement I have
 received, I will not be
 (I have not) putting

Put my name forward
for the position. I think
I consider it to be
the most exciting &
challenging job in
world politics. I do
not believe my
candidacy @ this
time is in the best
interests of the people

we serve as the
organizer of current
load. ~~The~~ While the
that will change
be at the center
of D.D. which
profile issues, ~~the~~
~~part~~ our security part
has seen to much
turbulence associated

in recent days
 that I or any of the
 senior officers under
 my command have,
 or would, ~~be~~
~~participating in~~
~~the~~ affairs or
 operations or judgment
 to be improperly
 influenced by ~~either~~ or
 either to do or not

do weather, is
daily disturbing &
professionally offensive.

~~that says to us~~
I cannot run the
risk of any ambiguity
perceptions ~~of improper~~
of this nature, however
~~speculating~~ & incompetent
they may be. ~~to~~ ~~on the~~
this and I believe

It is to be in the
interests of ~~the~~
~~Organization~~
the community
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from the service
in April next year

~~once a new~~

~~Commissioner~~ ~~the~~ ~~appointment~~ ~~of~~
the appointment of
a new Commissioner.

This will provide
the opportunity for
the appointment of
~~directors to fill~~
~~the two vacant~~
~~positions in the~~

by the best and senior people
people who are in the
confident they
can work with this
MBA leadership,
unencumbered by
the past.

The opportunity to apply for the Commissioners post closes (closed) @ 12 noon today. Though both proud of and grateful for the enormous support and encouragement I have received, I will not be (I have not) putting my (put) my name forward for the position. Though I consider it to be the most exciting and challenging job in world policing, I do not believe my candidacy @ this time is in the best interests of the people we serve or the organisation I currently lead. Whilst the Met will always be @ the centre of difficult and high profile issues, our recent past has seen too much turbulence associated with as much who we are as opposed to the job we do. Particularly damaging have been the allegations over recent years of political partiality. The correctness or otherwise of our operational activity to investigate potential criminal offences associated with a series of leaks of govt papers will be judged in due course. That is right. However, suggestions in recent days that I or any of the senior officers under my command have, or would allow our operational judgement to be improperly influenced by politics or politicians, either to do or not do something, is deeply disturbing and professionally offensive. I cannot run the risk of any continuing perceptions of this nature, however speculative and incorrect they may be. The Met must move on from this. To this end I believe it to be in the interests of my organisation and the communities we serve for there to be a clear change of leadership. Accordingly I will be retiring from the service in April next year following the appointment of a new Commissioner. This will provide the opportunity for the appointment of people to the two most senior positions in the Met who are confident they can work with this MPA leadership, unencumbered by the past.