1		1	Q. In terms of who you are, you are head of corporate
2	(2.00 pm)	2	communications at the Avon and Somerset constabulary.
3	MR JAY: There's one small point I need to cover with	3	You have been since April 2009. You have previous
4	Mr Jones which I forgot to, so may I recall him to deal	4	experience in the public sector and you report, as
5	with that?	5	indeed do others in your position, to the Deputy
6	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: By all means.	6	Chief Constable. Is that all correct?
7	MR JAY: Mr Jones, the point is this: in relation to	7	A. Yes, I do.
8	a reward which the Sun newspaper were keen to offer, do	8	Q. May I ask you, please, about question 6, first of all,
9	you have any direct knowledge of that?	9	page 10511. You say:
10	A. Yes, I do, sir. I think very early on in the	10	"All requests for media interviews with Avon and
11	investigation there was initially a £10,000 reward	11	Somerset police officers and staff are managed through
12	offered by Crimestoppers. Some time in early January,	12	CCD."
13	I think around about 7 January could have been	13	Do you have knowledge or experience of journalists
14	earlier than that the Sun offered a reward.	14	making direct contact with police officers which you
15	Q. Yes.	15	learn about subsequently?
16	A. Which was £50,000.	16	A. That does happen occasionally, but those officers would
17	Q. That was 6 January.	17	contact members of my team before speaking to
18	A. Okay. What we were seeking to do is to facilitate	18	journalists, and we would support them in doing that.
19	link that reward in with the work Crimestoppers were	19	Q. In your own words, please, what are the advantages of
20	doing and to have a single point of contact for	20	having a central point, which is you, for the
21	information. I think initially there were difficulties	21	dissemination of information to the media?
22	and challenges around that, and I think initially the	22	A. I think in this day and age, especially where we have
23	Sun wanted telephone calls to go directly to them on	23	24-hour media and social media and a high level of media
24	a particular number. Clearly we were concerned about	24	enquiries coming in, it makes an awful lot of sense for
25	that, and then I understand that there was a mutual	25	them to be managed through one point. Obviously, quite
	Page 1		Page 3
1	agreement with Crimestoppers and the Sun and there was	1	often one enquiry from a journalist may well be
1 2	agreement with Crimestoppers and the Sun and there was actually a telephone number nublished, which I recollect	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	often one enquiry from a journalist may well be replicated over a number of different occasions by
2	actually a telephone number published, which I recollect	2	replicated over a number of different occasions by
2 3	actually a telephone number published, which I recollect was the Crimestoppers number, and that was around about	2 3	replicated over a number of different occasions by different journalists, therefore from the point of view
2 3 4	actually a telephone number published, which I recollect was the Crimestoppers number, and that was around about 7 January.	2 3 4	replicated over a number of different occasions by different journalists, therefore from the point of view of consistency and just relieving the officers so that
2 3	actually a telephone number published, which I recollect was the Crimestoppers number, and that was around about 7 January. Q. You have provided a comment or quote for the Sun, which	2 3	replicated over a number of different occasions by different journalists, therefore from the point of view
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2 3 4 5 6	actually a telephone number published, which I recollect was the Crimestoppers number, and that was around about 7 January. Q. You have provided a comment or quote for the Sun, which	2 3 4 5	replicated over a number of different occasions by different journalists, therefore from the point of view of consistency and just relieving the officers so that they can continue with the job they need to do, it makes
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1 (Pages 1 to 4)

1	relationship is better or is it because there's	1	a huge amount of speculation around this case, and in
2	a different standard of practice between the regionals	2	order not to foment that speculation and attempt to
3	and the nationals? How would you define that?	3	reduce it, the policy was to cease to engage as fully as
4	A. I think it's a combination of both. We obviously work	4	you might have wished. Was that also a factor?
5	on a very regular basis with local and regional	5	A. That was, and in my statement I talk about the issue of
6	journalists because they're an important tool for us in	6	jigsaw identification and I think it's the first time
7	feeding information into the community and reassuring	7	that we'd come across that in the context of a case that
8	the public and so on, and they also have a better	8	wasn't relating to child victims. In this case it was
9	understanding of what we do on a day to day basis and	9	actually very different because we had many, many
10	the communities that we serve, whereas the national	10	journalists asking numerous questions and making
11	media will quite often come in, report and then go away	11	numerous enquiries on a day-to-day basis, and through
12	again. So there's quite a significant difference	12	a process of elimination there was a concern that they
13	between the two.	13	would get to the heart of the investigation. So we did
14	Q. Thank you. May I move forward, please, to question 13,	14	draw a line in the sand at one stage and we continued to
15	page 10514. The question was:	15	respond where we could, where we felt it was
16	"What is the media's attitude towards the press	16	appropriate, always in consultation with the SIO, and of
17	office?"	17	course, I discussed that at the daily meetings with the
18	You say:	18	Chief Constable and the ACC, but on some things we did
19	"On a day-to-day basis, the attitude is pretty	19	say we would neither confirm nor deny.
20	positive but I think it is fair to say that the media	20	Q. Question 26 next, please. Page 10518. I'm not covering
21	suffer the existence of a corporate communications	21	all the ground in your statement. You've given very
22	department/press office. Any journalist would say that	22	full and clear answers to many questions. I'm just
23	their preference is to deal directly with an individual	23	dealing with matters which may require some elaboration
24	officer because they believe that they would get more	24	or clarification.
25	from them. We know from direct conversations with	25	The question here relates to training, and your
	Page 5		Page 7
1	individual journalists subsequent to the Joanna Yeates	1	answer is:
2	murder investigation that the media became particularly	2	"Each new member of corporate communications staff
3	frustrated by the perceived barrier of the CCD because	3	receives a personal induction by me and is made fully
4	of the paucity of information they felt they received	4	aware of the need to maintain appropriate relationships
5	from us."	5	with the media."
6	That's clearly a frank answer, Ms Hirst. Just two	6	Are there any particular messages which you give
7	points on it. The direct conversations with individual	7	during this personal induction, and are there occasions
8	journalists, were these regional or national	8	on which the recipient of those messages is ever
9	journalists?	9	surprised by what you say because it might be
10	A. In the context of the Joanna Yeates investigation, we	10	counter-intuitive or for whatever other reason?
11	dealt with regional, national and some international	11	A. The key messages are around openness, honesty and
12	journalists.	12	proportionality and working to the rules and the letter
12	Q. The reference to their feeling that they were receiving	12	of the law, which I think are very important. I can't
14	from you a paucity of information, do you feel that	13	think of any member of staff who has come into the
15	there was any justification behind the perception they	15	department since I've been head who has been surprised
16	had?	16	at that. I think it's common practice and recognised
17	A. I think in the Joanna Yeates case, it was unusual in the	17	that the relationship between media relations officers,
18	sense, as Mr Jones has already said, that it happened at	18	communications officers and the media has to be there
19	a time of the year when there was an awful lot of	19	has to be a bit of distance and a bit of a firewall
20	airtime and print space to fill and there wasn't a lot	20	between the two.
20	of other things about. I also think that on that in	21	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: To some extent, that description
21	those occasions, obviously there is significant pressure	22	openness, honesty, proportionality, working to the rules
22	from journalists to answer an unrelenting number of	23	and the letter of the law might be described as
	press enquiries, and it becomes very difficult.	24	comparatively obvious. Why does it cause problems then?
24			realized by the second state of the second s
24 25		25	Not with you, but with your dealings with the press
24 25	Q. The point that Mr Jones made as well was that there was Page 6	25	Not with you, but with your dealings with the press. Page 8

1	A. I think in the context certainly of investigations like	1	MR JAY: Your definition of appropriate contact, Ms Hirst
2	the Joanna Yeates investigation but there have been	2	this is question 27 is both axiomatic and common
3	others: the M5 collision in the autumn and other major	3	sense. It's just the last point you make:
4	cases that we've been involved in I think the problem	4	" reflective of an agreed organisational view."
5	is the media constantly want more, and in the context of	5	Why is it inappropriate contact if the view which is
6	Joanna Yeates in particular, one of the constant	6	being imparted is not an agreed organisational view but
7	refrains that we had from some journalists was that it	7	may be a reasonable minority view?
8	was in the public interest, they had a right to know,	8	A. There will always be a case where, for example, the
9	and I think certainly our perception was very much	9	chair of the Superintendents Association will give
10	that they wanted to be inside the investigation, which	10	a different view to the view of the organisation, and
11	clearly was never going to be tenable.	11	I think there's room for that, and I think we have to
12	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. I've said earlier on in this	12	respect that, but if a police officer is speaking to the
13	Inquiry that everybody behaves well until the next big	13	media, then in the context of whether it's cannabis or
14	story, and then the whole thing goes to pot, and that	14	whether it's organised crime or sexual assaults or
15	might be summarised by what Mr Morgan said:	15	whetever, I think it's very important that that police
16	"Fame and crime sends most of the usual rules out of	16	officer is representing the policy and the view of the
17	the window."	17	force as opposed to a personal opinion.
18	So at some stage you may not have an answer	18	Q. So on matters of strategy, of policy, there may be
19	Mr Jay will come to it. I'd like to know whether you do	19	a difference between junior officers expressing views
20	have an answer, whether there is an approach that will	20	which are heterodox, personal views off-piste, on the
20	work, that will demonstrate that actually the rules are	20	
21		21 22	one hand. If you look higher up the chain, though, more
	even more important in these very big, very, very		senior officers may have greater latitude; is that what
23	high-profile cases, not less important.	23	it amounts to?
24	A. I welcome very much that comment that you made, sir.	24	A. Yes. If the Chief Constable were asked for a view, then
25	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Well, you welcome the comment, but $D_{2} = 0$	25	obviously the Chief Constable would give his view.
	Page 9		Page 11
1	what's the answer?	1	I imagine that I'm sure it would be in the context of
2	A. I think the answer is that in my view, the rules of	2	the way that we operate within the constabulary. But
2 3	A. I think the answer is that in my view, the rules of media handling in large cases are not that different to	2 3	the way that we operate within the constabulary. But that comment was reflected was meant to reflect much
	-		
3	media handling in large cases are not that different to	3	that comment was reflected was meant to reflect much
3 4	media handling in large cases are not that different to the normal rules that we follow, and the issue is that	3 4	that comment was reflected was meant to reflect much more the views of more junior officers, the rank and
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3 (Pages 9 to 12)

1	you say that during the investigation the print media in	1	always with the right expertise. That's really your
2	particular adopted a tactic of elimination via multiple	2	point, isn't it?
3	speculative media enquiries. Do you really put it as	3	A. Yes.
4	high as that, that it was a deliberate tactic, or is	4	Q. "Dangers of comparison". Well, that point speaks for
5	that just the way it appeared to you?	5	itself. Differences between a case where the offender
6	A. It certainly appeared to be a deliberate tactic, sir,	6	is still at large and you're trying to catch them and
7	yes. Perhaps I should just give you a bit of context.	7	cases where the identity of the offender was known. You
8	Q. Yes.	8	can't draw analogies between the two.
9	A. With the Joanna Yeates investigation, we had some of	9	Your last point is an interesting one: "The public
10	the national media organisations sent down three or four	10	have a right to know", which is presumably the line many
11	or five journalists to investigate, to look at the to	11	journalists give you in an attempt to prise more
12	report the case, and on many occasions we were fielding	12	information out of you. What's your attitude to that?
13	multiple enquiries from one media organisation and that	13	A. Yes. The public have a right to know within bounds,
14	was multiplied by a number of media organisations on	14	within boundaries, and I think throughout that
15	a very regular basis. Whether it was a deliberate	15	investigation and throughout other investigations, we
16	tactic, it certainly felt at the time as though it was,	16	provide the media with as much as we can, always led, of
17	and certainly I think the point of it was very much to	17	course, by the SIO.
18	get to the heart of the investigation.	18	I think there's another point to make here as well,
19	My view was that obviously we had to do everything	19	which is a really crucial one. Certainly in the
20	in our power to prevent that, which is why, when we	20	Joanna Yeates case, we know that Vincent Tabak was
21	discussed with the chief and the ACC and the SIO at one	21	actually following the progress of the investigation via
22	stage, we decided to stop answering speculative media	22	the media, and also on our own website and through other
23	enquiries and issued a statement to that effect.	23	social media, and that was something that the
24	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Isn't there a further risk here,	24	investigation team picked up and was also discussed
25	which is the fact that what is being overlooked is that	25	openly in court. So it was very, very important for us
20	Page 13		Page 15
	6		ŭ
1	the investigation is dynamic? In other words, different	1	to preserve the integrity of that investigation and
2	information can change the view. So looking at a fact	2	ensure that anything that was inappropriate or shouldn't
3	through one set of spectacles may lead to one	3	get out into the public domain was contained.
4	conclusion, but if you add another fact, then the	4	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So you can summarise that as saying
5	picture looks very different, and if you have gone into	5	the public have the right to know what it is appropriate
6	print on fact one, it becomes more difficult and	6	and safe to let them know. What they most certainly do
7	potentially creates problems for the investigation if	7	not have the right to know is anything that, by its
8	fact two changes the perception of fact one. Is that	8	publication, may interfere with or even prejudice
9	sufficiently clear?	9	ongoing inquiries. Is that
10	A. Yes, sir.	10	A. Yes, sir. That was a constant refrain to journalists,
11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. But is it right?	11	was that we could not in any way prejudice or allow
12	A. It is right. It is right, and I think that was one of	12	their reporting to prejudice the integrity of the
13	the real dangers, that fact one would get published and	13	investigation, nor whatever trial might ultimately take
14	then other journalists would pick it up and would take	14	place.
15	a lead from that, and pursue that particular line or go	15	MR JAY: Was it your experience at the time, to pick up a
16	off in a number of other tangents. So we ended up with	16	point you made earlier, that when you made that point to
17	a lot of very, very inaccurate reporting, which created	17	an experienced crime reporter, the point was readily
18	problems for the SIO and the investigation team at	18	understood, but when you made the point to a generalist
19	times.	19	reporter, it was less readily understood?
20	MR JAY: Your next heading but you're perhaps grouping	20	A. Yes, sir, it was. We had at one stage during the
21	here different contexts: "Leaks and investigative	21	investigation, we had one feature writer for a national
22	journalism". Those two aren't synonymous, of course,	22	newspaper who wanted to come and spend a day with the
23	but your answer is really directed to the use of	23	investigation team to write a feature piece on a day in
24	experts, in inverted commas, who comment on the	24	the life of the investigation team, and of course we
25	investigation from afar with imperfect knowledge and not	25	declined, but such was the varied nature of some the
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4 (Pages 13 to 16)

1			
	requests, the more bizarre ones that we got.	1	from?
2	Q. You prepared a log which you called "The inside story".	2	A. No, I didn't, sir.
3	It's under your tab 21 and starts at our page 11320. If	3	Q. I'm not saying you would have got an answer.
4	I can just understand the genesis of this document, is	4	A. No.
5	this something you were preparing at the time or at the	5	Q. Move on to 4 January. This is the items of clothes
6	end of the 34 days, I think it was, did you come back to	6	missing. Can we be clear what the position was here?
7	your records and prepare this document?	7	Is it right that two journalists from the Sun separately
8	A. Yes, sir, it was prepared at the end of the	8	corporate communications on 4 January?
9	investigation. We have a like a number of other	9	A. My recollection is that it was one journalist and my
10	forces, we have a computer logging system, so every	10	recollection is that it was the crime editor of the Sun
11	contact with the media is logged, and in this case was	11	who contacted us.
12	obviously logged throughout. That includes questions	12	Q. Do you remember a Mr Coles contacting you later on that
13	from the media, it includes our responses, it includes	13	day in the evening?
14	statements, and, as you can see, all of this information	14	A. I don't recollect contact with Mr Coles that evening.
15	was picked up from that log. I prepared it at the end	15	Q. Fair enough.
16	of the process because the Chief Constable and I felt	16	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: We just pass by:
17	that it would be something that would be very useful for	17	"ITN, 10 pm. News report very negative. Expert at
18	us just to see exactly what the issues had been and,	18	Longwood Lane critiquing investigation and alleging
19	I suppose, see it in black and white.	19	glaring omissions. No right to reply or comment given
20	It was also shared selectively by the chief with one	20	in advance of broadcast. Expert is"
21	or two other people, other ACPO members.	21	Is that "detective constable"?
22	Q. Can I just ask you about a few of the entries, please.	22	A. Yes, sir.
23	2 January, on the next page, 11321, this is the Mail	23	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: "Ex-family liaison officer"?
24	asking you about low copy DNA. Were you concerned, when	24	A. Yes, sir.
25	you learnt of that, that there was a leak from somewhere	25	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: " from Surrey with PPU"
	Page 17		Page 19
1	within your organisation? I don't mean your department,	1	There you've got me. What does that mean?
2	but I mean the force as a whole.	2	
2 3		2 3	A. Public protection unit, sir.
	A. Yes. Clearly there was a concern that the Mail had got		A. Public protection unit, sir. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: " but no murder investigation
3	A. Yes. Clearly there was a concern that the Mail had got that information, but I think that the most important	3	A. Public protection unit, sir. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: " but no murder investigation experience."
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15 conditions referring to the reward." 15 media hoax information; wants off-the-record st	ne is;
	ng the
16 I know you deal with it in your statement later on 16 name is correct."	eer that
10 Indiffe is contect.	
17 but what is your evidence in relation to that sequence 17 Can we deal with two points there? First of a	11,
18 of events? 18 did you give any offer-the-record steers?	
19 A. Yes, sir. The we had an initial contact from the Sun 19 A. No, sir.	
20 earlier on. Crimestoppers had offered a £10,000 reward 20 Q. Were they barking up the wrong tree?	
and the Sun were proposing to add an extra £25,000 to 21 A. Yes, sir.	
that. The SIO wasn't especially keen on us doing that 22 Q. Perhaps I should ask you about the first bullet	point
at that stage because there were some concerns about the 23 from that day, when the ITV contacted you:	
24 administrative processes. We said that that would be 24 "He's no longer a suspect [that's Mr Jefferies,	of
25 okay if Crimestoppers were involved because of course 25 course]; can we confirm?"	
Page 21 Page 23	
1 they have those processes set up. 1 Again, did you confirm that or not?	
2 The manager from Crimestoppers contacted the Sun and 2 A. We would have spoken to Mr Jones and would	d have gone
3 started to carry out some of those negotiations, and 3 back to the to ITV with a response to that, si	-
4 they ground to a halt, and about a week elapsed and 4 Q. The next page, two points on the Mail. We're sti	
5 then, on 6 January, the Sun called us again and said 5 9 January:	
6 that they wanted to offer a £50,000 reward. At that 6 "DNA sampling and elimination of suspects thr	ough
7 stage, they were saying that Crimestoppers couldn't 7 proximity and location of two mobile phone master	6
8 facilitate that because it was too short notice, so the 8 by editor to check whether we had problems with	
9 proposal from the Sun was that they were going to do it 9 line but would be running these lines anyway."	
10 anyway and they were going to include in their 10 A. Yes, sir. This happened on a number of occas	ions. The
11 front-page lead a number that would be a Sun number. We 11 media were selective quite often about what to	
12 negotiated with the Sun that the number should be the 12 respond whether to use some of the response	s that we
13 incident room number rather than a Sun newspaper 13 gave them, if it didn't fit their story, and this w	
14 telephone number, and it eventually went ahead. 14 example of that. It didn't happen with every m	
15 Q. Mm? 15 Organisation but it happened with a number of	
16A. It was at that stage that I think I say in my16Q. So can I just understand that last answer. Wheth	-
17 statement that the news editor freely admitted that this 17 information you might give them would fit their s	
18 story was selling newspapers and there was a strong 18 what was the story here? Can you be clear about	
19 drive from on high to keep the exclusives and the 19 please?	,
20 stories on the front page. 20 A. The story was that the through as it says,	through
21 Q. Are you intending to convey by that answer that you were 21 DNA sampling and the elimination of suspects	-
22 reluctant to participate in the reward offer in the 22 proximity and location of two mobile phone ma	-
23 sense of providing the phone number or not? 23 we were using those two techniques to actually	
24 A. No, sir. I think once the negotiation had been 24 people from the inquiry. Again, we would have	
25 completed and they used our own incident room number, we 25 Mr Jones and clearly those were investigative t	-
Page 22 Page 24	

1	that, even if we were using them, we wouldn't have	1	A. Yes, sir. And she
2	wanted to disclose.	2	Q. You say she becomes rude and accuses press officer of
3	And that's sorry, sir, I think that's also a good	3	being rude and dismissing her idea?
4	example of what I mean by this process of elimination in	4	A. Yes, sir.
5	terms of lines of inquiry.	5	Q. Her idea was nonsense, wasn't it, to be frank?
6	Q. But they were making clear to you that whatever you	6	A. Yes, sir, absolutely.
7	said, is this right, even if you had had problems with	7	Q. Okay. I'm nearly finished with these. 14 January,
8	either line, they would have published the story anyway?	8	page 11325. The last entry again for the Mail. The
9	A. Yes, sir.	9	question was:
10	Q. Is that what you're saying?	10	"Has another police force been approached with
11	A. Yes, sir. That particular incidence, I think, happened	11	regard to stalker crime. Categoric denial; suggest to
12	over a weekend and it was the media relations manager	12	Mail that report on this would be irresponsible."
13	who had those conversations with the Mail. There is an	13	The implication there is that you needed to persuade
14	entry in our Prologue system to that effect, sir.	14	them quite strongly not to report that. Is that a fair
15	Q. The next item for the Mail:	15	inference?
16	"Reliable source tells of discussion this week about	16	A. Yes, sir, and you will see the following day, on
17	an overhaul of enquiry team. Serious meeting planned.	17	Saturday, 15 January, I had a call from our head of PPU
18	Concerns about number of experienced detectives working	18	to said that he'd had a call from an ex-colleague in
19	on case. Will be running this story tomorrow despite	19	Greater Manchester about a query from the Mail on Sunday
20	our denial their source is 'very good'."	20	regarding collaboration with Avon and Somerset police on
21	Did they run the story, to your recollection,	21	stalker crime and the Jo Yeates murder. So even though
22	despite your denial?	22	we'd made it very clear to them on the Friday that
23	A. I don't recollect. I suspect they must have done,	23	a report on this would be irresponsible, they still
24	because otherwise I don't think I would have included	24	pursued it on the Saturday.
25	that entry in here, sir. There was a lot of discussion	25	Q. Just two entries more. 17 January, this is to do with
	Page 25		Page 27
1	and dahata as I said contian shout the unlightlitum and	1	the Base development
1	and debate, as I said earlier, about the reliability and	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	the Ikea drivers:
2	the abilities of the SIO and the investigation team.	$\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	"The Sun are conducting their own murder
3	I took a decision not to share that with Mr Jones,	3	investigation, contacting one of two Ikea drivers (who
4	because I felt it was information that he just didn't	4	delivered to Jo's flat in November) at his home address;
5	need at that point, and he only found out about this	5	media linking it to alleged arrest of two people; lots
6	when he saw this when he saw this material through the	6	of media calls."
7	Inquiry.	7	Did you have a suspicion in relation to that that
8	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: All this must put an intolerable	8	information might have been leaking out of the Avon and
9	pressure on any senior investigating officer, and indeed	9	Somerset force to the Sun?
10	on those who are supporting the senior investigating	10	A. At that stage, it wasn't quite so clear. It became
11	officer, who after all is trying to detect a murder, and	11	clearer subsequently and it became clear relatively
12	unlike the television, it can't necessarily be done	12	recently that one of our police officers had suggested
13	within the hour.	13	that they'd been eavesdropped, but in fact I think that
14	A. Yes, sir, I think it did. We worked very hard to give	14	was just pure supposition and a throwaway comment. We
15	the SIO as much support as possible, and I spoke to him	15	know, as Mr Port said, that it didn't come from within
16	very, very regularly and suggested to him that he	16	our force; it came from externally.
17	shouldn't watch the news or read the newspapers, that	17	Q. Yes. Then there's another rather inappropriate request.
18	I would or my team would provide him with what we felt	18	This is the last point, Ms Hirst. You see for
19 20	was relevant, purely because there was no need for him	19	18 January it's the same features writer in the Mail
20	to be aware of some of those debates about his	20	on Sunday:
21	abilities. It could have been very demotivating for him	21	"Would it be possible to interview Jo's parents?"
22	and his team, sir.	22	A. Yes. That was just one example. We also had, quite
23	MR JAY: We picked up the reference on 10 January to the	23	early on in the investigation, a request from the
24	feature writer at the Mail. You see that? You've told	24	Victoria Derbyshire show, which is a live chat show on
25	us about that. You name her here.	25	Radio 5 Live, requesting a half-hour live interview with
	Page 26		Page 28

7 (Pages 25 to 28)

1	Jo's parents, which we, of course, declined on their	1	take the time, really, to complain. But what about
2	behalf.	2	after it was all over? Of course, it's over and to that
3	Q. You obviously felt it necessary, at the end of this	3	extent you have another problem to deal with, but in
4	and the end of this is 22 January, when Vincent Tabak is	4	an attempt to try to address these issues, it's
5	charged to write all this up, as it were, for	5	important that everybody learns.
6	posterity. Was that your intention, as it were?	6	A. It is, sir, yes and obviously, as I said, that's why
7	A. I felt and the Chief Constable and I spoke about this	7	we I did the presentations to ACPO. But I take your
8	at some length, we there was a lessons learnt session	8	point, sir, that we should probably have shared this
9	after this for obviously it's important that we learn	9	more widely, with the Press Complaints Commission
10	from things like this and see whether or not there are	10	perhaps and APCOM.
11	any things that we can improve and things that we can do	11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I was actually thinking of Ofcom.
12	better or differently, and I think that such was the	12	A. Sorry, Ofcom.
13	nature of this that we felt it was important that we set	13	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Who are responsible for the
14	it down and just analyse it ourselves, which is what we	14	regulation of broadcast services.
15	did.	15	A. The Chief Constable did complain to Ofcom specifically
16	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That's fine for you learning how to	16	about the ITN issue, sir. But that was resolved in the
17	do it better, but I notice there are a couple of	17	end and that complaint was withdrawn.
18	PowerPoint presentations that are also exhibited to your	18	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. Well, whether I take it up
19	statement. Is this a presentation you've given to other	19	myself is another matter, and not with those bodies.
20	police forces as well?	20	MR JAY: Two final points on this issue. Question 37, back
21	A. Yes, sir.	21	in your witness statement, Ms Hirst. It's our
22	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So that everybody's learning from	22	page 10523, where you refer to the significant pressure
23	your experience?	23	the journalists were under. You say:
24	A. Yes, sir. Yes. The presentations in here were given to	24	"I was told during the Joanna Yeates investigation
25	the association ACPO, the Communications Advisory	25	by a national news desk editor that sales had increased
	Page 29		Page 31
1	Group and the police communications officers that	1	as a result of their constant coverage, hence the
2	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Another question, for balance and	2	imperative from on high to sustain the flow of
3	fairness: were the television authorities better or not	3	exclusives and new leads."
4	as good or the same?	4	Are you paraphrasing there what the national news
5	A. About the same, sir.	5	editor told you?
6	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Did you raise any of this either with	6	A. Not exactly, sir, but the national news editor certainly
7	the Press Complaints Commission or with Ofcom?	7	said that sales had increased as a result of their
8	A. We didn't at the time, sir, no. I think the chief and	8	constant coverage, and he did suggest during that
9	I had a discussion about that but felt that it probably	9	conversation, I seem to recall, that there was
10	wouldn't have made a substantial amount of difference.	10	therefore it was in the context of the discussion
11	We have complained in the past. In fact, as part of	11	about the £50,000 reward, and he suggested that that was
12	this, preparing for Leveson, the Chief Constable asked	12	one of the reasons that they were pushing for the
13	me to have a look at complaints that we've made to the	13	reward, because it gave them another front-page lead for
14	media in the last five years or so. We've made 17	14	the following day, which helped to keep sales up.
15	complaints over the past five years.	15	Q. So it's the Sun then, and it wasn't pure altruism
16	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes?	16	offering the reward; it was simply a means of
17	A. Seven of which have been to the BBC. Not just over	17	increasing
18	this, but over a series of different issues. So we are	18	A. No, sir.
19	quite robust in complaining when we feel there is	19	Q their sales?
20	justification to do that. On this occasion I think,	20	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That might be a little unkind. The
21	because we were in the middle of a very fast-moving	21	word "simply" might be a little unkind, Mr Jay.
22	investigation and a very challenging and unrelenting	22	MR JAY: Okay. I'll think about it.
			I'm called to put to you a specific point on
23	media frenzy, we didn't go down that route.	23	I'm asked to put to you a specific point on
	media frenzy, we didn't go down that route. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I can quite understand why, at the	23 24	paragraph 61, your second example. We have touched on
23	media frenzy, we didn't go down that route.		
23 24	media frenzy, we didn't go down that route. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I can quite understand why, at the	24	paragraph 61, your second example. We have touched on

8 (Pages 29 to 32)

2 A. Yes, sir. 2 good - a very sound culture within the organisation in 3 Q. One core participant has asked me to put you this: duit wash in fact the cime editor who contacted 5 you; it was the Sum's west county correspondent John complacent. Think it's very important that we're 6 Sum, sir, but that's certainly something I can check in professionalism in everything that we do. 10 Q. Think the point is this: that you had good working Hi Naw you very much, MS Hörs. 11 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. D. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So we move from Brisol in Durham 12 A. Yes, we tid, sir. I became a little strained during His Now. D. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much. Well just let 14 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. D. MC DUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much. Well just let 15 Q. And the secondary point is this: that you His Mi NON. MR THOMAS JONATHAN STODDART well 16 Mc Boas, but MC Stodar, fint of all. Think you've given Joue statements to the inquity. 17 didn't spake to him	1			
3 Q. One core purticipant has asked me to put to you this: 3 Terms of media, but 1 don't think we can approximate to put to you this 4 that it wast't in fact the crime editor who contacted 4 5 you: it was the Surs we county correspondent John 6 6 Coles. Do you recall that? 6 7 A. My recollection is that it was the crime editor of the 8 8 Sun, sir, but that's certainly something I can check in 6 9 our Prologue record, our computer record. 10 10 Q. I think that's to you had goed working 11 11 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 14 12 A. Yes, we did, sr. It became a little strained during 13 13 G. An the socondary point is this that you had idd 14 14 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 15 15 Q. An the socondary point is this that you had idd 15 16 Mr Coles - and I know it hay our explance than you 16 17 destable to differ, sir, on that. I think the som - and 17 18 MR TODENET. Yeah, yis Thoonas		clothing.	1	the Chief Constable, that actually we have a very
4 that it wash it fait the crime editor who contacted 4 complacent. I think it's very important that we're 5 you; it wash it fait the crime editor of the 6 containably reminded of the need for integrity and 7 A. My recollection is that it was the crime editor of the 7 A. My recollection is that it was the crime editor of the 8 Sun, sin, but that's certainly something: I can check in 7 A. Thank you, very much much indeed. 10 Q. I think the point is this: that you had a good working 1 I LORD USTICE LEVESON: Thak you very much. We'll just let 11 A. Teak secondary point is this: that if you had told 1 I LORD USTICE LEVESON: Thak you very much. We'll just let 12 A. Yes, we did, sir. It became a fittle strained during 1 I LORD USTICE LEVESON: Thak you very much. We'll just let 14 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 1 A relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 15 O. And the some you we'ld compromise 1 Chief Constable Tow Minses statement rive. 16 that we some annoy other examples here - would sagest that 1 MR STODDART: Yeah, i's Thomas Jonathan Steddart. 17 A. Thank we'n m my dealings with the S			1	• •
5 you; it was the Sun's west country correspondent John 5 cominally reminded of the need for integrity and 6 Coles. Do you recall that? 7 A. My recall that? 7 7 A. My recall that? 7 A. My recall that? 7 10 Q. I think the point is this: that you had a good working 1 1 1 1 11 relationship with MC coles: is that right? 10 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So we move from Bristol to Durham 12 A. Yes, we did, sir. It became a little strained during 11 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much indeed. 13 this investigation is shis: that if yon bad told 10 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much. Well just let 14 relationships with soure of the reporters that we had. 14 Avon and Somere leve and let Darham arrive. 15 Q. And the secondary point is this: that if yon bad told 15 MR THOMAS JONATHAN STODDART (sown) 16 MC coles - and I know it your evidence that you 16 MS BODN 17 questions by MS BOON 18 MS BODNAR: Thank you every much. Net firet arrive and the secondary point is this: that if you had told 15 10 14 ret are many be Som. Would				
6 Coles. Do your could that? 6 preofessionalism in very-thing that we do. 7 A. My recollection is that it was the crime editor of the 8 9 mark you very much. Ms Ilisst. 9 our Prologue record, our computer record. 10 DI DIDINTCE LEVESON: So we move from Bristol to Durham 11 Q. I think the point is fin: ath you had good working 11 NS BOON: We do, sir. The next winesses are 12 A. Yes, we did, sir. Ib became a little strained during 11 INS DOON: We do, sir. The next winesses are 13 this investigation, as did many of those working 11 IDOB DIZTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much. Well just let 14 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 14 Avon and Somerset leave and let Durham arrive. 15 Q. And the secondary point is hir: that if you had told 15 MR THOMAS JONATILAN STODDART (swom) 16 MC Stopodart, Tink you very would. Well just let 16 MS BOON: We do, sin: The next winess statement with you very would. Well just let 17 Q. I during way, he would have ensured it 10 MR STODDART: Yeah, it's Thomas Jonathan Stoldart. 20 ther? Wint of the range of the record. 16 MR STODDART: Yeah. it's Thomas Jonathan Stoldart.				
7 A. My recollection is that it was the crime cliftor of the 8 7 MR IAY: Thank you very much, Ms Itriz. 8 Jour Prologue record, our computer record. 0 1 1 1 10 Q. 1 think the point is this: that you had a good working relationship with Mar Coles: is that right? 1 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 1000000000000000000000000000000000000			5	
8 Sun, sir, but that's certainly something I can check in our Prologue record, our computer record. 8 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you very much indeed. 9 Our Prologue record, our computer record. 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So we move from Bristol to Durham II relationship with Mr Coles; is that right? 11 A. Yes, we did, sir. It became a little strained during It is investigation, as did many of those working It is investigation in any way, he would hove morpomise It didn't speak to him that the story would compromise It didn't speak to him that the story would compromise It didn't speak to him that the story would our enorganise It didn't speak to him that the story would our enorganise It didn't speak to him that the story would have resured it If they store remany other examples here would suggest the WashT run by the Sun. Would you like to comment on It didn't speak to him that the story would suggest the washT run by the Sun. Would you like to comment on It dura? 10 MR THOMAS JONATHAN STODDART (sworn) 21 A. Tha - I would beg to differ, sir, on that. I think the evidence that 1 saw from my dealings with the Sun - and It are rune? 20 With Store record, if you could just If they thought they had an exclusive, that they would It have grave aband and printed it anyway. But that's my Page 33 21 A. Thank yin, With Store Page 33 21 1 are true? 2 1 are true? 2 2 0.1 URD CLEVESON: Thack with Norbumbria police. You the Halfier report on the sink with			6	
9 our Prologue record, our computer record. 9 A. Thank ym. 10 Q. I think the point is this: that you had a good working 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So we move from Bristol to Durham 11 MS BOON: We do, sir. The next witnesses are 2 12 A. Yes, we tid, sir. It became a little strained during 11 MS BOON: We do, sir. The next witnesses are 12 A. Yes, we tid, sir. It became a little strained during 14 A son and Somerst leave and let Durham arrive. 13 O. And the secondary point is this: that if you buil tool 16 MC CORS — and I know if's your veidene that you 16 MC CORS — and I know if's your veidene that you 17 Questions by MS BOON 18 the investigation in any way, be would have ensured it 18 MS BOON: MS Soudart. first of all. U hink you've given 20 that? if they thought they had an exclusive, that the would 20 You've provided two winness statement to the liquit? 21 A. The - I would beg to differ, sir, on that. I think the 22 You've provided two winness statement to the liquit? 23 there are many other examples here - would suggest that 24 MR STODDART: I can do, yes. 24 the liftINC report and Elizabeth Filkin report. Of coure		-	7	
10 Q. 1 think the point is this; that ight? 10 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So we now from Bristol to Durham 11 relationship with Mr Coles; is that right? 11 MS BOON: We do, sir. The next witnesses are 12 A. Yes, we did, sir. It became a little strained during 12 Chief Constable on Stoddart and MS Batsom Brewis. 13 this investigation, as did many of those working 13 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: To any once, Well just let 14 relationships with some of the reporters that we had. 16 MR THOMAS JONATHAN STODDART (swom) 16 Mr Coles - and Linow it's your evidence that you 16 MR HOMAS JONATHAN STODDART (swom) 16 Mr Coles - and Linow it's your evidence that you 16 MR SBOON: Mr Stoddart, first of all. 1 think you've given 19 wasn't nu by the Sun. Would you like to comment on 18 MS BOON: Mr Stoddart, first of all. 1 think you've given 21 A. Tm - I would beg to differ, sir, on that. I think the 20 you're provided two winess statements to the Inquity. 23 there are many other examples here - would suggest that 21 MR STODDART: Teah one, yes. 24 if they thought they had an exclusive, that that's any Page 33 20, You've also provided a second winess statement, which 5	8		8	
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Page 34 Page 36	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	 that you're reviewing your policies in the light of those reports, but are there any ideas which you are prepared to share with us today? Your reaction in particular to the HMIC report is it helpful or unhelpful? A. I think it's always helpful, sir, for the question of integrity to be raised up the agenda, just because it's important that we all remember that that's an important tenet of the way that we work. We did do some work following this, in the context of certainly the media regulations protocol, which you see in here, and our social media protocol. A section was added to each of those on integrity. I've also included in the most recent SIO media training that I've done a very small session in there on integrity because I think it's very important. I think with the kind of approach that we adopt at Avon and Somerset, with logging systems and a very 	7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	 MR STODDART: They are. Q. You served for 16 years with Northumbria police. You then became assistant chief constable for Lincolnshire Police in 1999. You were deputy chief constable for Durham Constabulary in 2003, and during this time you had the strategic lead for the management of the force media and press office. Then you were appointed Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary in 2005; is that right? MR STODDART: That's correct. Q. You have experience of reviewing major crime investigations. Indeed, you were asked to review Operation Weeting, which we'll come to. MR STODDART: That's correct, as well. Q. Ms Brewis, give your full name? MS BREWIS: My name's Barbara Joan(?) Brewis. Q. You've also provided a witness statement, and that's dated 20 February 2012?

9 (Pages 33 to 36)

1	Q. Do you confirm the contents of that witness statement	1	I think it's less so now, because I've been out of that
2	are true?	2	domain for so long, but they know I understand.
3	MS BREWIS: I do.	3	Q. Yes. So broadly speaking, you see it as an advantage to
4	Q. This is your formal evidence to the Inquiry?	4	your role?
5	MS BREWIS: It is.	5	MS BREWIS: I do think it is. I think it is a natural
6	Q. Equally, Mr Stoddart, the two witness statements I refer	6	progression for reporters to move into public relations
7	to there are your formal evidence to the Inquiry?	7	and it's two sides of the same coin, so it is helpful to
8	MR STODDART: They are, yes.	8	both sides.
9	Q. Ms Brewis, you are a media and marketing manager for	9	Q. How many staff are there in your team?
10	Durham Constabulary. You've been involved with the	10	MS BREWIS: At present we have four and a half. Four
11	media your entire working life?	11	full-time and one part-time person.
12	MS BREWIS: Yes, that's correct.	12	Q. Your team, you say under question 5 in your statement,
13	Q. You began your working life as a reporter for a local	13	page 05219, acts as the main but not the sole
14	newspaper?	14	communication channel between the force and the media.
15	MS BREWIS: Yes.	15	To what extent do individual officers have direct or
16	Q. You say that after a varied newspaper career, which	16	informal contact with the media?
17	culminated in your appointment as a chief subeditor for	17	MS BREWIS: We have 12 neighbourhood policing teams, each
18	a major regional evening paper, you moved into public	18	with an inspector. The neighbourhood inspectors do have
19	relations when you were appointed press officer to	19	regular contact with the local media on a daily often
20	Gateshead Council?	20	a daily basis. We feel that we are not the sole
21	MS BREWIS: Yes.	21	communication channel. There are instances where the
22	Q. That was in 1990. So in 1999, you became deputy head of	22	media it's helpful for them to speak directly to
23	media services at Northumbria Police and then in 2010	23	inspectors, but for some issues, some that are more
24	you were appointed to your current role?	24	complex, some that involve lots of different areas, not
25	MS BREWIS: Yes.	25	one particular neighbourhood, it's much more useful to
	Page 37		Page 39
1	O You are also a recular contributor to the National	1	some through the proper office because they'll get a more
1	Q. You are also a regular contributor to the National	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	come through the press office because they'll get a more holistic approach to the question.
2 3	Police Communicators Course. Is that a course provided by the Association of Police Communicators?	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	Q. In what circumstances do you expect the neighbourhood
5	•	5	Q. In what circumstances do you expect the heighbourhood
	MS DDEWIS, That is a course provided by Lincolnshire	4	increator to refer a query to you?
4	MS BREWIS: That is a course provided by Lincolnshire	4	inspector to refer a query to you?
4 5	Police, which is the national police press officer	5	MS BREWIS: I think if it was about a corporate issue rather
4	Police, which is the national police press officer course.		MS BREWIS: I think if it was about a corporate issue rather than just something pertinent to their neighbourhoods,
4 5 6 7	Police, which is the national police press officer course.Q. I see. In total, you were a journalist for 20 years	5 6 7	MS BREWIS: I think if it was about a corporate issue rather than just something pertinent to their neighbourhoods, I think if it was more complex, I think if it was where
4 5 6 7 8	Police, which is the national police press officer course.Q. I see. In total, you were a journalist for 20 years before switching hats, if I can put it that way. To	5 6 7 8	MS BREWIS: I think if it was about a corporate issue rather than just something pertinent to their neighbourhoods, I think if it was more complex, I think if it was where a corporate response was required rather than
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10 (Pages 37 to 40)

		1	
1	MS BREWIS: I think the neighbourhoods they're talking	1	the whole issue of social media started we have got
2	about the neighbourhoods, and our aim is always to	2	a social media policy or guidance and I was I have to
3	promote public confidence and they know that. So when	3	say, I was slightly nervous about whether or not this
4	they are giving items to the media, they are working on	4	was going to cause us difficulties, but so far it
5	that same objective, which is to inform our communities,	5	hasn't. We have Facebook and Twitter accounts for our
6	have communication with our communities and promote	6	neighbourhood inspectors. They've been given advice on
7	reassurance and let our communities know what we're	7	how to use them. They have the media department to turn
8	doing for them. That's really what this is about.	8	to in the event of any concerns that they may have, and
9	MS BOON: Are you saying that you would like all contact to	9	these are an invaluable tool in terms of appeals,
10	be notified to you?	10	requests for information, informing our communities and
11	MS BREWIS: I think it would be helpful if, in general	11	I'm very pleased with the way things are going in
12	terms, they said, "Well, I was talking to this reporter	12	relation to that.
13	today and I've told them this story." They often do.	13	Q. We heard yesterday from members of the press in the
14	They don't always.	14	Cumbria area that Twitter can be more of a hindrance
15	Q. Do you think there needs to be a formal requirement so	15	than a help, in that there's a character limit and there
16	that they do do that, or	16	isn't a restriction really on police officers saying,
17	MS BREWIS: I think we are a small enough force where that	17	"This is an incident I'm attending, this is what I'm
18	doesn't really it doesn't have to be on such a formal	18	doing." They don't find it necessarily all that
19	arrangement because we know anyway what people are	19	beneficial to follow. Is that something that you've
20	talking about.	20	experienced, Ms Brewis?
21	Q. Mr Stoddart, it's your evidence in your witness	21	MS BREWIS: As far as the character limit is concerned, what
22	statement that contact takes place on a daily basis	22	we often do is tweet something which links to our
23	across all ranks, from your police community support	23	website, where people can read the whole story.
24	officer up to the more senior ranks. Is that something	24	Q. Right.
25	that you consider is healthy?	25	MS BREWIS: So that's not an issue. The smaller bite-size
	Page 41		Page 43
1	MR STODDART: I do. I think that, in the scale of things,	1	chunks are really about instant appeals that you might
2	that what we have is a workable and trusting	2	not want to put a full-blown press release out about.
3	relationship with our local media. Our neighbourhood	3	You know, three scooters stolen from such-and-such.
4	inspectors take the lead on a lot of the community	4	Were you in the area? Did you see anything? Please
5	issues, talk about meetings, the kind of low level	5	ring us. It's really good for things like that. It's
6	community concerns that really do worry communities, so	6	a really good communications tool.
7	anti-social behaviour, low level local crime.	7	Q. So it's more communicating with the community, rather
8	Anything more serious clearly gets routed through	8	than the media?
9	our media department, but I'm happy with the	9	MS BREWIS: Yes.
10	arrangement, it works very, very well and we do empower	10	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: It's direct.
11	officially our community support officers, for example,	11	MS BREWIS: Yes.
12	who are very, very close to our communities, to directly	12	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Could you just tell me, so I have the
13	forewarn the media of any particular problem-solving	13	context, how many police officers and support staff are
14	initiative or some kind of PR initiative.	14	there in Durham?
15	So I'm relaxed about that. I think it's a good	15	MR STODDART: 2,500 roughly staff altogether, of which
16	system, I think it works well, and we haven't ever had	16	I think it's now at the moment 1,390 police officers.
17	any difficulties at all in terms of two talking heads or	17	It's been considerably downsized in the last few years.
18	any kinds of contradictions. Not that I can think of,	18	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you.
19	anyway.	19	MS BOON: From what you've described, there are open
20	Q. Have there been problems with inappropriate comments	20	channels of communication between the force, individual
21	being made? I'm not talking now about unauthorised	21	officers and the media. Has this altered recently?
22	disclosures or leaks, but officers not understanding how	22	We've heard evidence from some members of the press that
23	far they go should go legally or in terms of the remit	23	forces have, either officially or in practice, been
24	of their responsibility?	24	closing down direct communication with officers. Is
25	MR STODDART: No, not at all, and perhaps surprisingly, when	25	that something that you've felt in Durham?
	Page 42		Page 44

11 (Pages 41 to 44)

1	MR STODDART: From my perspective, no. I still do a lot of	1	that you might have not have had otherwise?
2	media work with TV and radio. I do less with the	2	MR STODDART: I think because of my various roles throughout
3	written word, but I don't think there's been	3	my career, time in the CID, borough commander, I've
4	a significant change in the culture of the organisation.	4	always had a reasonably active relationship with the
5	Q. Ms Brewis, can you comment on the culture? Because	5	media. As a Deputy Chief Constable with strategic
6	you'll be speaking more regularly, I would imagine, with	6	oversight, yes, it gave me a better understanding of
7	individual officers.	7	some the stresses and strains. We have a very small
8	MS BREWIS: I don't feel there's been any sort of sea	8	media department and although Durham is a long way from
9	change. I think people are more aware possibly of	9	Westminster, it does still have its own unique demands
10	issues. I don't think we haven't shut down	10	and challenges.
11	nobody's shut down. We are carrying on. It's business	11	And I'm very pleased that I don't want to be
12	as usual. We hope we've always operated with integrity	12	sounding complacent or smug, but we have a good local
13	and from an ethical standpoint, so we will continue to	13	rapport and our national embedded reporters are also
14	do that.	14	we've got a good relationship with them as well and it's
15	Q. You haven't sensed a loss of confidence?	15	healthy, it's professional and people know where the
16	MS BREWIS: No.	16	limits lie.
17	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Or a concern about what's actually	17	Q. When you say "national embedded reporters", you mean
18	happening here?	18	national correspondents who are based in Durham?
19	MS BREWIS: I don't think so, no. I really can't say.	19	MR STODDART: Yes.
20	I think it seems a little bit remote. Really, people	20	Q. What about visiting members of the national media, the
21	think it's down here and it's not	21	print press?
22	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Durham is a long way away.	22	MR STODDART: I suppose I adopt the mantra that if you don't
23	MS BREWIS: Yes, which is not a bad thing sometimes.	23	know them, you can't trust them, so until you have
24	MS BOON: Ms Brewis, your team, you say, has input into	24	a professional relationship established, you work within
25	media training courses for police officers and also	25	the limits of what you know about you stick to the
	Page 45		Page 47
1		1	
1	provides ad hoc media advice to officers. On those	$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	facts, you stick to the story, and you don't ever take
2	training courses, do you cover hospitality, appropriate	$\begin{vmatrix} 2\\ 3 \end{vmatrix}$	people into your confidence if you don't have that trusting relationship.
3	relations with the media, those sorts of topics?		Q. Have you had bad experiences with visiting members of
4	MS BREWIS: No, we didn't use to. We do now. That is one	45	the media?
5	change we have done. We are I am already we are	6	MR STODDART: As a chief officer, no, but yes, as
6 7	drawing up plans to increase the media awareness so that it covers more staff police officers and police		a detective superintendent, yes.
7 8	· ·	8	Q. Was that in terms of being misquoted or inaccurate
8 9	staff. We will include inappropriate relationships, we'll include release of information, ethical use of	9	reporting? What sort of problems did you have?
9 10	social networking sites. It's something that wasn't on	10	MR STODDART: I've had some kind of alarming headlines in
11	our radar. It is now and we're going to do something	11	local newspapers and national newspapers which maybe
11	about it.	12	weren't helpful and I've had misquotes perhaps in the
12	Q. Are you able to say in a nutshell what the key message	12	past that I didn't feel too good about. But by and
13	is on appropriate relationships?	13	large, the relationship is healthy, transparent and
14	MS BREWIS: Have a good professional relationship with the	14	reasonable.
15 16	media but they're not your friends, basically.	15	Q. Were you generally able to resolve those problems that
17	Q. That's the nutshell: they're not your friends; have	17	you did have as a detective?
18	a professional relationship.	18	MR STODDART: It's a long time ago, but sometimes we just
19	MS BREWIS: Mm.	19	agreed that we couldn't agree.
20	Q. Moving on then to the culture of relationships.	20	Q. Yes. You state, under question 16 in your statement,
20	Mr Stoddart, you described the culture as healthy, open,	20	Mr Stoddart I think I may have the wrong reference.
21	honest and transparent. We know that whilst Deputy	21	Bear with me one moment.
22	Chief Constable, you were the strategic lead for the	22	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: While Ms Boon finds the reference,
24 25	management of the force media and press office. Did this give you particular insight into media relations Page 46	24 25	you've said Durham has its own unique demands and challenges. Are those demands or challenges anything to Page 48

12 (Pages 45 to 48)

1 do with any aspect of the work that The having to do? 1 and 1 think there's been - at least two of the staff 2 Because 1 don't wort to reado any oper toos 3 inappropriately, or without knowing what I was doing. 4 MR STODDART: Sorry, do you mean in terms of this faquity in a flationships in the previous jobs with some of the same 6 LORD USTICE LEVISION: Correct. 6 helped because this is - it is about hilding up good 7 MR STODDART: So, Incan - Im taking about just the fact and you could do that over time, trust in that we 10 critical incidents that attract very, very significant 10 will help facilitate what they want and in turn they 11 media attention. Trefer to it in my statement at one 11 will help facilitate what they want and in turn they 12 point where we had four - these murdered and one 11 will help active the facilitations from 13 suicide on new year's duy just this year. A lot of 13 0. Of course, what can happen when people work together 14 national atterion. We had there years ago, 14 14 16 more of a fine-synethy and they want and in turn they 15 a significant counter-teerorism incident which occurred 16 <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th>							
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5 general relations with the media? 5 reporters, so there's been a consistency and that has. 6 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Correct. 6 7 MR STODDART: No, 1 mean - 1 m raiking about just the fract. 8 from the national media. 7 9 reporters, so there's been a consistency and that has. 6 holped because this is it is about building up good 7 will help facilitate what they want and in turn they 10 critical incidents that attract very, very significant 11 madia attention. Trefer to its in my statement at one 11 mational attention. Trefer to its my statement at one 12 a significant counter-terrorism incident which occurred 16 in our area. So they cause; you know, the same demunds 17 that something but's heppened in Durham? 18 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes, So it's the same demunds 17 the right reference but I was looking in the wrong 21 MR STODDART: Sin, Yes fourthe reference. I had 23 MR STODDART: Tane, yes 24 MR STODDART: Sin, Yes fourthe reference. I had 25 I hought of as inapropringing in the wrong 21 24 </td <td>3</td> <td>inappropriately, or without knowing what I was doing.</td> <td>3</td> <td>they've built up those relationships. I had built up</td>	3	inappropriately, or without knowing what I was doing.	3	they've built up those relationships. I had built up			
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13 (Pages 49 to 52)

1MR STODDART: Yes, that's right.1MS BOON: Yes.2Q. And the purpose of that dinner, it was part of an ongoing operation to raise national and local interest2(3.18 pm)3ongoing operation into an organised crime group?3(A short break)4in an impending operation into an organised crime group?4(3.23 pm)5MR STODDART: It was.5MS BOON: Mr Stoddart, following on6Q. So there was a clear policing purpose behind it?6Leveson's last question, you've descr7MR STODDART: It wasn't it was about off-the-record7Durham Constabulary where there is8briefings, sir. We used this as an opportunity to8the media. You've expressed your cc9provide a background context to a really good operation9close, overly familiar relationships.10that we were running and we wanted national awareness,10somewhere in between, and if so, ho11national media, to show how good we were in terms of11judge where the appropriate line is?12dismantling this organised crime group. I think we12MR STODDART: I think that this is the13really did achieve that. I think it was an absolutely13issue that we have in terms of relation14ethical, above-board process, but that's the only time14On the one hand, we need to have a l15in 30 years that I can remember having any kind of15probing press to hold us to account a16social discourse or a dinner or anything like that with16<	ribed the culture in sn't socialising with oncerns about overly Is there a medium ow does an officer he kind of difficult ons with the press.
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16 social discourse or a dinner or anything like that with 16 On the other hand, we want to be able	
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17 the modie 17 the mode 11 the transfer and 1 the	
17the media.17there is integrity and honesty in the r	-
18Q. Mr Stoddart, under question 21 of your statement,18between police officers and media.	-
19page 05246, you make the point that:19approach, which is trusting, has fewe	
20 "As a rule, there is no contact between my officers 20 perhaps a larger organisation where p	perhaps everything
21 that occurs outside the working environment as this is 21 goes through a central media unit.	
22 almost conducted entirely over the phone or in a police 22 I think if we were to do that, we w	
23 station. Senior officers, ACPO rank and those leading 23 invest quite significantly in the medi-	-
24 inquiries, again, as a rule, only conduct business in an 24 is small, but perhaps that might have	
25 official or legitimate location. I have mentioned the 25 pay, unless we make very, very expli	icit and we have
Page 53 Page 55	
1 one occasion as Chief Constable that I socialised with 1 got some guidance in our written polic	cies that Barbara
2 members of the media." 2 has helpfully produced over the years,	
3 So it would seem from what you say there that it's 3 can and can't be done, what should be	done locally, how
4 simply not part of the way things work, to be meeting 4 to do certain scenarios. But the fact of	f the matter is
5 socially. 5 we operate on a high trust basis with o	our staff and
6 MR STODDART: That's correct. It's a very healthy culture 6 a high trust basis with the local written	1 media, and
7 within Durham Constabulary and it's partly a product of 7 perhaps that's something that we need	to really kind of
8 the fact as Barbara's alluded to, we're a small 8 tighten up on to find what is this happy	y medium, because
9 organisation, compact, and although there are a number 9 I don't want breaches and any kind of a	allegations being
10 of newspapers, we have healthy respect for their 10 made, but similarly I don't want to inhi	ibit
11 position and they have neither the time, the money nor 11 the democratic principles of free speec	ch.
12 the inclination to try and wine and dine us. I've never 12 Now, police officers clearly have to	abide by our
13 been offered any form of hospitality at all by the media 13 policy, the force policy, but I'm sure th	nat they will
14 locally. 14 adapt to anything that we can come to.	. So I'm
15 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So what's your attitude to what's 15 interested to see what comes out of all	of this, this
16 emerged during the course of the Inquiry, if you have 16 whole scrutiny.	
17 followed it at all? 17 Q. So you haven't formulated in your mi	ind get where that
18 MR STODDART: Yes. Pretty disappointed, I have to say. And 18 happy medium might lie, how officers	can be guided in
19I have to I have very grave concerns about19their conduct?	
20 overfamiliarity with police officers from each and every 20 MR STODDART: Well, we train our po	
21 rank. I would hope that we can establish something from 21 already acknowledged that we need to	
22 this that would go some way to eliminating that. 22 media training with Durham cops, and	
23I think the culture, just by this very challenge, will23who have a very important community	
24change throughout the service.24popular in county Durham and Darling	
25 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. Is that a convenient moment? 25 is: what is the trade-off? We have a ve	ery, very engaged
Page 54 Page 56	

14 (Pages 53 to 56)

India who havert, safar as Tim aware, let us down, and I development. In break way engaged workforce who are transitories Q. What you're saying is some forces might need more rigid In break way engaged workforce who are transitories Q. What you're saying is some forces might need more rigid In break way think of any occasions when there's been M RS TODDART: Fin not sume that's what I was trying to say was that forces So it's almost like 'i' is an't bast, don't like in antional solution across without first doing a mational standard or Torses have had some really services of the fact that other an atmional solution across without first doing a health I LORD INTER LEVISON: To port hink it has to he one size in any out hank his should be left to local - I A MR STODDART: I hink that what's happening today, 1think in action plans to that we' an if a position to take on I's with the IPCC and ACPO and the HMC (integrity review and those issues in action plans to that we' and it position to take on I's outh the state should be left to local - in action plans to that we' and it position to take on I's with the IPCC and ACPO and the HMC (integrity review and those issues in action plans to that we' and it position to take on I's public worke some arrow partiand standards, national in way think and and standards, national I's with the IPCC and ACPO and the HM				
3 deliver and as yet - Iver responded in my statement 3 guidance than others? 4 that I can't think of any occasions when there's been 3 MR STODDART: Tim not sure that's what I was trying to say, was that forces 6 So it's almost like 'if't ain't bast, don't fix 6 may already have above and beyond exacting strandards, 7 it's, but I wayer, one:cours of the fart that other 7 and that you can't is it impose a national standards of 8 forces have had some really serious breaches, leak, 8 antional solution across without first doing a health 10 minorportine relationships, so it's something that we 10 Now, we're all daris being loan it out. 11 tare, and hat's being loan it out. 11 are, and hat's being loan it out. 13 13 you thik this should be left to local - 13 raised in Filkin and the HMC in relation to both. 14 action plans o that we are in a fit position to take on 14 MR STODDART: Think that what's happening today, think, that 15 the next cound of recommendations. 15 with the IPCC and ACPO and the IHMC in relation to both. 15 the next cound plans othat was rest. 16 0. And you've never offered		media who haven't, as far as I'm aware, let us down, and	1	development.
4 that I cart think of any occasions when there's been 4 MR STODDART: Turn or sure that's what I was trying to say, was that forces 5 leaks to the media. 5 I think that what I was trying to say, was that forces 7 if', but The very conscious of the firt that other 7 an attainal solution across without first doing a health 9 imapropriate relationships, so it's something that we 9 an attainal solution across without first doing a health 10 really are having to think is bound be tool tools. 10 Now, we're all doing health checks as to where we 11 LORD UNTICE LEVESON: Do you think it has to be one size 11 are: and hat's being done in Durham as well, to make 12 significant. 16 C Now, we're all doing health checks as to where we 13 you think this sohud be tool local. 13 action plans on that we are in a fip position to a kind of 14 MR STODDART: I think that what hympering tools. 14 action plans on that we are in a fip position. 13 was think in ational standards. 16 Q. Mad you've never adoeffeed hospitality 14 MR STODDART: I think that what hympering to say. 17 witness statement that you've neve			2	
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6 So it's almost like 'if' it aint busk, don't fix 6 may already have above and beyond exacting standards. 7 it', but The very conscious of the fact that other 7 and that you can't just impose a national standard or 9 impropriate relationships, so it's something that we 9 a national solution across without first doing a health 9 realty are having to fink about. 10 Now, we're all doing health checks as to where we 11 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Do you think it has to be one size 11 are, and that's being done in Durham as well, to make 12 fis all, that there should be a national policy, or do 11 areits of the INIK or then being put into a kind of 13 you think this should be Ito local - 13 raised in Filk are rethe being put into a kind of 14 MR STODDART: 1 think that wha's happening today, 1 think. 14 action plan so that we are in a file position to take on 15 with the IPCC and ACPO and the HMIC in relation to both 15 the next roou of recommendations. 19 could come locally, because certainly, you know. 2500 19 MS BEEWIS: No. Q. Ad you've never accepted hospitality either to the 20 I don think matomad standards. 20 Q. Ad you've never acfered hospitality eit	4	that I can't think of any occasions when there's been	4	
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15 (Pages 57 to 60)

1	importantly, what the content of the conversation or	1	chill. Nobody will speak to us. It will be terrible."	
2	meeting was, even if it is you know, I think it's not	2 Do you think that will be so in Durham?		
3	kind of an accidental encounter, but telephone	3	MS BREWIS: No, I don't think so. I can't really see that	
4	conversations, pre-planned meetings, press conferences,	4	happening. We would not want to see it happening.	
5	briefings, they should recorded. I think it would	5	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: No, I appreciate that.	
6	protect the integrity of the organisation and the police	6	MS BREWIS: You should be able to work within that framework	
7	officer, and I think that I've thought about it and	7	and if it's the right thing to do, we'll do it.	
8	I've thought about the bureaucracy that would be	8	MS BOON: I clearly disguised my question well. What I was	
9	entailed in that and I think it's doable, certainly from	9	getting at was whether you think that the inspectors	
10	our perspective. Whether or not it's doable in someone	10	might be less inclined to answer the phone if they know	
11	like the Metropolitan Police with the proliferation of	11	they have to make a record of the contact, the	
12	national dailies in the Metropolis, I don't know, and	12	information given.	
13	I don't want to have threatening letters tonight from	13	MR STODDART: I thought that's what I answered, actually.	
14	Bernard. But the reality is I do think that we could	14	MS BOON: Yes, you did.	
15	tighten up. I think we need to tighten up. I think	15	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So it's my fault, is it, Ms Boon?	
16	certainly Durham needs to tighten up in relation to	16	MS BOON: No, it was my fault for disguising my question.	
17	this.	17	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Keep going, keep going.	
18	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: You're unlikely to get such letters,	18	MS BOON: Moving to your policies now. It's our tab 13,	
19	given that you made it abundantly clear this isn't	19	I don't know if you have the same tabs. This is	
20	actually a problem for you.	20	a document entitled "Media guide". When was this guide	
21	MR STODDART: No, but the reality is I don't want to be	21	introduced?	
22	complacent about it, sir. I want to make sure that we	22	MS BREWIS: It was produced some years ago, but it has been	
23	actually challenge our culture, and perhaps it's by	23	updated, I think, within the last three years.	
24	accident rather than by design that we are where we are.	24	Q. Right. There was only one page that I wanted to	
25	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I understand.	25	highlight and that's the first inside page. So your	
	Page 61		Page 63	
1	MS BOON: So you're envisaging that there is a record of any	1	internal numbering 1, our number 05148:	
2	information that was shared with the media?	2	"This guide has been compiled to help all officers	
3	MR STODDART: We already keep a record Barbara keeps	3	and staff of Durham Constabulary in their dealings with	
4	a record of those contacts on a daily basis where the	4	members of the media. It is impossible to cover over	
5	access is through the press office. I think that	5	scenario but the guidance is designed to cover most	
6	perhaps my neighbourhood inspectors need to email or	6	operational situations. Previous force policy stated	
7	ring or phone or directly input into a system that we	7	only officers of sergeant and above were authorised to	
8	could	8	speak to the media without reference to supervision.	
9	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: It needn't be too complex. A couple	9	However, over the years, it has become common practice	
10	of lines.	10	for constables to do so as well, provided they are	
11	MR STODDART: I agree, sir.	11	speaking on issues or cases which are within their	
12	MS BOON: How do you think it might be received by the	12	remit. If there is any uncertainty about the subject	
13	neighbourhood inspectors that you were referring to	13	matter of a reporter's line of questioning, seek advice	
14	before, who have the daily contact with	14	from supervision or from the press and public relations	
15	MR STODDART: I do think that initially I think there	15	office. The force has long practised openness with the	
16	will be some grumbling, but I think that once they	16	public, and that, of course, includes the media. We	
17	understand why and the awareness is raised, I think	17	continue to be committed to holding back only what we	
18	they'll feel absolutely that this is the appropriate	18	must."	
19	thing to do.	19	The next paragraph:	
20	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: For me, it's not what the reaction of	20	"Speaking to the media means, in the eyes of viewers	
21	neighbourhood inspectors will be. The privileges of	21	and readers and the ears of listeners, that you become	
22	rank mean that neighbourhood inspectors will probably do	22	the spokesperson for the force. Don't be tempted to	
~~				
23	what their Chief Constable tells them to do. It's what	23	talk outside your sphere of responsibility, knowledge or	
24	the reaction of the press would be. You may have heard	24	experience but do feel confident to talk about subjects	

16 (Pages 61 to 64)

1 MB REWS: Yes. 2 ssying, which is speak opany, he confident about doing 3 is but don't trespase beyond your area of 4 esponibility. 5 is but don't trespase beyond your area of 4 esponibility. 6 O. The mext policy, at the 11. "Grantines, gifts. 6 O. The mext policy, at the 11. "Grantines, gifts. 7 mask BREWIS: That was actually before my time. 10 MB SREWIS: That was actually before my time. 11 MS BREWIS: Well at policy is that right of that her is relatively new, yes. 11 MS BREWIS: Well at from enging the from target in the target in target in target in the target in target in target in target in target in target in the target in target				
 ibut dor't usegass beyond your area of responsibility. MR STODDAKT: That's correct. MR STODDAKT: That's correct. Cannot be perceived by others to be extravgant. MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would State and the fourthers of the media in draways be on a professional and personal relationships should Cannot be media and makering. This has been in forces that with the media in the furtherance of the media and cancey drinks that in the fourthers. MS BREWIS: But think it is relatively new, yes. Cance that from realing the forth page: Conduct 20 Fobruary 2009. Record for the reviewed or was due to include lumbers-bogniality. LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: It's due to be reviewed or was due to a regular basis from the same members of the media and the same members of the media and the same members of the media and the same function of a conflict of interest. I RAS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed. I would MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed or was due to a regular base for a moth. MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed or mattering the reviewed and thas an taref reviewed and thas a fair reflection of a conflic	1	That would seem to be consistent with what you're	1	MS BREWIS: Yes.
4 "Durham" Constability officers and staff are encouraged to have an open and transparent relationship with the media in the furtherance of the prevention and detection of crime. However, this relationship should always be on a professional molecular by should always be on a professional forking. Situations where was brought in in 2009; is that right or do I have this in Completely wrong? 4 "Durham" Constability officers and stafficers and proceedure". 9 Was Brewis: That was anually before my time. 1 Representation for the propertionate. It may be acceptable to buy drinks for or accorded the anotheshoopitality. 10 MS BREWIS: But think it is relatively new, yes. 11 Exclusion of change: It individual members of the media in the furtherance of the prevention and the trained a Defouring 2009. Eason for change: It individual almembers of the media in the furtherance of the prevention and the trained in the furtherance of the prevention and the previous of the the relation the media in the furtherance of the prevention and the trained in the furtherance of the prevention and the previous of the previous of the staff are the trained a Defouring 2009. Eason for change: It is best and other hospitality and the the necks of the received must be recorded in the work the prevention of a conflict of interest, (d) and other hospitality may only be accepted where it (a) allows the business of the force to be legitimated the the prevention of a conflict of interest, (d) and and other hospitality may only be accepted where it (a) allows the business of the force to be legitima	2	saying, which is: speak openly, be confident about doing	2	Q. Date approved at FMG, July 2011. The relevant passage
5 MR STODDART: Thark correct. 5 encouraged to have an open and transporter relationship should 6 Q. The next policy, at tub 11. "Grautities, gifts, downer, this relativoship should advays be on a professional motionships should 8 Ms Brewis, 1 understand the lumber/hospitality part, was be one aprofessional and personal relationships 10 10 MS BREWIS. That was actually before my time. 11 Exchange of hospitality should be avoided at all costs. 11 MS BREWIS. But think it is relatively new, yes. 10 could become blurred should be avoided at all costs. 12 Q. Right, of ourse. 13 individual members of the media in the furtherance of the prevention should be avoided at all costs. 13 MS REWIS. But think it is relatively new, yes. 10 could become blurred should be avoided at all costs. 14 Q. Prey of this from internotion of the foot page: 13 individual members of the media in the media in the mecks. 14 15 "Updated 20 February 2009. Reason for change: to an explicit basis from the same members of the needia in the same members of the meckina to another simplication. 16 as tickts to Permissip grams, days at the races, and in day and the same members of the meckina to anothis sime memothers of the media in theasame members of the meckin	3	it but don't trespass beyond your area of	3	is the last page, 05177, "Contact with the media":
6 Q. The next policy, at tab 11, "Granuities, gifts, 6 with the media in the furtherance of the prevention and detection of crime. However, this relationship should 7 donations and testimonials guidance and procedure". 6 with the media in the furtherance of the prevention and detection of crime. However, this relationships should 8 MS BREWIS: That was actually before my time. 1 always BERWIS: That was actually before my time. 10 NS BREWIS: But think it is relatively new, yes. 10 could become blurred should be avoided at all costs. 14 Q. Ne got that from reading the front page: 11 occasions. However, employees should be aware that if 15 "Updated 20 Febrarry 2009. Reason for change: to 16 individual members of the media at one off social 16 would howed bas month. 17 et cettera, on a regular basis from the same members of 16 be reviewed last month. 19 question. They are also leaving themselves open to 20 orn \$136. This must be the 2009 addition: 23 do pass information on to individual reporters, it 21 and other hospitality such of the grocept of working lunches 24 fibre media in the furtherance of the prevention in the source of the prevention in the furtherance of the preventino in the preventino in to give officers more guidance. <	4	responsibility.	4	"Durham Constabulary officers and staff are
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7 denations and testimonials guidance and procedure". 7 detection of crime. However, this relationship should always be on a professional and personal relationships found always be on a professional and personal relationships could be come blurred should be avoided at all costs. 1 MS BREWIS: That was actually before my time. 10 reading the from page. 1 MS BREWIS: That was actually before my time. 11 reading the from page. 1 MS BREWIS: That think it is relatively new, yes. 10 reading the from page. 15 "Updated 20 February 2009. Reason for change: to include unchexhospitality.". 10 a stickets to Premiership games, days at the races, et cettera, on a regular basis from the same members of the media atome-off social 10 MS BREWIS: Well, it probably is being reviewed, I would 10 a stickets to Premiership games, days at the races, et cettera, on a regular basis from the same members of a poptrusing themselves open to opoptrumist reporters wishing to call in avours. All 11 LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Very good. 10 a basy charange and individual reporters, it days and practities. If you do pass information on to individual reporters, it days and practities. If you do pass information which would otherwise the proception or to grow officers, (d) 2 adoues the basiness of the force to be legitimately and on to grow officers more guidance relating to appropriate context with the media. So I discussed that with the media ware as a tail, which	6	Q. The next policy, at tab 11, "Gratuities, gifts,	6	
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17 (Pages 65 to 68)

1	Q. There was just one slide that appeared to be of interest	1	provided the information?
2	particularly, sorry, I should say. Sir, I believe these	2	MS BREWIS: Yes, they do.
3	are ordered numerically this time. It's at 05118. You	3	And that's the importance of having good working
4	don't have that numbering on yours, do you? It's the	4	relationships with the local reporters, because the
5	slide that refers to phone hacking and other scandals.	5	sanction is if they don't honour it, they never get it
6	It's two from the back. Two pages from the back, three	6	again, and they understand that.
7	slides.	7	Q. Is it correct that your office has advised neighbourhood
8	MS BREWIS: Yes.	8	policing teams not to give out information off the
9	Q. That is:	9	record? I get that from Mr Stoddart's statement, so
10	"Phone hacking and other scandals. Leveson Inquiry	10	I apologise if I'm ambushing you with that, but is that
11	is looking into many areas including police/press	11	something that you are aware of?
12	relationships. Regular contact with local media is	12	MS BREWIS: We would always advise them to be cautious.
13	encouraged but stay professional."	13	I think they do err on the side of caution.
14	The point that arises from that is you appear to be	14	Q. But you don't prohibit off-the-record conversations?
15	communicating the message: don't freeze up just because	15	MS BREWIS: Not specifically, no. But it tends to be about
16	there's an inquiry going on. Would that be fair?	16	the more serious issues anyway, that we would be
17	MS BREWIS: Yes, absolutely fair.	17	contacted about. It tends to be serious crimes, other
18	Q. But missing from that is "regular contact with national	18	investigations, where the media are looking for
19	media is encouraged". Is that by design?	19	a particular steer and we may give some guidance to
20	MS BREWIS: No. I think it's just because it happens more	20	help how they use the story, but it's not it tends
21	infrequently and local media we work with local media	21	not to happen at a local level.
22	on a daily basis so it's really important that we	22	Q. I see. Mr Stoddart, I got that from your witness
23	encourage everybody to consider that.	23	statement. Is there anything you wanted to add to this?
24	Q. But it's not part of the training to say, "Continue	24	MR STODDART: No, I was under the expression that the media
25	speaking to the local media but be more careful with the	25	advice was that for neighbourhood teams, just in case,
	Page 69		Page 71
1	national media"?	1	err on the side of caution by all means but consider
2	MS BREWIS: It probably will be, actually. It's something	2	every briefing to be on the record.
3	we'll develop as we look into the different strands of	3	MS BREWIS: I think what I always say to people: when you're
4	the issues arising out of this Inquiry.	4	talking to a reporter, as soon as you start speaking,
5	Q. That feeds from what Mr Stoddart said earlier, that when	5	they are taking notes, so assume they're going to use
6	you have a relationship of trust that's one thing but	6	it.
7	when you don't have that relationship of trust, you need	7	Q. Yes. At question 44, Ms Brewis, of your statement,
8	to be more cautious; is that what you're getting at?	8	page 05232, you give an example of an incident that
9	MS BREWIS: Yes.	9	arose during a major fraud investigation, where
10	Q. Off-the-record conversations, if I may touch on those.	10	a journalist voluntarily, or at your request, didn't
11	Ms Brewis, you're not against off-the-record	11	publish information in order to avoid a prejudice to the
12	communications, providing they're always done for	12	criminal investigation. Is there anything you wanted to
13	a policing purpose. Is that fair?	13	add to that or to develop?
14	MS BREWIS: Yes.	14	MS BREWIS: I think that's an example where we used where
15	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I'm sorry, is that off the record,	15	we had judicious use of briefing, because we asked them
16	i.e. non-attributable?	16	not to do it. There was a proper policing reason for
17	MS BREWIS: Yes.	17	that we didn't want the suspect to go to ground
18	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Nothing at all?	18	and when he was arrested we told the reporters and they
19	MS BREWIS: "Off the record", as far as we're concerned, is	19	were able to run stories and promote the work that we
20	background information which is will provide clarity	20	did, the good work that we did.
21	and understanding to a reporter so that they can produce	21	Q. In fact, you say there that the concern was that if the
22	an accurate article.	22	reporters published the information, the suspect would
23	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes.	23	be alerted and would be more difficult to capture.
24	MS BOON: In your experience, in your current role, have	24	MS BREWIS: Yes.
25		25	Q. You say:
25	journalists always honoured the basis on which you've		2. 100.000
23	journalists always honoured the basis on which you've Page 70		Page 72

18 (Pages 69 to 72)

1	"Once he had been arrested, we told the reporters	1 All users are appropriately and proportionately vetted,				
2	and provided enough information for them to run stories	2	you say, and prior to being granted access to a network,			
3	ahead of any other media outlets."	3	a screen will come up, reminding the user that they			
4	So you honoured their exclusive, if I can put it	4	a splash screen is what you call it, reminding them that			
5	that way?	5	they must use the systems only for official purposes.			
6	MS BREWIS: Yes. I think I would always honour an	6	MR STODDART: That's correct.			
7	exclusive. If a reporter comes and asks a question	7	Q. You do have audit facilities and the Professional			
8	about a story they are running and nobody else has it,	8	Standards Department carries out intelligence-led			
9	I think it's only professional to honour that exclusive.	9	operations. Are there any random checks or dip sampling			
10	I would not put it then out on general release. I may	10	of the use of the systems?			
11	put it out on general release once it appeared in that	11	MR STODDART: Yes. Both local and nationally, we have			
12	outlet, but I wouldn't do it in advance of that.	12	random sampling and within the PNC guard, which is			
13	Q. The question of leaks, Mr Stoddart. I think you've more	13	referred to in my statement, there is a facility to,			
14	or less dealt with them. You've said that there have	14	randomly and intelligence-led, do some screening of the			
15	been no known leaks from Durham Constabulary staff to	15	usage to ensure that it's done for an appropriate			
16	the media. Over what time period are you considering?	16	purpose, whether it's training, crime or another police			
17	MR STODDART: I've been at Durham now for nine years and	17	matter, a vehicle stop or whatever. There are			
18	I can't think of any from the police. I was reminded,	18	categories of why that can be used and there will be			
19	however, that it's in my statement that there was	19	challenges to the officers for their reason based on			
20	an inadvertent disclosure of a sensitive Police	20	those random requests.			
21	Authority paper which found its way into the media's	21	Q. Are you talking there about the PNC or			
22	hands, but that was traced down to inappropriate	22	MR STODDART: Yes. PNC Guard sorry, I should have been			
23	disposal of information rather than a deliberate leak.	23	clearer. PNC Guard is exactly that. That's what it			
24	Q. Yes. And Ms Brewis, you state that deliberate leaks are	24	does. It's a commercial piece of software that we've			
25	uncommon and have never been regarded as a significant	25 invested in. Most forces, I think, have something				
	Page 73		Page 75			
1	issue?	1	similar or the same, and it enables us to ensure that			
1	issue? MS BREWIS: No. not with my experience with Durham. no. not	$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	similar or the same, and it enables us to ensure that there is no inappropriate use of the PNC, both on			
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19 (Pages 73 to 76)

1	we can within the constraints of the organisation.	1	investigating officer, because there are some			
2	Q. And in fact, you've only had two complaints from the	2	vulnerabilities there, I think.			
3	public in the last two years which relate to the	3	Q. Is that the skills gap that you refer to in your			
4	suspected misuse of police databases?	4	statement?			
5	MR STODDART: Yes.	5	MR STODDART: It might be.			
6	Q. And one of them was held to be vexatious by the	6	Q. Senior investigating officers			
7	Independent Police Complaints Commission?	7	MR STODDART: It might be, I'm not sure.			
8	MR STODDART: Yes, that's correct.	8	Q. You say you recognised a skills gap within your own			
9	Q. You've referred to the PNC Guard, which is software that	9	force within the lower ranks?			
10	all police forces use to protect the PNC.	10	MR STODDART: I think that we have been I think we've			
11	MR STODDART: Yes.	11	been fortunate that we haven't had a major issue in			
12	Q. We heard from Mr Kirkby this morning from Surrey Police	12	terms of disclosures or leaks or inappropriate contact.			
13	that when the PNC is interrogated, once every ten	13	I think what Barbara and I are saying is that we are			
14	interrogations, there will be a request for greater	14	reviewing everything we do, we are keeping a very close			
15	justification of the need to access the PNC. Is that	15	eye on what the HMIC and Filkin comes out with today and			
16	a standard setting or is that something that police	16	I think I recognise that, although we've trained BC			
17	forces can control themselves?	17	commanders and senior staff and detectives, inspectors,			
18	MR STODDART: As I understand it, the filter can be adjusted	18	we maybe have left it a little bit to trust with some of			
19	to suit the force, but one in ten seems to be the	19	our very low rank officers. So we need to kind of			
20	standard default position, yes.	20	enhance what we do there as well.			
21	Q. And similarly you're not aware of any suspected leaks of	21	Q. Ms Brewis, you deal with the future to some degree in			
22	PNC data from Durham Constabulary employees to the media	22	your statement too. At question 8, 05220, you say:			
23	within the last five years?	23	"If any changes were needed, it would be to promote			
24	MR STODDART: No.	24	the value of media training and encourage more of them			
25	Q. If I may return to media relations, is there anything	25	2			
	Page 77		Page 79			
1	we've discussed along the way your thoughts about the	1	interviews."			
1 2	we've discussed along the way your thoughts about the future and the reviews that you're conducting presently.	1 2	interviews." So you would like officers to have more confidence?			
2	future and the reviews that you're conducting presently.	2	So you would like officers to have more confidence?			
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1				
1	it?"	1	I think it's about ensuring that the investigation had	
2	Just basically a checkpoint to make sure that we're	2 integrity and was doing absolutely everything that it		
3	doing what we're supposed to be doing.	3	could within the limits of the various quantities of	
4	Q. So it's a topic for discussion so it's easier for you to	4	data and the vast numbers of potential victims that	
5	then keep an eye if somebody were progressing towards an	5	everything was being done within reason.	
6	overly close relationship, you might be able to catch it	6	Q. Did you experience cooperation from the Metropolitan	
7	then?	7	Police Service?	
8	MS BREWIS: Yes.	8	MR STODDART: 100 per cent. They were terrific. Right from	
9	Q. Is there anything either of you would like to add before	9	the workers on the in the major incident room up to	
10	I move on to your review, I think there's something	10	the Commissioner of the Met himself. There was nothing	
11	completely different, linked but a different topic.	11	held from us and we received really good co-operation.	
12	So Mr Stoddart, I want to ask you about Operation	12	It's not to say that we agreed about everything, because	
13	Ocean Grove; is that right, isn't it?	13	we didn't, but we were able to provide what we felt was	
14	MR STODDART: Ocean Grove.	14	good support, good strategic advice, and tactical advice	
15	Q. The Commissioner of Police, Mr Hogan-Howe, asked you to	15	as well to the inquiry team to make sure they got the	
16	conduct an independent review of Operation Weeting.	16	best out of us.	
17	First of all, is it common practice for a chief officer	17	Q. Had you had any concerns, if you had thought that at any	
18	to ask another chief officer to review an investigation?	18	level you weren't receiving the co-operation that you	
19	MR STODDART: In terms of the field of major crime, in	19	thought you ought to receive, what would you have done?	
20	particular homicide, yes, it is. It's acknowledged as	20	MR STODDART: I'd have spoken to, in the first instance, the	
21	good practice. Normally from within the force, so if	21	officer in overall command of the investigation, and if	
22	it's a conventional murder, you would put together	22	it couldn't be resolved there, I'd have taken it higher	
23	a review team within your own from within your own	23	and there would have been absolutely no difficulty with	
24	force and ensure that structural governance wise,	24	that because we had a very calendered frequent set of	
25	leadership, all the usual issues, that you would	25	meetings, both with the Commissioner, the Deputy	
	Page 81		Page 83	
1	undertake that review.	1	Commissioner and the Deputy Assistant Commissioner who	
2	In a more serious case, you may commission an	2	was leading the investigation.	
3	external chief officer to lead a team. This was	3	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: So this was while Mr Godwin was	
4	slightly unusual in that Mr Hogan-Howe asked me to head	4	Acting Commissioner?	
5	up a team into something that was major crime but wasn't	5	-	
6			MR STODDART: Mr Godwin was Acting Commissioner. It was	
0	a homicide. So it was slightly new ground for the	6	MR STODDART: Mr Godwin was Acting Commissioner. It was actually Mr Hogan-Howe, when he was Acting Deputy	
0 7	a homicide. So it was slightly new ground for the Police Service, but for very, very good reasons.		actually Mr Hogan-Howe, when he was Acting Deputy	
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7		6 7	actually Mr Hogan-Howe, when he was Acting Deputy Commissioner, he commissioned it. Sorry, there's a lot of "commissioner" here, sorry. He asked me to undertake	
7 8	Police Service, but for very, very good reasons. Q. Have you conducted that review?	6 7 8	actually Mr Hogan-Howe, when he was Acting Deputy Commissioner, he commissioned it. Sorry, there's a lot of "commissioner" here, sorry. He asked me to undertake the review, and I reported to Mr Hogan-Howe as the	
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21 (Pages 81 to 84)

1	defaulting the other receives the setting the latter
1	defaulting the other way by setting the mesh so fine as
2	to catch a very great deal which was going to take a lot
3	of work and a lot of effort. So I'm just trying to work
4	out whether you were, as it were, not looking at the
5	allegations, but looking at how the mesh had been set.
6	MR STODDART: Yes. We did look at that and it was about the
7	process, the staffing and the resourcing, the
8	appropriateness of the lines of investigation and
9	inquiry, the priorities, and the large number of
10	victims, to make sure that we could provide some
11	reassurance to the executive of the force that the
12	inquiry was going far enough, that they were setting the
13	mesh at an appropriate level. I don't want to go if
14	I can avoid going into detail, I will, but we did look
15	on occasions right into the very heart of the
16	investigation, and to try and assist in making sure.
17	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I absolutely don't want you to go
18	into the detail, and I'm sure you did provide strategic
19	and tactical advice. Is it appropriate for me to ask
20	and if you don't think it is, just tell me it isn't
21	appropriate whether you were satisfied that the broad
22	thrust of the direction of Weeting was proportionate,
23	balanced and appropriate?
24	MR STODDART: Absolutely. It was proportionate, balanced
24	and appropriate.
25	Page 85
	Tage 05
1	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Yes. Those were my three so it is
2	appropriate for me to ask and that's the answer?
3	MR STODDART: It is appropriate for you to ask and that is
4	the answer. Clearly, there were huge issues in relation
5	to the numbers of potential victims, as you well know,
6	but the matter was being thoroughly and proportionately
7	investigated.
8	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: I don't think it's appropriate to go
。 9	further and I certainly won't ask you. Thank you.
10	MS BOON: Those are all my questions, sir.
11	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: Thank you. Mr Stoddart and
12	Ms Brewis, thank you very much indeed for coming. You
13	commented earlier on in your evidence that Durham was
14	a long way away, so I'm particularly grateful to you.
15	MR STODDART: Thank you, sir.
16	LORD JUSTICE LEVESON: That's a convenient moment, thank you
17	very much. Tomorrow morning, 10 o'clock.
18	(4.10 pm)
19	(The hearing adjourned until 10 o'clock the following day)
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