

SHEKU BAYOH INQUIRY

The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry

Witness Statement

Scott Dalgliesh

Taken by [REDACTED]

At Capital House

on Thursday 3rd November 2022

Witness details

1. My full name is Harry Scott Dalgliesh. My date of birth is in 1962. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
2. On 3 May 2015, I was a Sergeant in the East Overview at Bilston Glen Area Control Room. I retired from the police force on 19 November 2020, having completed 30 years of service.

East Overview Sergeant

3. My job was to support the Overview Inspector (the Duty Officer). At that time, the Inspector was in charge of Overview, the Control Room and the Service Centre. The Inspector was responsible for overseeing incidents tagged on the STORM command and control system for Overview's attention. The Inspector was solely responsible for the deployment of firearms resources. He was specially trained to deal with the firearms officers.

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DocuSigned by:

[REDACTED]

4. All incidents are logged on the STORM command and control system. When a call relating to a policing matter is received through the Service Centre, the call handler will produce an incident log. The incident log acts as a record, where any information about the incident and decisions made by attending staff would be entered. I would be monitoring the list of recent and ongoing incidents and I would be looking for those of a higher priority - those graded 1 or 2. I would be looking to see if the Control Room require assistance from Overview. Do they require any specialist support such as firearms officers?
5. For incidents where Overview are directly assisting, the Inspector would be going through his decision-making processes for the deployment of resources and would be instructing those in Overview to gather information to assist with his decision-making. I would typically make phone calls on the Inspector's behalf. This could be phone calls to the informant(s) to gather further information about the suspect and the incident. The Research and Intelligence Desk (RAID) officer could be tasked with checking intelligence databases if the suspect is known.
6. In terms of monitoring the list of ongoing jobs and offering assistance to the Control Room, if decisions had to be made, it would depend on the type of decision as to whether I could make it myself as the Overview Sergeant. For example, if there was a housebreaking, I could organise the dog unit. It's more than likely that the officers on scene, or the controller would be shouting for this resource anyway. I might just be involved insofar as making sure that someone is organising the dog unit. That's also a job that could be done by the ACR supervising Sergeant. If it's a firearms incident, that's got to be the Inspector to make a deployment decision. A firearms incident could be any incident involving a lethal weapon. It requires a response above and beyond an ordinary officer with his Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
7. So essentially I would be monitoring the incidents to make sure that the Control Room staff were progressing the incident successfully, and carrying out tasks for the Inspector to assist in the performance of his responsibilities. Everyone in Overview and the Control Room would be working together.

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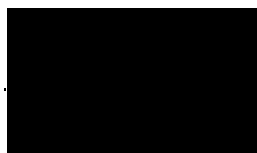
Training

8. I have been asked if I received specific training for my role as Overview Sergeant. I can't recall any. When I first joined Bilston as a Sergeant supervising the Service Centre in May 2012, I did receive IT training. There was also training on specific issues such as kidnaps, extortion and firearms. Online training courses were available, and it was the officer's responsibility to keep up to date with these courses.
9. I definitely received no training for the role of Overview Sergeant. Bilston's East Overview was newly formed when I joined in February 2015. It was a case of creating the guidance and learning as we went along. I have been asked if any lessons and guidance were shared between the other Overview suites i.e. North and West Overview with East Overview. There was no direct contact between the Overview suites regarding learning, however any learning points could be shared with the suits through management.
10. Overview did participate in opportunity days which happened every 5 weeks on a Wednesday. We would go out to visit teams such as the firearms officers and the dogs unit. Due to times where we were short staffed, the opportunity days would not always take place.
11. In terms of Equality and Diversity training, this was not as prominent when I first joined the force in 1990. I received an afternoon of training at the Police College, and then about 3-4 years later (in 1993/94) I received a 1-day training course at the Police Force Headquarters at Fettes. In the early 2000s, I did receive a 2-day Equality and Diversity training course. Since then, I have received minor inputs.

3 May 2015 – East Overview Incident Awareness

12. On 3 May 2015, I was working a shift pattern of 07:00 - 15:00. Whilst my shift didn't start until 07:00, I would normally arrive in Overview between 06:30 and 06:40 to let the night-shift Overview Sergeant away home early. I can't remember what time I arrived in the Overview suite on 3 May 2015.

Signature of witness.....



13. When taking over from the night-shift Overview Sergeant, I would receive a handover. We would discuss anything that had happened overnight that may come back during my shift requiring attention. If a major incident had happened during the night, you would anticipate calls from the media in the morning when the press start waking up. If there was any live jobs sitting on the Overview filter screen, we would go through those and discuss any outstanding tasks. I can't remember what was specifically discussed at the handover on 3 May 2015.

14. On the morning of 3 May 2015, I was working alongside Inspector Steven Stewart, RAID officer [REDACTED] and force communications officer Michelle Hutchison. Our usual Overview Inspector, [REDACTED], was taking annual leave and Inspector Stewart was covering in his absence.

15. I can remember that when the initial calls were coming in regarding the incident with Mr Bayoh, Inspector Stewart was not present in Overview. I think he was down on the Control Room floor speaking to the staff there. Speaking to the Control Room staff was part of the Inspector's responsibilities, this was therefore not an unusual practice. The Inspector would usually take their handheld radio with them so that Overview could contact them if necessary. I don't know if Inspector Stewart had his handheld radio with him that morning.

16. I have been shown Inspector Stewart's PIRC¹ statement from 9 October 2015. He stated:

"However, when I returned to the EO V (East Overview) I was made aware by the EO V Sergeant that there was an ongoing incident in the Kirkcaldy area regarding a male seen in possession of a knife."

I had told Inspector Stewart about the incident once he returned into the Overview suite. I can't remember exactly what I told Inspector Stewart upon his return to Overview. I can't remember who asked Inspector Stewart to return to Overview from the Control Room.

¹ PIRC-00395

Signature of witness.....

[REDACTED]

17. I have been asked when I first became aware of the incident. From looking at the STORM incident log², the first entry that I have made was at 07:25:58. The entry was made by 'OVIEW_E03'. 'OVIEW' would confirm that the author has come from the Overview suite, and 'E03' would have been my desk number. I recognise my collar number next to my desk number.
18. I have been aware of the incident before 07:25:58 as I have discussed the incident with Inspector Stewart once he returned to Overview. I have viewed the Inquiry's video and audio timeline³ where the first transmission made by Inspector Stewart started at 07:20:13. Therefore, I must have been aware of the incident before 07:20:13.
19. Whilst I cannot remember when I first became aware of the incident, I can see from the STORM log that East Overview were aware of the incident from at least 07:18:16. I can see that 'OVIEW_01' has viewed the incident at this time and placed a full-stop (i.e. '.') entry on the log. Typing the full-stop adds a timestamped entry to the log, which is a quick way of allowing others viewing the log to see that you have accessed it. Whilst I can't remember each individual's desk number in Overview, the collar number next to the desk number on the log is a civilian staff collar number. I can tell this since any collar number with a '71' at the beginning denotes a civilian staff member. The only member of civilian staff within the Overview suite is the force communications officer. Therefore this would be Michelle Hutchison.
20. I have been asked what I was doing during the period between 07:18:16 – 07:20:13, i.e. the time between Overview confirming their awareness of the incident on the STORM log until Inspector Stewart has transmitted across the Kirkcaldy airwave channel. I can't remember specific actions. Some of that time would have been informing Inspector Stewart about the incident upon his return to the Overview suite, but I can't remember how long that would have taken.

² PS00232

³ SBPI-00047

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21. Since I don't know who made Inspector Stewart aware that he had to return to Overview and at what time, I don't know how long it has taken Inspector Stewart to reach the point of being in a position to make the transmission on the Kirkcaldy airwave channel at 07:20:13.

3 May 2015 – Calling Mrs Joyce

22. When Inspector Stewart returned to Overview, I remember that he instructed me to phone one of the informants who had called in about Mr Bayoh. I have phoned Mrs Joyce Joyce and spoken to her to gather more information.

23. The purpose of the call is to look at the situation from a police officer's point of view rather than a civilian point of view. The information I have received at this point from the STORM log populated by the Service Centre call handler is sparse. During the call I will be asking slightly different questions to dig deeper into the circumstances of the incident. I might also seek to clarify some of the information I already have from the STORM log, i.e. locus address.

24. After I had spoken with Mrs Joyce, I fed back any information gathered to Inspector Stewart. When dealing with an incident, this information will assist the Inspector's decision-making about what next steps to take i.e. what specialist resources should be deployed (with particular consideration to firearms officers), and also whether the incident has to be declared as a firearms incident.

25. I can see from the STORM log that I have added an entry at 07:25:28 confirming my discussion with Mrs Joyce. I have established the last known time and location that she has seen Mr Bayoh. I have also added information regarding Mr Joyce's availability to speak with officers in person if required.

26. At 07:33:30 on the STORM log, I can see a retrospective entry from Inspector Stewart confirming that I have spoken with informant Mrs Joyce. Whilst I had already created an entry on the log for my call with Mrs Joyce, Inspector Stewart

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will add an entry to show that he has taken this information into his consideration as the Inspector and ITFC.

3 May 2015 - Post-Incident Involvement

27. Aside from calling Mrs Joyce, I can't remember having any further involvement with the incident as the officers were dealing with Mr Bayoh at Hayfield Road.
28. On the STORM log, I have added a full-stop entry at 08:07:37. This was to confirm that I had viewed the log again. Staff would also add full-stops to the log to separate the paragraph entries. Whilst this practice is not encouraged by the police force, separating paragraph entries with full-stop entries does make the log easier to read.
29. At 08:07:37, I have added an entry confirming that a holding statement had been compiled and was held with me pending media release. A holding statement is a basic press statement. If the press start calling into East Overview, this is the statement that would be provided to them. It would have been either myself or Inspector Stewart who produced the holding statement, I can't remember who drafted the statement for this case specifically. Since the incident occurred early on a Sunday morning, there would likely have been no one on shift that morning from the force's media team. Where incidents occurred out of hours, preparing the holding statement and speaking with the press was a typical responsibility of the Overview Sergeant and Inspector. I did receive media training during my time with the force from the media department. I cannot remember when I received this training. Holding statements were compiled utilising a set of guidelines and templates that were provided by the force's media team.
30. There is an entry on the STORM log at 09:23:34 to confirm that the incident is being view restricted. Inspector Stewart had asked me to apply the view rating to the incident, however this is a decision I can make as well. The view rating restricts the persons who are allowed continued access to information on the STORM system about the incident. Typically, incidents will be view restricted because there is a sensitive nature to the incident and it minimises the risk of information being

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leaked to third parties. Incidents concerning a named person, such as a celebrity or politician would typically be view restricted. I can see various occasions where I have added staff to the permissions list for viewing the incident. I have updated the log accordingly at 09:36:38 and 09:48:58.

31. I have been shown an entry at 10:15:41 on the STORM log where I have discussed contacting Detective Sergeant (DS) Dugald Murray. I can't recall why I have contacted DS Murray.

32. I completed my shift at 15:00 on 3 May 2015. Any subsequent entries past 15:00 under the desk number 'OVIEW_E03' were made by my colleague who took over the back-shift. From looking at the caller number, I think this was [REDACTED].

Deployment of Unarmed Officers

33. I have been asked whether it is typical to dispatch unarmed officers to attend a Grade 1 knife call. This is common practice as the officers can provide a professional line of sight. They see the incident from a policing perspective and can feed back information to the Inspector that will assist in any decision-making efforts.

34. The unarmed officers would attend the scene and would be asked to stand back and assess the situation, bearing in mind officer safety. They should not be just running in to the scene. In the initial term, the officers are tasked with finding the suspect and making an initial assessment of the incident.

Deployment of Armed Vehicle Response (ARV)

35. I've been asked to consider the Inquiry's combined video and audio timeline⁴ on page 2. Between 07:20:13 and 07:20:21, Inspector Stewart transmits that he is monitoring the incident from an ARV perspective and asks attending officers to make an initial assessment and feed back to the ACR. I have been asked whether

⁴ SBPI-00047

Signature of witness..... [REDACTED]

it is typical for the Inspector to consider ARVs as a tactical resource for a Grade 1 call with a knife. Monitoring an incident for an ARV response is dependent on the circumstances of the incident. Whilst there have been several calls from members of the public about a person with a knife, this is not as terrible an encounter from a police perspective. Attending officers may approach the suspect and ask them to drop the knife, and the suspect does.

36. The Inspector will therefore ask for attending officers to update since they will be able to feedback information such the suspect's demeanour and whether they will verbally communicate and listen. This is also why I had been asked to phone Mrs Joyce. This helps to bring together all the information that can be quickly gathered about the incident to help the Inspector go through his decision-making process for resource deployment. If the incident with Mr Bayoh hadn't unfolded as quickly as it did, I would have been asked to phone other informants who had been in touch and would be checking the linked incident log for those details.

37. Whilst the call concerns a weapon and therefore fulfils that element of the firearms criteria, there is still insufficient information about what is exactly happening at the scene. The Inspector will avoid deploying firearms officers until he had reasonable grounds to do so.

Miscellaneous

38. I have never provided a statement before now. I have never been asked to do so by Police Scotland or the PIRC. I just assumed that I was never asked previously since I had minimal involvement in the incident.

39. I've been asked if I have ever spoken to anyone about the incident on 3 May 2015. I probably did discuss the incident with my colleagues in Overview the next day. You'd come back in and have a look and see what had happened, see if there was any feedback from the division senior officers. I can't recall any details of the specific discussions I would have had with colleagues.

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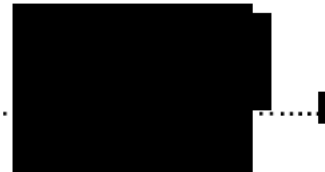
40. I've been asked if I can remember a debrief session for the incident concerning Mr Bayoh. I cannot remember any debrief taking place.

41. I have been aware of the Public Inquiry through the media. I have not discussed the Inquiry's work with anyone. I have not worked at Bilston for the past 3 years.

42. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that this statement may form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and be published on the Inquiry's website.

November 22, 2022 | 4:54 PM GMT

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

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the witness.