

Written Statement of Evidence – Sheku Bayoh Inquiry

In response to Rule 8 Request Letter – dated 8th May 2024

Andrew [REDACTED] Simpson

Born [REDACTED]/1980.

Question 1 – Roles & Responsibilities

I am employed by the Police Service of Scotland as an Analyst Coordinator and have 20 years of experience in crime and intelligence analysis. I am currently stationed at Fife Division Headquarters, Detroit Road, Glenrothes, Fife.

I have been employed in criminal intelligence analysis roles throughout my career, working in Fife since 2004. I have held my current position as Analyst Coordinator in P Division (Fife) since May 2007.

As an Analyst Coordinator I manage a small team of Criminal Intelligence Analyst staff. I am required to analyse a wide range of information and data in relation to incidents, crimes and operations. I am also required to compile reports and charts to present evidential data and information to assist with the prosecution of a case.

I have completed the relevant and required training in respect of my role, including courses on Criminal Intelligence Analysis, Crime Pattern Analysis, Intelligence Operatives, Major Incident Analysis, Communications Data Analysis, Strategic Analysis, i2 Analyst Notebook, ESRI ArcGIS (Geographic Information System), all of which were undertaken at the Scottish Police College. Through this training I have obtained a Diploma in Crime and Intelligence Analysis, accredited by the Scottish Qualifications Authority.

I also hold a Master of Arts Honours degree in Geography and Management Studies from the University of Glasgow.

Question 2 – Data Analysis

In carrying out my duties as Analyst Coordinator, I am aware that the following Police Scotland systems have data fields to collect and record data relating to race and ethnicity and that these systems were operational in Fife during 2015.

(Please note - there may be other systems not detailed below that collected and recorded race and ethnicity data for Fife during 2015 that I am not aware of / do not make use of in my role.)

Crimefile System – Recorded Crime Data

The Crimefile system was used during 2015 to record crimes occurring in P Division (Fife) and to facilitate general crime administration and crime reporting to Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS).

The Crimefile system included data fields for Ethnic Appearance, Nationality and Place of Birth in the persons section of the system for both witness and offender details. It is my understanding that these data fields were not mandatory for completion when entering person details to Crimefile.

The Crimefile system also included the functionality for a 'Police Variant' field to be populated against a crime charge where the crime is aggravated by prejudice in respect of race (in addition to other characteristics).

In addition, the crime recording system would be used to record specific crimes for racially aggravated harassment/conduct.

Data entered on Crimefile was collected and recorded by police officers and police staff involved in the crime recording process and administration of Crimefile system.

The Crimefile system used in Fife for crime recording was replaced by National UNIFI crime recording on 8th February 2023.

STORM Unity

STORM Unity is the Command and Control system for Police Scotland and has been operational in Fife since end of January 2015.

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I am aware that STORM Unity contains data fields for Ethnicity and Country of Origin in relation to person details (Ethnicity may previously have been named Ethnic Origin). It is my understanding that these data fields are not mandatory for completion when entering person details to STORM Unity. Country of Origin as a data field does not appear to be in use albeit it exists in the system.

Data entered on STORM Unity is collected and recorded by police officers and police staff involved in contact, command and control for Police Scotland.

Interim Vulnerable Persons Database (iVPD)

The Interim Vulnerable Person's Database (iVPD) was set up as part of Police Scotland's commitment to Keeping People Safe and has been operational across all Police Scotland divisions since March 2014.

I am aware that the iVPD database has data fields to record the Ethnicity and Place of Birth of persons subject to an iVPD concern report.

It is my understanding that these data fields are mandatory for completion when a concern report is being created for persons within the iVPD system.

The iVPD database will also capture details of hate concerns including those relating to race and whether a crime has occurred (Note that this process is subject to change from 1st April 2024 with Hate Crimes now being recorded in National UNIFI crime only).

Data entered on iVPD is collected and recorded by police officers and police staff involved in the protection and support of people considered vulnerable.

Scottish Intelligence Database (SID)

The Scottish Intelligence Database (SID) is the agreed national database for all intelligence for the Police Service of Scotland and was operational in Fife during 2015.

I am aware that the Scottish Intelligence Database (SID) has data fields to record the Ethnic Appearance, Nationality and Place of Birth of persons who are subject to an intelligence log. My understanding is that these data fields are not mandatory for completion.

The Scottish Intelligence Database (SID) also has an intelligence header for 'Hate Crime' and subject sub heading for 'Racist' which is used to categorise intelligence relating to race hate crime.

Data entered on the Scottish Intelligence Database (SID) is collected and recorded by police officers and police staff involved in various roles throughout Police Scotland.

National Stop and Search Database

A national Stop and Search Application serves to capture Stop and Search information across Police Scotland.

I am aware that the National Stop and Search Database contains a data field for Ethnicity.

As I understand, in its current form, the database for stop and search dates to the introduction of the Stop and Search Code of Practice in May 2017 and that following introduction of this code of practice officers are required to ask the subject of a stop and search to self-define their ethnicity from a list contained within the Stop and Search Receipt Book. Persons subject to stop and search are not obliged to provide this information, but it is collected and recorded if they do.

Prior to May 2017 and dating back to 2015 year, there were earlier versions of a National Stop and Search Database for recording, however I have been able to confirm that Ethnicity data was collected and recorded during 2015 for stop and search when provided to officers.

Question 3 – Data Analysis

Insofar as I am aware, no retrospective data collection has been undertaken, by myself or by staff reporting to me, in relation to race and ethnicity data from 2015.

Question 4 – Data Analysis

During 2015 it is likely that scheduled monthly analysis for operational policing purposes will have included high level reporting on crimes with race police variant as part of hate crime routine monitoring for P Division (Fife). The findings of this monitoring and analysis cannot be confirmed as routine tactical assessments from 2015 are no longer held in line with Police Scotland record retention standard operating procedure.

Insofar as I am aware, no retrospective data collection or analysis has been undertaken, by myself or by staff reporting to me, in relation to race and ethnicity data from 2015.

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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.

Signed:

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Andrew Simpson.

Andrew ■ Simpson

Analyst Coordinator, P Division (Fife)

Police Scotland

20/05/2024

