

**SHEKU
BAYOH
INQUIRY**

**The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry
Witness Statement**

Callum Cruikshank

Taken by [REDACTED]

At New Volunteer House,

16 East Fergus Place, Kirkcaldy, KY1 1XT.

On 29 October 2024

1. My name is Callum Cruikshank. I was born in 1959. My contact details are known to the Inquiry. My address as at 3 May 2015 was [REDACTED] Hayfield Road, Kirkcaldy. I am retired.
2. [REDACTED] Hayfield Road is an upper flat in a four in a block property. Number [REDACTED] is on the west side of the block. My bedroom was to the front of the house and these windows looked out onto Hayfield Road.
3. Before March 2020 I suffered a stroke this has affected my short and long term memory. If I'm trying to recall something, it's like taking pieces out of a movie. I can remember small bits here and there sometimes.
4. I am told that on 3 May 2015 there was an incident on Hayfield Road involving a black man, Mr Sheku Bayoh and the police. Statements were subsequently

Signature of witness

taken from residents of Hayfield Road to attempt to find eyewitnesses to the incident. I spoke about that with my wife, Pauline Cruikshank, yes.

5. I am asked if I recall meeting with the PIRC at all to provide a statement. No I don't.
6. I am asked if I recall if it was a man and a women from the PIRC coming to my door. No I don't. The only reason I know they did was because my wife told me.
7. I am asked if I recall anything of what I saw that morning. No, I don't. I don't think I saw anything. The only time I saw anything was I went down to the shop and, when I came back, the road was closed.
8. I am asked if I remember that. I remember because my wife said that I'd came back from the shop and the police stopped me from coming back to the house because they were doing a 3D scan of the area, I think it was, but I don't remember that. We were talking about the other day.
9. In am shown three different photographs of Hayfield Road on the morning of 3 May 2015; PIRC-04249, PIRC-04247 and PIRC 04248 I am asked if these jog any memories at all. No they don't.
10. I am asked if I remember there being police vans in street at all or the blue lights. That's difficult because I've spoken to my wife about it but, no, I don't personally remember.
11. I am then shown the photo PIRC-03450. This does not jog any memories, but I do recognise the road in the photo.
12. I am shown a short video PIRC-03369. No I don't recognise any of that.
13. I am asked what I wear glasses for. I have two pairs of glasses, one for reading and one for watching the TV, but that's only a recent thing as well.

Signature of witness ...

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The reading ones, I've always had. In 2015, that would be I had them for welding.

14. I have been referred to my PIRC statement (PIRC-00308) at page 2,

"About 7 a.m. that morning, Sunday, 3 May 2015, I was awake in bed at my home address. My bedroom is at the front of the house and faces out onto Hayfield Road itself. My wife Pauline was sleeping at that time.

I could then hear shouting, a commotion in the street. I couldn't make out anything in particular so I got out of bed and looked out the front window."

15. I am asked if I normally sleep with your bedroom window open or closed. It depends on the time of year. But we don't have double glazing so you hear everything on the street.

16. I have been referred to my PIRC statement (PIRC-00308) again at page 2. It states

"I could see two or three police officers in uniform to my left on the street. They were just in my vision looking left out of the window. They were either on the pavement or just on the road. I don't remember if they were male or female. It was early in the morning, so I did not pay much attention. I can't even remember if there were any police vehicle there.

I woke my wife Pauline, and I said, 'I think there's been an accident in the street.' Pauline did not get out her bed at all.

I could not see the police with anyone. As I say, I thought there had been an accident. That's not unusual in our street so I did not pay too much attention. I think one of the officers might have been kneeling

Signature of witness 

down, but I did not see anyone with the police officer. I only looked for a matter of seconds, took it as an accident, and left the window. I don't recall seeing any female police officers at this time. I'm not the quickest in the morning and I was just out of bed.

About an hour later, probably about 8 a.m., I left my house to go to the shops. As I walked out the front gate onto Hayfield Road, I saw several police officers again. I did not see them with anyone, and I did not see an ambulance. I walked to the shops and returned a short time later. When I returned, a policewoman spoke to me as I walked into the street. I had been down at The Valley shops so I was returning from Hendry Road. I was about to go under the police tape when she stopped me. She asked me where I had come from and told me to wait.


Again, I don't recall anyone with the police or even how many police were there. I think there were others there but, again, I did not pay attention."

17. I am asked if this jogs any memories at all. No. Like I say, I spoke to Pauline about it. The only thing I know about the case is what I've seen in the news and what I've spoken to Pauline about. I have no recollection of any of it.

18. I am asked if I have followed the news much about what has happened. Yes. Obviously, as it's on our street.

19. I am asked if I have watched any of the documentaries that have been on about it. Yes, I have.

20. I am asked if my wife keep up to date with the news on it. I don't know. I don't think so, not that much.

Signature of witness 

21. I am asked if I have spoken to any other witnesses in the street who might have given statement to the police or the PIRC. No, I don't think anybody's spoken about it with the neighbours and we would speak to the neighbours, but it's never really come up.
22. I have been referred to Nicole Short's statement (PIRC 00254), at page 7 and paragraph 5, which states: *"I did notice an older couple, late 50s, looking out of an upstairs window opposite the bus stop. They looked horrified. The guy had grey hair and was horrified, and he had glasses on, she had brown hair."*
23. I am asked if I have any recollection of being at the window with my wife. No. Again, we spoke about that morning, and Pauline was in bed. I don't think she was at the window, but I could be wrong. I certainly wouldn't be looking horrified at the window because, as I said in the statement, I thought it was an accident, which there had been a lot. We had our car written off outside the house. So there's always been accidents. So, if I did look out and see police, I'd have thought it was a car accident and nothing more. As for shouting and noise, we had a pub across the road so there was always shouting and mayhem.
24. I am asked if I had any neighbours that would fit that description that that police officer gave of the couple at the window. Next door, upstairs to us, they're about the same age as us. I know that [REDACTED] next door's blonde hair now, but it could well have colouring. But, as I understand it, it was right at the junction where it's happened, where the gentleman was with the police, so why would you look horrified? Because you wouldn't see that. From our window, you can't see the junction. Not right at the junction.
25. I am asked if I remember a member of Mr Bayoh's family coming to the house and asking question or speaking to my wife. It's explained to me that it would have been a black gentleman called Ade Johnson. No, I have no recollection of this.

Signature of witness .. [REDACTED]

26. I am asked if I remember my wife talking about a black man coming to the house and asking questions. No, I Don't.

27. I am asked if remember hearing Mr Bayoh saying "Get off me. I can't breathe." No, I don't.

28. I am asked if I remember my wife mentioning hearing anything like that. No, but then she could have said that yesterday and I wouldn't remember.

29. 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.

Date 12-11-24

Signature of witness . 