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Statement made on behalf of: The Director General of the National Crime Agency

Witness: Robert Jones

Date statement made: 18 February 2019

IN THE MATTER OF: INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE –
PROTECTION OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE UK INVESTIGATION: CASE STUDY
– CHILDREN OUTSIDE THE UK PHASE TWO

Witness: Robert Jones

Occupation: Director Threat Leadership, National Crime Agency

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1. I am Director Threat Leadership for the National Crime Agency, I make this statement in response to a question raised on 15 February 2019 by the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), Protection of Children Outside the UK Investigation, around the NCA's presence in the Philippines.
2. I can say the following. The NCA has always covered the Philippines from its post in Thailand, visiting the country on a regular basis, and as required, for operational purposes. In response to an enhanced threat picture the NCA permanently redeployed an International Liaison Officer to Manila in the Philippines from October 2018. The primary purpose of this redeployment is to further bolster the response to

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live streaming and sextortion, and to the presence of UK transnational child sex offenders (TCSOs) in country, and to assist with capacity and capability building where necessary.

3. The Australian Federal Police (AFP), NCA and non-government organisation International Justice Mission is establishing the Philippine Internet Crimes Against Children Centre (PICACC), in conjunction with the Philippine National Police and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). The PICACC will be formally inaugurated on 27 February 2019.
4. The NCA's ILO has assisted with the refurbishment of the PICACC, and during January 2019, as part of their commitment to build PICACC capability, the NCA trained Philippine National Police Women and Children's Protection Center officers, and National Bureau of Investigation Anti-Human Trafficking Division agents, on a forensic investigative tool for electronic devices. In addition, the NCA has increased the operational budget by £160,000 per annum to support Philippine CSAE investigation and development.
5. In November 2018, Director General NCA also signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Head of the Philippines National Police, which incorporates human rights requirements. This MOU is in line with other MOUs signed by law enforcement agencies operating in the Philippines.
6. The NCA has also bid to the UK Government's Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) for £2.96 million per annum for 2019-20 to build and support the capacity of local agencies in high-risk destination countries for UK TCSOs, to enable a team of

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NCA officers to deploy internationally and provide specialist operational support to law enforcement agencies in the Philippines and other high risk countries.

7. If approved, this would further enable the delivery of training and mentoring to share knowledge and build sustainable capacity in the Philippines, through increased support for the PICACC. It would build sustainable capacity in support of the Philippine National Police and other authorities, including conducting complex investigations and evidence against technology enabled child sexual abuse and exploitation and TCSOs.

Statement made on behalf of the Director General of the National Crime Agency by Robert Jones, Director Threat Leadership, in the matter of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse Protection of Children Outside the UK Investigation.

Witness Robert Jones:

Witness (SIGNATURE)

DPA

Date: 18.2.19

