

Peter Lewis  
Chief Executive  
The Crown Prosecution Service  
Rose Court, 2 Southwark Bridge,  
London, SE1 9HS

5 August 2014

Dear Mr Lewis,

Thank you for speaking to me yesterday.

I would be grateful if you could confirm, should it be the case, that with regard to the period 1970-1999, the Crown Prosecution Service would not have retained files in relation to allegations of sexual offences against suspects, including politicians or high ranking public officials, if the case did not result in any charges being brought. I would be particularly helpful if you could provide us with the applicable file retention policy. I appreciate that you may only be able to do so after the Crown Prosecution Service came into existence in 1985.

Of particular interest to Peter Wanless and myself are the events surrounding any files or dossiers that may have been provided by Geoffrey Dickens MP to either the Home Office, the then Home Secretary Leon Brittan, the Metropolitan Police Service or the Director of Public Prosecutions. Open source material suggests that a file written by the Obscene Publications Squad on paedophiles was handed to Sir Thomas Hetherington on or around 25 August 1983. Does the Crown Prosecution Service hold any material in regard to that?

I look forward to hearing from you and you can contact us directly or through Mike Box in our Secretariat in the Home Office.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Whittam QC