

proceedings is that if prejudice to the criminal proceedings may be caused. The CPS and prosecution counsel will usually be consulted.

21. There is no policy of dissuading or advising against initiating a civil claim during ongoing criminal proceedings, however, victims should be reminded that a defendant's legal team may seek to undermine their evidence and assert on behalf of the defendant that the only reason that the victim is supporting the prosecution case is to gain civil compensation.

22. Again, victims can seek documents from the MPS via FOIARs and SARs.

The case study of St Leonard's Children's Home

(4) Brief summary of investigations/operations into allegations of CSA concerning St Leonard's and the outcomes including convictions

23. I was not involved in the investigations/operations concerning St Leonard's Children's Home. The paragraphs below are based on information provided to me on two historical MPS operations (Operation Hamoon and Operation Mapperton) and investigations that post-date those operations.

24. **Operation Hamoon:** A major investigation was opened on 12th June 1995 under the name Operation Hamoon. It was led by Detective Superintendent Morgan. Operation Hamoon dealt with the investigation of allegations of buggery, indecent assault and indecency with children, made by [ARAB] and three others. The alleged incidents took place in the St Leonard's Children's Home in the early 1970's.

25. The allegations were made against Haydn Davies and Alan Prescott, both of whom were interviewed by MPS police officers. They were both bailed pending a report to the CPS. In November 1995 the CPS decided not to proceed with the case as it then stood due to the age of the incidents, lack of corroboration or documentary evidence and perceived weaknesses in the accounts of witnesses.

26. **Operation Mapperton:** Operation Mapperton was opened on 31st July 1998. This was a joint MPS and Tower Hamlets Social Services enquiry into alleged abuse that had taken place on children who were formerly in the care of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets ("LBTH").

27. The investigation focused upon alleged instances of child sexual abuse and serious physical abuse committed by professionals, or their associates, employed by the LBTH who at the material time were employed at St Leonard's Children's Home.

28. Operation Mapperton identified almost 4,000 people who had either been in care or worked for the LBTH. Around 3,000 actions were raised and approximately 700 statements were taken, 1,500 messages and 3,000 documents were obtained during the course of the enquiry. Where information