

**OPEN summary of CLOSED session
14 October 2020**

The Inquiry heard evidence from a retired detective police officer. For the reasons given by the Chair in her ruling dated the 5 March 2020,¹ his evidence was given in CLOSED session. The following is a summary of those parts of his evidence that can be stated in OPEN:

The officer provided evidence of his involvement in a Leicestershire Police investigation into historical allegations concerning Lord Janner. He said that, in general terms, at that time historical enquiries were viewed as “*a pain*” within the police force and that senior officers did not consider them to be as important as they do now.

The officer stated that during the course of the investigation, a senior officer instructed him not to arrest Lord Janner because he was an MP. The officer explained that he had believed that there was sufficient evidence to provide grounds for an arrest and that he had been very disappointed by this decision. He suggested that if he had been “*...arresting a man off the street...*” he would have had “*...plenty of evidence to do so...*” and “*...wouldn't have hesitated...*” to arrest him, but “*...was told not to in this case*”. When asked to reflect on the decision not to arrest Lord Janner, he confirmed that it was his view that Lord Janner had been given “*preferential treatment*”.

The officer was also asked about his views of the case, and how they developed during the police enquiry, with reference to the documents that he created at the time. Having formed the opinion that there was probably something in the allegations, he acknowledged that he had become less convinced in the truth of them as the investigation progressed.

The officer was asked about whether or not Leicestershire Police carried out sufficient enquiries into the allegations made against Lord Janner. In response, the officer stated that he could have made more enquiries and accepted responsibility for not pursuing those that he now felt he ought to have pursued. He also stated that he was told by someone, at some stage, to stop enquiries and move on.

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<https://www.iicsa.org.uk/key-documents/17767/view/2020.03.05-notice-determination-following-preliminary-hearing-20-february-2020.pdf>