

Witness Name: Mr Richard Gargini

Statement No: 1

Exhibits:

Dated: 9 June 2020

THE INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Draft Witness Statement of Mr Richard Gargini

I, Mr Richard Gargini , will say as follows:-

1. I am a retired police officer. I retired in 2010 with over 33 years of service in the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), predominantly in crime investigation and specialist roles.
2. I make this statement in response to a Rule 9 request from the Inquiry dated 22 April 2020.

2015 Police Statement

3. On 13 October 2015 I was interviewed by officers from Metropolitan Police Service's ("MPS") Operation WINTERKEY. A statement was prepared the following day based on the answers I gave in interview [MPS003953] ('my 2015 statement'). I answered the officers' questions honestly to the best of my recollection. A limited number of documents were shown to me during the course of the interview and questions were asked about their content. I had not seen those documents for at least 15 years.
4. Further to the Inquiry's rule 9 request I have been given access to many more documents that have enabled me to refresh my memory and to put matters, including those I was asked about in 2015, into context. As a result, I have come to realise that

the unauthorised disclosure is unknown, however, he believes the source to be a police officer. In further discussion Mr. Goldie accepted that the information may equally have originated from LBL and there is no direct evidence to support his assertion.

In support of his assertion Mr Goldie referred to a conversation with DI Clive Driscoll of the Police Child Protection Team. Mr. Goldie received a faxed collection of papers from DI Driscoll, the content of which bore marked similarities to the content of the newspaper article in question. Mr Goldie was subsequently reassured by Det. Supt. Randall, SW Crime OCU that there were differences in content and the newspaper article. Mr. Goldie accepted this reassurance, however, he did state that DI Driscoll (whom he constantly refers to as Clive) informed him that a Daily Express reporter had been 'sniffing around' the investigation but that he (DI Driscoll) had managed to 'keep the lid' on it.

Mr. Goldie stated that if the leak were inside Lambeth Social services then it could only be a limited number of people who had access to the information and this would be very worrying.

- ***DI Clive Driscoll.***

Mr. Goldie referred to highly sensitive and inappropriate remarks made by DI Driscoll in structured meetings. He was particularly concerned about the disclosure of unsubstantiated rumour in relation to prominent politicians in the presence of junior members of the Social Services Department. Mr. Goldie alleges that DI Driscoll has linked a number of senior political figures without foundation. Mr Goldie accepts that DI Driscoll may have acquired this information from an intelligence a source, however, he has concern about the timing and inferences drawn by DI Driscoll.

The identity of the personalities mentioned are sensitive and are known to Commander Orde.

Mr. Goldie asserted that DI Driscoll failed to understand the impact and implications of repeating the names in a structured meeting and therefore the relationship between the CPT and Social Services had been damaged. Mr Goldie concluded by stating that trust and confidentiality had been breached. He then went on to compare the professional approach of the Merseyside officers with whom he has recently met and the potentially damaging approach by DI Driscoll.