

Irrelevant There was no police involvement, as there were no criminal offences **Irrelevant**

Irrelevant She expressed her concerns at it been brought up thirty odd years later to be used as a political tool.

On the 8th April, 2008 **Barry CROPPER** a former police officer and Magistrate contacted **Detective Inspector Muriel BUGLASS** from Rochdale Public Protection Investigation Unit. He informed her that he had received some alarming information from **Peter EVANS**, who was a former police officer and Liberal Councillor, about

RO-F7 The information was that **RO-F7** **Irrelevant**
Irrelevant

Irrelevant Mr CROPPER

believes that the matter was not reported to the police but was dealt with by way of an internal single agency investigation and a disciplinary hearing. At the disciplinary hearing **RO-F7** was given the alternative of resigning his post or be sacked from the role by the council. The discipline hearing was chaired by Mrs **HAWTON**. Mr **CROPPER** believes **RO-F7** resigned. Mr **CROPPER** also stated that he believed, although he had no further information to substantiate his claim, that **RO-F7** **RO-F7** was sacked previously from Calderdale Council for a previous incident.

There had been some inference made by the Labour Party that if **RO-F7** history is exposed the Labour Party will 'rake up' a file that went to the DPP regarding a sexual assault on a young male in 1962 which involved **Cyril SMITH**.

OP CLIFTON
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Detective Inspector BUGLASS submitted a report to her Line Manager, and **Detective Inspector SHACKLETON**, from City Centre PPIU was allocated to make enquiries. **Detective Inspector SHACKLETON** attended Manchester Personnel Department and scrutinised two electronic files. These revealed that **RO-F7**

OP CLIFTON
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Irrelevant

Irrelevant he commenced employment on 13th January 1992 and his employment was terminated on the 28th March 2002.

A further report was submitted by **Detective Inspector BUGLASS** on the 16th June 2008 and concluded there was no evidence to support the allegations initially made and that there were no further lines of enquiry. She was not in a position to

OP CLIFTON
X219

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substantiate the allegations and indeed the information she had received when she spoke to the former Chair of the Disciplinary Hearing confirmed that it had been dealt with internally, as it was not criminal. Mr CROPPER was informed of the outcome of the investigation by Detective Inspector BUGLASS.

On the 2nd February 2012 Detective Superintendent Phillip OWEN and Detective Inspector Trish OWEN met Barry CROPPER who had contacted the police when he learnt that Greater Manchester Police were about to commence an investigation into Cyril SMITH. He again provided the same information regarding [RO-F7] Detective Superintendent OWEN recalled that Mr CROPPER's main concerns were of corruption in local Government. Following the meeting he liaised with Detective Inspector BUGLASS and reviewed her paperwork and concluded there was no evidence to support the allegations.

OP CLIFTON
R8N

On the 25th March 2015, Mr CROPPER contacted Operation CLIFTON and stated he wished to provide information regarding [RO-F7] and others. He stated he had been given the information by Mr EVANS.

Mr EVANS told the inquiry team that in 2007 when he was made Mayor of Rochdale, his Deputy was [RO-F7] He states he was told by a fellow Liberal Councillor, Elwyn WATKINS, that a lady called [Mother] had told him that [RO-F7] [Irrelevant] but she didn't want the matter going to court. Mr EVANS was also told that [RO-F7] [Irrelevant]

OP CLIFTON
R8N

[Irrelevant]

[Irrelevant] He was allowed to leave and not disciplined.

Mr WATKINS told the inquiry team that [Irrelevant] be a lady called [Tbc] who lives on the Langley Estate, Middleton, Greater Manchester. He was told this by a woman who he helped when her grandchildren were threatened with being put into care. Enquiries with Social Services reveal that Mr WATKINS had written to the Local Authority in support of the [Mother] [Mother] during care proceedings relating to their grandchildren.

OP CLIFTON
D238

[Mother] told the inquiry team that she knows [RO-F7] as [Irrelevant] Several years ago, he appeared to be in a relationship with an adult female called [Tbc] who lived

OP CLIFTON
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on the Langley Estate. [Mother] spoke to Elwyn WATKINS about [RO-F7] but cannot recall if she mentioned [Tbc] name [Mother] [Mother] stated she never told anyone that [RO-F7] [Irrelevant] [Irrelevant]

[Tbc] told the inquiry team that she has known [RO-F7] for the past ten years. He would visit the family home to check on the family; her mother was always present when he visited. She could not recall when she last saw him.

OP CLIFTON
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A number of prominent individuals have been spoken regarding the "pact" and all are of the opinion that due to the animosity between the Liberal Democrats and Labour in Rochdale, they would not agree to such a thing. It was their opinion that the Breitbart email was purely political 'mischief making' with no substance.

15 Smile for the Camera – The Double Life of Cyril SMITH.

On 16th April 2014, 'Smile for the camera – The double life of Cyril SMITH' was published. The publicity surrounding the publication suggested that the late Cyril SMITH had been involved in sexual and physical abuse of young boys and that there had been corruption in the form of a cover up to hide his wrong doings and ensuring that he was never prosecuted.

The GMP Review Team scrutinised the contents of the book "Smile for the Camera – The double life of Cyril SMITH" by Simon DANCZUK and Matthew BAKER, and sought to extract any references that alluded to possible corruption/cover up. They also met with the authors to seek to source the evidence linked to the revelations made within the book.

The Review Team produced a report on the overall assessment of the evidence that exists of corruption in the form of covering up the unlawful activities of Cyril SMITH; this report also included an assessment of other material, such as reports generated by RMBC indicating there had been abuse of children at KVS in Rochdale. The assessment report also included other information that had been brought to the attention of the Review Team.

OP CLIFTON
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A summary of the assessment is documented under the following headings: