

of the eight complainants identified by Lancashire Constabulary resided at some point in Cambridge House.<sup>2</sup>

### **3. Lancashire Constabulary's criminal investigation in 1969**

27. As I explained above Lancashire Police had responsibility for policing Rochdale from 1st April 1969 until 1st April 1974.

28. Based on a review of the material (Documents 1-37) a Lancashire Constabulary investigation into Cyril Smith commenced on a date between October 10th 1969 and December 31st 1969 and was completed on 25th March 1970.<sup>3</sup>

29. It appears that the arrest of **RO-A48** (an alleged victim whose statement is referred to below) on **DPA** 1969 **Irrelevant** **Irrelevant** could have been the trigger for the investigation (see Document 2 - described as occurrence report from Sergeant Brierley dated **DPA**). This conclusion is based on this being the first reference to the allegation of sexual abuse by Cyril Smith. During his period of custody **RO-A48** **RO-A48** asked to speak with the officer in the case and disclosed not only that he had committed a similar offence on a 10 year old but also, by way of mitigation, that he had been sexually abused by Cyril Smith whilst he had been a resident of Cambridge House in 1963-1965.

30. Thereafter an investigation was launched into the allegations of indecent assault at Rochdale in relation to the activities of Cyril Smith. I have set out below an overview of those involved in that investigation, with a reference to the specific documents that form part of the file, to assist with the cross referencing of information.

#### Police officers

1. DS 4946 Brierley (author of Document 2 – see below)
2. DCI Stamp (see Document 2)

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<sup>2</sup> For this reason Lancashire Constabulary did not conduct a criminal investigation into Knowl View.

<sup>3</sup> It is possible that there were at least two prior investigations into CS prior to the investigation in 1969-70 (based on the contents of Document 2) but the exhaustive searches undertaken by David Groombridge have not identified any evidence or paperwork to corroborate this.