

102.PSD's investigation began once the IPCC had directed that a local investigation was appropriate, this was on or around 10 June 2014. An overview of the investigation and what steps were taken is contained in Document 52. That investigation involved PSD staff carrying out a number of actions including tracing retired officers, liaising with GMP (see Document 81), meeting with Jack Tasker and speaking with Tony Robinson on the telephone.

103.The PSD investigation did not have access to all of the information from Operation Acura. The Investigating Officer's (IO) Report (Document 38) was signed by Temporary Detective Sergeant (T/DS) Saj Mahmood and DI Vicki Evans (who was the delegated "Appropriate Authority"-PSD Decision Maker, at the time) on 6 January 2015.

104.The investigation was based on four extracted allegations, which I have listed below (p3-5, Document 38)

1. Lack of action by Chief Constable Patrick Ross in 1965 following Children's officer Lyndon Price approaching him with allegations of abuse at the hand of Smith;
2. Two unknown officers that former officer Jack Tasker stated arrived in his office and demanded all of the files in relation to Cyril Smith;
3. Removal of all files on Cyril Smith from a safe at Hutton HQ, Preston by MI5 officers (as per former Special Branch Officer, Tony Robinson); and
4. That Cyril Smith's influence enabled him to have "the police in his pocket."

105.The IO's report states that the 1969-70 investigation was thorough and comprehensive, that a file was presented to the DPP and that there was no substantiated evidence of corruption or any attempt to cover up offences committed by Smith by any Lancashire Constabulary officers (p6-7, Document 38).

106.I shall summarise below the investigation's conclusions.

1. Lack of action by Chief Constable Patrick Ross in 1965 following Children's officer Lyndon Price approaching him with allegations of abuse at the hand of