

- 13.2. Searches of the Teachers' Pension Agency reveal that David Dalton Higgins, DOB: [DPA] was employed as a teacher at Knowl View Residential School between 1st September 1969 and 31st December 1971. The system records his national insurance number as [DPA] and his last known address as [DPA] [DPA] (Exhibit GH242)
- 13.3. The Council has been unable to locate any other records relating to the employment of David Higgins.
- 13.4. The Council has not located any information which indicates any link between Cyril Smith and David Higgins.
- 13.5. On 20th June 2001 Margaret Moore, senior personnel officer in the education department, received a letter from the Operation Cleopatra investigation team. The letter was from L. Wilson, Head of Social Services Operations who was requesting information on two teachers employed at Knowl View Residential School in the early 1970's, [Name Redacted] and Mr David Higgins (Exhibit GH245). The Council has not so far been able to locate the response to this letter.
- 13.6. Legal Services records relating to the Operation Cleopatra police investigation contain some information about David Higgin's conviction as part of Operation Cleopatra. The records indicate that in April 2001 the police began investigating allegations against David Higgins in connection with Knowl View Residential School. David Higgins was subsequently charged with 13 offences of indecent assault against two boys who attended Knowl View Residential School between 1969 and 1971.
- 13.7. In August 2002 David Higgins pleaded guilty to 11 offences and 2 offences were left to lie on file. In September 2002 David Higgins was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment (Exhibit GH246)
- 13.8. On 11th December 2002 a letter of claim was received from Tranter Cleere & Co Solicitors acting on behalf of [RO-B201]. The basis of the claim was that [RO-B201] had been sexually abused from 1969 onwards by Mr Higgins whilst resident at Knowl View Residential School (Exhibit GH247). The records relating to this claim indicate that [RO-B201] was one of the complainants which David Higgins had been convicted in 2002 of indecently assaulting. The police statement of [RO-B201] dated 9th April 2002 was disclosed by the claimant's solicitors and details his allegations against David Higgins, other pupils and teachers at Knowl View Residential School. (Exhibit GH248)
- 13.9. It is noted within correspondence relating to the claim that no personnel records could be located at that time in respect of David Higgins. (Exhibit GH249). The file relating to this claim was closed by Rochdale Borough Council in 2004 as the matter was not pursued by the claimant.