

Scoping/Review of historical Offences reported at Nottingham County Children's facilities.

Scope:

- The reported offending spans 40years (1950-1990) to date.
- It involves 8 Children's facilities to date.
- 19 victims have been identified so far.
- There are currently 18 named suspects.
- One suspect appears still to work within a children environment.
- There is at least one link to Operation Daybreak.

All of the above has been established despite only 2 VRI's having been conducted to date. It should also be noted that no investigative media appeal has been made, and nor has any wider effort been made to identify further victims.

Further video interviews alone will inevitably multiply the number of victims/witnesses.

**As such, this enquiry can be appropriately classified as large and complex.**

Recommendations:

- An internal Gold group should be established (in addition to, and to work closely with the Strategic Management Group) to set overarching policy regarding the terms of reference for the investigation, engagement with key stakeholders, communication and reputational issues etc.
- Immediate Steps should be taken to mitigate/remove any risk presented by identified suspects who have continued access to children
- Safeguarding the care of victims and witnesses should be seen as a priority, and risk assessed at an early stage. Assessments and care plans should continue to develop throughout the investigation, communicating with other police forces and agencies.
- Operation Hydrant should be briefed regarding this investigation.
- The investigation should be managed on HOLMES – full indexing.
- Key roles, including SIO, PIP4, tier 3/5 interviewers/advisers, HOLMES MIR personnel should be appropriately trained, and experienced for that role, and should be appointed full time.
- Careful consideration should be given to linking this investigation to Operation Daybreak.

Draft/Suggested terms of reference for the investigation:

- Investigate each of the 17 allegations made during 2014.
- Interview individuals identified through these investigations who are identified as either a) a victim of crime, b) a witness to such an incident or c) has the potential to hold corroborative information/evidence of any offence.



- Investigate any further offences that emanate from such interviews, which meet the criteria set out in these terms of reference.
- Review the investigation Operation Aircrew – abuse at Skegby Hall between 1965 and 1969 – R v PIPE, developing evidential lines of enquiry to maximise a renewed investigation into this or associated offending.
- Minor physical/emotional offences that are legally time barred, or are associated with recognised (relevant to the period) employment practices will not be investigated.
- Investigations will not be progressed where it is known that the suspected offenders(s) is/are dead.
- Submit the findings to CPS for advice/charging decisions.