

Witness Name: Gary Richardson
Statement No.: 1
Exhibits: GR/1/21/2/2019
Dated: 21.2.2019

THE INDEPENDENT INQUIRY INTO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

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Witness Statement of Gary Richardson

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I, Gary Richardson, will say as follows:-

1. I am a Detective Superintendent employed by British Transport Police, 25 Camden Road, London NW1 9LN. I have responsibility for Major Crime within force.
2. I have received a request from the Independent Inquiry Child Sexual abuse in relation to any documents held by British Transport Police in relation to a Peter Morrison MP regarding his arrest at Crewe Railway Station between 1980 – 1990 for molesting boys.
3. The request from the Inquiry asked for the following information;
Explain what kind of records are kept by the British Transport Police of incidents or arrests on railway stations (including what records were kept in the 1980s and early 1990s, and what records are kept today);

Describe the searches that have been conducted in response to this request and the results of those searches; and

Attach copies of any documents or other material found.
4. British Transport Police do not hold custody records or their equivalent for the relevant period 1980-90 in the area of Crewe. The reason being that as a National Police Service we utilise Home Office Force Custody Suites outside of the London area.
5. I arranged for a search on the details provided by our Force Intelligence Team. The result was a Niche nominal record for Peter Morrison dob DPA 1944. It is shown that British Transport Police created this record on 24/11/2017 at 03.13hrs. The member of Police staff that created the record was identified as R Sheward. It should be noted that R Sheward no longer works for British Transport Police and is not available for comment regarding this record.

6. In addition to the above British Transport Police operated a paper crime recording system in the 1970s and 1980s. This was then changed to a computer generated crime recording system at some point in the 1990s. There is not a corporate memory at this point as to what records were converted from paper to the new computer system. We also utilised a system called FIS (Force Intelligence System) for recording all intelligence. This was introduced into British Transport Police on 4th December 2001. We currently record criminal intelligence on Niche. This system (Niche) was introduced into British Transport Police in February 2016. Having gone live with this system in 2016 the force looked to back record convert all MOPI 1 and MOPI 2 crimes and intelligence from FIS onto NICHE.
7. In relation to para 5 above I am unable to identify why this record was created in 2017. When British Transport Police migrated records in 2016 we automatically added the reference "Admin" that showed that this was a conversion record. There is no Admin tag on the record. Such converted records would also automatically carry over the unique reference number associated with the original FIS or Crime record. There are a number of records held within British Transport Police that are referred to as "Orphan records" as they do not appear to link to any relevant intelligence or crime record. It would appear that this is such a record.
8. To assist in this enquiry British Transport Police have now conducted searches on Niche, Crime and the legacy FIS system.
9. I attach a copy of the record of Peter Morrison that is held on Niche as ex reference GR/1/21/2/2019.
10. In summary British Transport Police do not hold a record as to why we created a record for Peter Morrison, I am satisfied that we do not have any additional historical indices or systems to search within Force to provide the Inquiry with a rationale for this record being created in 2017.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true.

Signed: Gary Richardson

Dated: 21st February 2019

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