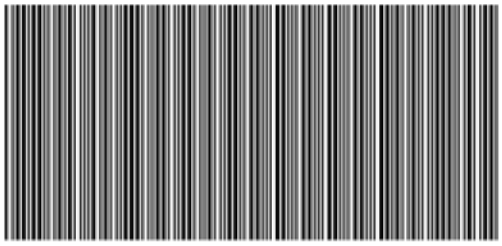
Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan



RMP-221-0008733-A

Name Given **(Army PM-IIA-Paralegal 2)**

From: David Pinder [Contact Details]
Sent: 26 February 2015 12:11
To: Martin Bottomley; Mark Y. Crowley; Robert Ashton; Debbie Conlon Houldershaw; David.Pinder@; Clare Carr
Subject: Summary of Operation Northmoor Current Situation Report (HOLMES)
Attachments: Briefing document Op Northmoor team.doc

All

I've summarised the Op Northmoor Current Situation Report which is a live HOLMES document (updated regularly but not always consistently). Copy attached.

The document is split into 5 columns - to highlight significant developments for each of the 4 Operational teams plus a 5th column for strategic issues. (The 4th Operational Team was created by the OIOC on 15th December 2014).

Significant developments are highlighted in red. 2 are particularly significant - see below - they are the last entries on the Current Sit Rep, dated 9/2/15. I wasn't aware of this prior to reading the document.

"Composition of the Incident Case Review Panel (ICRP) has been agreed between Gold And Silver – work underway to set the panel up by 15th February 2015".

"Structure of ICRP agreed as follows - Gold (Chair) / Silver / ROOC / SPA. - SIO's will bring his/her cases to the panel who will discuss whether to suspend or continue an investigation. There may be a variety of reasons for suspension. Gold has final decision, but case will then be summarised for DPM(Inv) for endorsement then reviewed by GMP Review Team."

dp

.

Mr. David Pinder
Review Investigator
MCRU - Serious Crime Division
Greater Manchester Police
contact details

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

Date	Team 1 Homicides Capt Wright	Team 2 LDC and Op ISOPTIC Complainants WO1 Hayes	Team 3 Evidence & Data retrieval and analysis Capt. Robins	Strategic/ tactical issues
1st Sept 14	Agreement on a three pronged investigation strategy. **Team 1 Captain Wright** - Homicides. **Team 2 WO1 Hayes** LDC Complainants & Op. Isoptic detainees. **Team 3 Capt. Robins** Data retrieval and evidence recovery.			
6th Oct 1014	**Team 1** • Capt Wright will investigate 2 allegations from LDC re unlawful deaths. One of the deceased has been identified as a UK detainee the second deceased is unconfirmed at this stage.	**Team 2** • Has travelled to Afghanistan and interviewed most of the complainants who are still in custody. Accounts obtained although many complainants were hostile & some declined to be interviewed. Efforts to establish contact with [redacted] a TPE [redacted] difficult but ongoing.	**Team 3** • Boxes of detainee files are being processed daily and this will continue for some time. • Staff are undergoing training to ensure consistency of approach. • Up to [redacted] data hard drives have been identified which may hold relevant information.	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • Northmoor remains a potentially huge task and is still in its early stages.

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

13th Oct 2014	**Team 1** • Identity of 2nd complainant still unconfirmed but believed to be [redacted] N6 ? First complainant is called Abdul BANG N50. • ** Unclear if these two are complainants or deceased.* • Security of data is a real concern - stand alone system employed whilst HOLMES position is clarified. • Liaison ongoing with LDC re interviews with potential witnesses. • 33 live actions with the team	**Team 2** • 28 witness questionnaires have been completed re Afghan nationals. • Further arrangements are in hand to re-visit Afghanistan to interview any remaining complainants still in custody	**Team 3** • Arrangements are now in hand to recover relevant records and documents from PJHQ and a number of other locations.	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • OIOC mindful of the Hussein judgement • Civil v criminal – potential conflicts • Continuing dialogue with LDC • Contractual issues re appt of psychologist • Locations of future detainee/witness interviews • Location of MIR and staffing issues to be resolved. • Training issues – ABE and IP awareness training • Retention of staff in key positions • Media strategy • Continual engagement with GMP - provision of access to documents • Staff resources not yet approved / met

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

8th Dec 2014	**Team 1** • All documentation has now been recovered re N50 Mohammed BANG • Authority to access N50 Bangs medical records has been obtained. • SIO has developed a range of witness and suspect i/v strategies, more work to be undertaken early 2015 • SIO is meeting with CTU of West Midlands Police on Wed 10th December to discuss sensitive disclosure and scene reconstruction strategies	**Team 2** • PARWAN debrief completed? • PARWAN transcripts are currently being typed up	**Team 3** • Cataloguing of detainee files continues with approx 1400 completed to date • Data ownership and access to possible data sources is still causing delays for team 3.	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • OIOC and staff visited RMP HQ Southwick Park to assess potential new accommodation for the MIR. First floor Tedder Building identified as suitable. A business case will be submitted but there is opposition. • Staffing – on 25/11 Gold recommended that PM (A) approve an additional 61 staff – 12 x SIB & 49 x GPD. & that the structure of the Team be formalised. • Request for PM (N) and PM (RAF) to provide up to 4 investigators to investigate RMP/ MPS staff that may be identified as suspects. • The above staffing figures include a proposed team of 1+11 for analysing interviews and conducting investigations falling out of the R V Hussein judgement.

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

15th Dec 2015	**Team 1** • Investigation ongoing	**Team 2** • Parwan transcripts ongoing	**Team 3** • Arrangements in hand to recover memory sticks from PJHQ containing 23 interrogation sessions.	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • Team 4 established under Capt Penman to look at legal, discipline and policy issues & systemic issues re interrogations (R v Hussein). Capt. to identify her staff requirements to the OIOC ASAP. • Meeting held 2/12/14 to discuss investigation processes in relation to all areas of the investigation. • Staffing requirement has been further defined by OIOC. • **Mon 8/12 - OIOC informed of legal challenge by LDC to the effectiveness of the Northmoor investigation characterised as BANG & [redacted] Tranche 4 (Ability of the RMP to carry out a prompt effective and independent investigation). Art 2/3 ECHR. OIOC briefed SIO's to provide sufficient details for Military legal team to draft a defence by 31/1/15.**

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

19th January 2015	**Team 1** • Interrogation footage obtained from PJHQ is being viewed. More material still awaited. • Meeting held with West Mids CTU to discuss sensitive disclosure, scene reconstruction and media strategy. • Meetings held with SPA and NCA National leads on suspect / vulnerable witnesses. • Awaiting more material from DSF and a Partner Force • Interrogation footage re N50 still being viewed. • Meeting arranged to discuss forensic data recovery. • CCTV from IEF's to be obtained.	**Team 2** • Intelligence submitted to FIB on 5/1/15 re the Big Word interpreter sent home from the Afghan deployment? • Gold approval for ABE training for team 2 interviewers. • Transcript typing and proofing ongoing	**Team 3** • Recovery of classified material held by SO2 Custody is now complete • Teams to visit Whitehall to recover further material •	**Team 4** • Material relating to R v Hussein case still being analysed. • Historic policy documents being collated	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • £9m funding required re Tedder Building and purchase of Zeus capability was approved by DRES however Northmoor team have been invited to view another site in Aldershot as an alternative. Visit to take place 20/1/15 • Staffing approval committee meet in 3rd week of January. Assuming approval staff will be employed throughout 2015 as the estate is modernised to accommodate them.

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

					• Liaison ongoing with Partner Force over interrogations carried out by them • Tactical delay in any further visits to Afghanistan. • Correspondence from LD containing draft proposals for payments re witness interviews – mostly agreed. Meeting arranged with LDC for 16/01/15 to discuss tactical arrangements • OIOC SIO'S and Snr management meeting to agree levels of Operational support to Op. Northmoor.

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

26th January 2015	**Team 1** • Nothing to report	**Team 2** • Data obtained re medical assessments	**Team 3** • More data has been recovered and work to catalogue detainee files is ongoing. Volume scanning is an option under consideration.	**Team 4** • Nothing to report	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • 22 new job spec forms have been drafted • Team 3 (Northolt) researchers have left the enquiry and been debriefed. • New working protocol submitted to HQ PM(A) • 3 further (different) site visits arranged re MIR location. • OIOC met with new Op Northmoor policy advisor David Mackay at HQ PM (A) re minsub (???). • OIOC briefed PM (A) re Northmoor 2 points of significance arose:

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

					1. Ensure new MIR is future proofed. 2. PM(A) wants more info • Media policy research conducted by NCA (ROOC) • **Initial contact made with LDC first meeting scheduled for wk commencing 2/2/15** • **Arrangements for Tr/SOL to view on 29/1/15 ahead of civil case hearing scheduled for 13/2/15**

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

2nd February 2015	**Team 1** • Skeleton forensic data recovery strategy considered in relation to [UKSF] data. • Interrogation material still being recovered. • **Meeting with LDC arranged for 4th Feb 2015 to discuss logistics of i/v arrangements re N50 etc.** • **Info received that N6 and associated complainants were detained by [a partner force] with no UK involvement.** • **Consideration to be given to setting up of an Independent Case**	**Team 2** • Budget estimates for 8 x ABE interview courses submitted • SIO taking advice re proposed video interviews techniques and kit. • Typing and proof reading ongoing re original Afghan i/v's	**Team 3** • 23 actions allocated at present • Meeting arranged between SIO/Team 3 staff and MIR O/M and [*] to introduce a system for copying bulk files [*Hard copy documents archive]	**Team 4** • Steady progress on iv viewings	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • LDC meeting confirmed for 4/2/15 • **Next Gold expected before 13/2/15** •

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

	Review Panel to decide on the progress of each case or otherwise. • Policy decision made – NOT to i/v key witnesses at this stage re N50 BANG enquiries.				

Prepared for OPEN publication in relation to the Independent Inquiry Relating to Afghanistan

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

9th Feb 2015	**Team 1** • **4th Feb 2015 – Major Ward, Captain Wright & Det Supt Williamson met with Sapna MALIK and Tess GREGORY, solicitors for LDC in London. Re arrangements for i/v of their clients in Afghanistan.** • Several key actions are being progressed by Team 1 completion expected by end of February 2015	**Team 2** • ABE course approved and 8 x new interviewers are attending Avon & Somerset 23/27th Feb.	**Team 3** • Detention Oversight Team records recovered. • 23 actions allocated	**Team 4** • Nothing significant to report Team 4 continuing to review existing i/v records	**Strategic/ tactical issues** • Project MORI team (relocation of MIR) yet to settle on a final location. • Additional 61 staff costs still not approved – budget estimates for the MIR and staffing currently estimated around £12.5m and require further consideration by Army HQ. • **OIOC has been requested to report on progress of Op Northmoor LDC clients by**

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

					13/2/15 in anticipation of civil hearing. • Composition of the Incident Case Review Panel (ICRP) has been agreed between Gold and Silver – work underway to set the panel up by 15th February 2015. • Structure of ICRP agreed as follows- Gold (Chair), Silver, ROOC, SPA. SIO's will bring his/her cases to the panel who will discuss whether to suspend or continue an investigation. There may be a variety of reasons for suspension. Gold has final decision, but case will then be summarised for DPM (Inv) for

Briefing Document – Op Northmoor Review Team March 2015

					endorsement then reviewed by GMP Review Team.