

**SHEKU  
BAYOH  
INQUIRY**

**The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry**

**Witness Statement**

**PC Kara Ferrier**

**Taken by [REDACTED] by MS Teams  
on Monday 28 February 2022**

**Witness Details**

1. My full name is Kara [REDACTED] Ferrier. My date of birth is in 1974. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
2. My rank is now Constable. I used to be a Detective back in 2015 but I'm now Police Constable. I was in MIT in plain clothes from 2014 to 2019. I was dealing with the public in uniform between 1997 and 2004.
3. My role at the minute is to check police reports prior to them being submitted to the Fiscal and the Children's Reporter. That's the short version of what I do.
4. In 2015 I was an intelligence officer within the Major Investigations Team (MIT). That would be interrogating systems for information pertinent to whatever case we were working on at the time. Generally murders. I was working at Kirkcaldy Police Station at that point. I'd been there since July 2014. I left the MIT in May 2019.

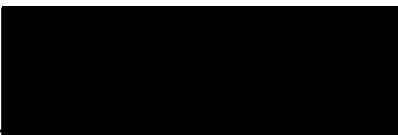
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[REDACTED]

### Previous statement

5. I've been shown my statement dated 28 July 2015 (PS09751). This is the first time I've read my statement for 6 and a half years or however long it's been. My memory back then was fine when I prepared the statement. I do now remember researching for this.
6. I don't recall signing the statement. It may have been done electronically. It's definitely been authorised, the box has been ticked for authorisation on page 1 where it states "*verified by officer as own statement*". Sometimes we sign our statements and sometimes we don't, it depends on the system. I gave a true and accurate account in my statement.
7. I wasn't working on 3 May 2015, that was a Sunday, but I was working on the Monday, 4 May 2015. That was at Kirkcaldy Police Station. I was also working on Tuesday 28 July 2015. It was a dayshift.
8. On 28 July 2015, I don't remember that my supervisor asked me to research published briefings on the Police Scotland intranet and Scottish Intelligence Database in relation to threats to UK police officers. I know from my statement that this is what happened that day.
9. I don't remember if my supervisor gave me any information as to why I was to do this research. That is what I did day in, day out, I researched systems. It's difficult to remember specifics.
10. In my statement at page 1 paragraph 4 I have written: "*During my research I found a message published on 16/01/2015 from Deputy Chief Constable Iain Livingston entitled "Police Personnel Threat Level Increased to Severe"*".

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**Message dated 16 January 2015**

11. I have read a document dated 16 January 2015 (PS01314). I remember seeing this document. This is the document referred to in my statement. I could have printed this out, I don't know if I did. I would have taken the date and there may be a number on it at the bottom, a unique number. The unique number is not at the bottom of the copy I've been shown.
12. The message includes: *"The terror threat level specific to police personnel working in the UK has increased to "severe". This means that an attack on police service personnel is highly likely."*
13. I am familiar with the terror threat levels. The threat level changing to "severe" includes a personal approach to how we work. I work in the office in the police station so I can't comment on out on the street. I couldn't tell you how that would be interpreted out on the street.
14. I would probably just be more vigilant to people maybe trying to get in the building without badges on, it's a heightened awareness. It's just to remind you to be more vigilant. I mean, there's nothing specific in the message to suggest this is going to happen, so everybody has to just keep their eyes open. That's what I take from it. That's what I would still do because I have to walk into the police station, so it's a vigilance thing. The security could only be overcome into that office if they're allowed in.
15. There is nothing specific about the details of an attack in this message. The threat level went up, however, but nothing specific to say the police or the NHS, for example, will be a target.
16. The message refers to "...heightened awareness". I understand this to be the same thing as I meant about being vigilant. We do this anyway, it's not just for terrorism. We don't travel to work in uniform and stuff like that. There are

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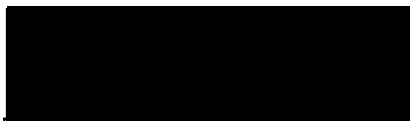
people out there that don't like the police, so you don't advertise the fact that you work in the police.

17. When I was in uniform from 1997 to 2004 I don't recall if I would travel into work in uniform. You would cover up, you wouldn't be strolling in the streets in uniform. If you're in uniform you're basically on duty, so we would cover up when we weren't on duty.

**Message dated 19 February 2015**

18. I have read a document dated 19 February 2015 (PS09749). I remember seeing this document before. I would call this document "Stay Safe Message dated 19 February 2015". It is a message from ACC Ruairidh Nicholson.
19. My understanding is this message would have gone to all of Police Scotland. It's on the intranet service and available for all police officers to view.
20. I don't remember if I saw this memo when it was circulated. They were circulated very frequently and regularly. So to remember one specific one would be difficult.
21. The message includes: *"We have witnessed the recent attacks in Copenhagen, Paris, Australia and Canada and we can clearly recall the murder of Fusilier Lee Rigby on the streets of Woolwich."* I certainly remember the Fusilier Lee Rigby incident, I remember that. These incidents had no effect on how I would carry out my police work. I was office-based at the time.
22. The message includes: *"This "Stay Safe" film produced by the National Counter-terrorism Security Office details the actions to be taken in the event of a marauding firearms terrorist attack. These events are rare and whilst there is no specific intelligence to suggest a particular police premises is to be*

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*targeted in this way, it is important that we are prepared for this method of attack and remain vigilant."*

23. There are no details of any kind of specific attacks in the message. There was nothing specific to Police Scotland.

### **Briefings**

24. Briefings from a senior officer would come at the start of their duty tour. They would come and actually brief the shifts if the senior officer is there. You can get a face-to-face briefing from somebody who stands up in front of everybody and gives them. These are not easily organised and senior officers are often not in the same station as the shift.

25. The Chief Super or whatever maybe isn't in Fife. So briefings from them would be done over the messages like the ones I stated earlier. I don't remember how often senior officers would email all staff in 2015. Possibly there would be something in an email with regards to the to the terrorism level that would draw your attention to the intranet memo. I don't recall if that was done or not.

26. I remember in early 2015 all uniformed staff were advised to go double-crewed at all times. Again, it didn't affect me. I didn't really take cognisance of it. I am aware that was a stipulation, if you like. But again there's not always enough staff.

27. Double-crewing means that you're in a police vehicle or walking the streets on your own, you have another officer with you. The terminology might also double-manned or double-personed. We don't always have the luxury of being double-crewed due to staff shortages. If you were going out with the intention of detaining somebody for a crime that you needed to investigate then you would have an officer with you for corroboration. If you were going

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out to charge somebody then you have somebody with you. If you were going to a disturbance and you were on your own then you'd want somebody with you.

28. I didn't hear any rumours in Kirkcaldy Police Station or elsewhere that somebody intended to cause harm to a female cop in 2015.

29. I don't recall any briefing regarding a possible attack on a female officer by ISIS in 2015.

30. I didn't have a lot of contact with the response teams in Kirkcaldy Police Station. We were in an office away at the opposite end of the building. I didn't really know any of them. I don't know any of them now. I didn't know any of the officers involved in the incident where Sheku Bayoh eventually died and I don't know them now. I think I knew one by name but can't remember who. I've never had any conversations with them or we weren't friends or anything like that.

31. I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that this statement may form part of the evidence before the Inquiry and be published on the Inquiry's website.

 4/12/2022  
Signature of witness..... Date.....