



**The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry**

**Witness Statement**

**PC Brian Geddes**

**Taken by [REDACTED] by MS Teams  
on Monday 21 February 2022**

**Witness Details**

1. My full name is Brian [REDACTED] Geddes. My date of birth is in 1969. My contact details are known to the Inquiry.
  
2. I'm a Police Constable. As of April 2022 I have 21 years' service.
  
3. I had a couple of years at Glenrothes and I've had two separate long-term stints in custody, once at Dunfermline Police Station and once at Kirkcaldy Police Station.
  
4. Custody duty is where, when anybody gets arrested we do the booking in process and the care of the people that's in, feeding them, process them, the fingerprints, all that kind of stuff. The general care and looking after anybody that comes into custody. We'd book them into custody, afford them their rights, go through all the vulnerabilities, if they wanted access to solicitors, if they want anybody else notified we've updated them on the system and then allocate them a cell. From then on whilst they're in, whether they're on 15

Signature of witness..... [REDACTED] .....

minute visits, half-hourly visits, hourly visits, basically we look after them the whole time that they're in.

5. On 3 May 2015 I was seconded to work in Custody Division, so I was working within Kirkcaldy Custody Suite. It was only a couple of days spell I was there at that time. Previously I was on response in Team 4.
6. There's training courses you go on to take care of the custodies. How to look after them, how to use the system for booking in, where we book people into custody. There wasn't anything really specific, other than it's just general care and welfare if somebody comes into custody you know how to look after somebody.
7. If somebody's not feeling well, if they were needing to be seen by a nurse, usually you'd contact the Sergeant. There was usually a nurse on duty for the three custody centres in Fife. We could contact [REDACTED] and arrange for a nurse to come out and see them. Depending on the condition of the person whether it would be a case of we need to stay with them and watch them till the nurse comes. If they needed immediate medical attention we'd be phoning an ambulance, or if need be arrange for officers to take them up to hospital.
8. I am also a Tutor Constable, so I used to do work with probationers. Basically for the first three months we worked with them, showing them the ropes before they went out to their station where they were getting based.
9. One of my colleagues James McDonough was my probationer. So I would have been with him and we would have been up in Kirkcaldy, because usually with the probationers, if anything comes in we'll try and volunteer to get someone to get a wee bit more experience of work. The fact that when the call came in for a male walking with knives everybody that was available went up from the station that was deployable, that was working on response that day.

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10.



**Fife police**

11. I have been asked if Kirkcaldy Police Station has a different culture to what I experienced in Glenrothes and Levenmouth. I wouldn't say it's a different culture, it's different crimes. There's not that much difference mileage apart from them, it's completely different crimes that you have. Kirkcaldy certainly had more violence, at that time there was cars getting broken into, houses getting broken into. Glenrothes seemed to have more of a problem with alcohol issues and Levenmouth, they had an awful lot of problems more with drug issues whereby you were getting people that were shoplifting or housebreaking to get money to fund for getting drugs.

12. Fife is a strange wee place. It's just slightly different how each area works. But you still get the same work ethic from anybody that goes in to deal with it. Kirkcaldy Police Station's certainly far busier. It's a bigger area and the cops in Kirkcaldy are one with a bigger workload than cops in Glenrothes and Levenmouth. But it's just a different area, different variety of offences that seem to happen, one more predominant than the other. It doesn't affect the culture of the office, it's that a different variety of offences seem to happen, one more predominant than the other.

13. We've got a media liaison officer based up at Headquarters in Glenrothes. If anything was to happen and some of the media turned up to us, straightaway our guidance is refer them straight to the media liaison officer. We don't talk to them at all. It's just everything has to be done through them.

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14. There's a set-top radio in the Kirkcaldy enquiry office. Because whoever covers the front desk, they've got access to the radios as well because, if there is a personal call coming in for a specific officer, they can shout them up on the radio.
15. I think it was Lorraine Dewar that was in on 3 May 2015. She was covering the public reception desk. She would hear what was being passed on the radio and access the call card. Part of her job is that if anybody comes in she'd be creating a call card.
16. I have been shown two floorplans of Kirkcaldy Police Station (PIRC-03664; PS14943). These plans look accurate to the station at the time. I have seen where the cameras were placed at the time on the plan.

**PIRC statements**

17. I have been shown my PIRC statements dated 14 July 2015 (PIRC-00355), 23 July 2015 (PIRC-00356) and 12 January 2017 (PIRC-00357). I told PIRC the truth in these interviews and the statements were accurate to the best of my recollection at the time.
18. I've not kept anything out. I'm a firm believer that there's no point in lying about stuff because this stuff will come back and catch you out. If somebody doesn't get the answer they want to hear, you've told them the truth and there's not going to be any comeback because I've not lied. You dinnae lie, lying's what gets you tripped up, gets you caught out. It's not worth it in this job. I've got less than 3 years 'til I retire and it's not worth anything that's going to risk me losing my job, irrespective of what it relates to. I've stuck with that all through my service.
19. I have been asked if my memory would be better when I gave the statements than it is now. 100%, yes. I would say what's on the statements given nearer

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the time would be more accurate. With the passage of time, 7 years, any information I've given at the time was fresher in my memory and I would stand by the PIRC statements as the best recollection of what happened.

**3 May 2015**

20. I'm always in early, so I would be in about 6:30, 6:40, and I'd just be getting the handover from the people I'm taking over that had been night shift. My shift finishes at 4 o'clock on a Sunday.

21. Once the Sergeant's had his handover we'd go round all the cells to do a visual check of all the people that are in custody. The Sergeant asks them questions, makes sure everything's all right, they've not got any issues, update it on the sheet, they've got a cell sheet outside.

22. Every time you go a visit you would put the time, who it was that was there, what the visit was for, any replies that the person might have made. Then you go back in the office, he would update it on the NCS, I can't mind what "NCS" stands for, but the cell file, the crime file, the custody database. Everything we record goes in the custody. He would update it all on that. Usually the night shift would go round everybody and sort everybody for breakfasts and get them ready for going to court the next day. But because that was a Sunday, they would leave them, they get a bit of a longer lie if they want.

23. Then we would probably go round about 8 o'clock or something, 9 o'clock, they start buzzing asking for breakfast. We issue them all with breakfasts. Just anytime they press the buzzers, go down and see what they want. And it's then just a case of a waiting game 'til somebody comes in or until the next visits are due or if I've any admin to do I'd just be sitting doing any admin in front of it. Sometimes we get deliveries of blankets. If the blankets have been provided, go and updating the stock, we take them out the bags, put them on

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the shelves, make sure all the food's stored in the cupboards and they're all up to date. That's all the job entails.

24. On that day I know there was [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] two officers came in from outwith Fife, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

25. I was in the custody suite with Constables Mark Hay, Tony Lamb and Sergeant Eric Anderson.

26. I can't mind what time it was that the call came in about the male walking down the street with knives. Where we sit you actually hear the response teams running out the office, because they have to run down wooden floors. When you're down the stairs you can hear everybody. I think everybody that was in the station went running out. I had left my radio in the offices. There would usually be 4 of us in the office and we usually just leave it at our desk.

27. I have been referred to my statement dated at page 3: *"From what I was told, I can only assume that the Edinburgh police officers had turned their airwave terminals to the Kirkcaldy channel. Although I cannot be 100% sure, I believe it was about 0710/0715 hours."* I have been asked if that time accords with my memory of when the call came in. Yes. I knew it was the start of the shift, right at the start. Even though we were starting at 7 o'clock, it would have been round about the time we were going down to do the checks.

28. After that I think we went to ask Lorraine Dewar on the front desk where was everybody going to. That was nosiness, if nothing else, because it's my shift who are going. That's when I was told it was possibly the male walking down the road carrying a knife. I see in my statement one of the Edinburgh boys had mentioned that to us because they were sitting listening to the radio. The

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Edinburgh boys were in the station in the custody suite [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. I didn't discuss the incident in any detail with the Edinburgh officers throughout the day.

- 29. Mark Hay left to go to the incident. He had his vest and all his gear on.
- 30. Then we're just sitting there listening on the radio to see what was going on, 'til eventually it's came back. In the meantime we're still going in and out the office, because we were still doing checks on custodies. So we've come back in the office, listening to the stuff that's going on on the radio, looking on the call cards for any updates that's been put on about the case while we've been out.
- 31. The only way were getting any information at all was what's getting passed over the radio and the call cards.
- 32. It would have been the same day we were aware of Sheku's name. It would have been the same day it happened. I can't remember if his name was mentioned on the call card prior to it happening or not.
- 33. The radio is just really to see what's going on, because potentially they're going to get hold of a male that's going to come into custody, so that we can be ready. If we get their name we can get started with the checks. Obviously, it got passed male with knives and then the next thing I was aware of was the male was in custody and then next thing everyone was shouting, requesting an ambulance because the male was struggling to breathe or non-responsive. They wanted an ambulance for him because they had concerns for him.

**Call cards**

- 34. At that point, we've still been dealing with the custodies, so it's only been back and forward in the office. I was looking at the call cards from time to time. The

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"Enquiry Office" on the right hand side of the plan of Kirkcaldy Police Station (PIRC-03664) is the office I use.

35. Looking at the call cards is the kind of thing that people do if you're on down time, especially being on response, even though I was seconded in the custody. It's a way of keeping up to date with what's going on in your area that you cover. I'm always on the call cards because we need to check for updates. It's just keeping us abreast of what's going on.
36. I'm allowed to look at the call cards unless something happens and they get made restricted. When it's restricted then only certain people are given access to it.
37. I think once the seriousness of what's happened to the male became known, they restricted the call card, so then that was it. We've then not got access, it's only certain people will still have the access to the call card at that time, so basically that was it. We weren't able to look at the call card and, because of what's happened, radio silence, it's become what's called a major incident.
38. I have been shown a printed copy of the call cards from STORM (PS00231; PS00232 pages 1-3). These are the same call cards I was reading on 3 May 2015.

**After the incident**

39. Those officers were brought back to Kirkcaldy, officers are brought in from other stations to cover the streets of Kirkcaldy so we've still got a couple of people working and we were just going on with our day to day shifts of looking after the custodies that we had in.

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40. The incident's going on about 7 o'clock, back of 7 in the morning. They never got back into station until, I want to say early afternoon, but I can't be sure of the time. It was certainly hours before they came back.

41. At one point I'm sure it was passed back that the male had been taken up to hospital and he had passed away in the hospital, but that's about it. We were told when the cops are coming back they're going to go into the canteen and we've not to interact, we've not to go and speak to them, we've not to talk about anything that's went on. I can't remember who told us not to speak to them.

42. I have been referred to my first statement to PIRC dated 14 July 2015 at page 4: *"I am unsure when these officers returned to Kirkcaldy Police Office, however, I do remember being informed by I believe, Detective Inspector Colin Robson, CID, that the officers involved were coming back to Kirkcaldy Police Office and that they were going to be in the canteen. He stated that no one was to go near the canteen as the officers were to be de-briefed."*

43. Seeing that now, I remember Colin Robson. It was him that came into the front office and told us that. I think he was actually based at Glenrothes at the time and he was the most senior person that was on duty. Basically, he's taken over all control of what's happened, so he's just come on and basically passed that information onto us.

44. I have been referred to my PIRC statement dated 14 July 2015 at page 6: *"During the course of my shift, I remember being aware, I believe from members of the enquiry team, although I either can't remember or don't know who, that a number of witnesses would be coming into Kirkcaldy Police Office for interview."* I have been asked who were the "enquiry team". I guess, I'm assuming, that's going to be DI Colin Robson because he was the DI from the CID. It was going to be his team. We were just getting told that there's going to be witnesses coming into the station. It's a branch of the CID but not quite

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the CID, it's just sort of a step below them. It's for stuff that's possibly not quite serious enough.

45. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 23 July 2015 at page 2:  
*"From memory I can remember that T/P Sgt Maxwell entered the Charge Bar area and requested that he borrow my Airwave Terminal for Chief Inspector McEwan. I remember this as after I gave him my Airwave terminal I didn't see it again for 2 days."* I mind that now but at the time I didn't remember about that. It was about three or four days later before I got it back, I certainly never got it back the same day.


**PC Craig Walker**

46. At one point Craig Walker's come through to get cups, because they're sitting in the canteen and they're wanting to get a cup of tea or whatever. I did speak to Craig and I did ask him, "Who all hit him?". He said, "We all did," and that was it. He's then went and got the cups, I've went back to doing my work.

47. I just assumed apart from that comment he said that it was everybody there that's had their baton out and hit him.

48. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 14 July 2015 at page 5:  
*"Again I remember asking him how Constable Short was but I cannot remember his response nor do I remember exactly what I said."* I don't remember asking about Nicole. Obviously it happened but at this moment in time I don't remember it.

49. The statement looks as if that was quite a lengthy time with Craig, it was only a matter of seconds. It's like passing in the corridor when he's been getting the cups and I just asked him those questions to make sure he's all right. But it's in passing, it's not as if there's been any length of time starting a long conversation about it.

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50. I was a bit sort of shocked about the way he looked, pale and with a blank expression. When you know Craig, he's one of the boys that just laughs at everything, he's a jovial sort of fun-type guy. I was a bit shocked seeing him like that.

51. As much as we were told not to speak to them, I was concerned because I'm not used to seeing Craig like that. So I was wanting to make sure he was all right. I did ask him about the incident with Ash and the baton, as much as we were told not to. When it's somebody you work with, when it's somebody you class as a friend and you see them like that, you're going to at least ask them if they're all right. I'm sorry, the human side of people, with somebody you work with day in, day out, you want to make sure they're all right. I shouldn't even have asked him what I did, but it's a friend, you want to make sure he's all right.

52. I don't know if he's answered stuff that I've asked him or if he said something off his own back, I don't know.

53. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 23 July 2015 (PIRC-00356) at page 2: "*The information told to me by PC Walker included the fact that all officers had batted the deceased, they were having trouble restraining him, PC Nicole Short had received a blow to the back of her head and she had been stamped on.*" I know at the time it was mentioned that she had been stamped on, but I don't recall that conversation with Craig, and Craig saying that. I'm aware of him saying that they'd all batoned him but I can't recall him saying about Nicole. I know at some point I was aware that Nicole had been assaulted, but, I can't remember that part there. I think that was passed over the radio, the female officer had been assaulted.

54. On the floorplan of the station (PIRC-03664) the place where I spoke to Craig was round about the door and the corridor just to the left of the part that says

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"Kitchen" and just to the top right of "C15". The door with "C15" is a key-code, you have to put in the code to open the door. When I've been coming out Craig must have been near that door putting that code in, so that's where I've spoke to him.

55. I have been asked if I saw Constable Walker later on in the day. No.

**Contact with other officers**

56. I never saw or spoke to any of the rest of Team 4 because they were all kept separate from everybody else through in the canteen.

57. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 14 July 2015 at page 5: *"At this point of time I was aware that the clothing from all of the police officers involved in the incident were to be siezed but I do not know how I became aware of this information, I don't know why."* I don't have anything to add to that now. Reading that now, they've obviously been told they're going to be seizing their clothing for forensics, I'm assuming.

58. I have been referred again to the statement at page 5: *"Shortly after seeing Constable Walker, I remember seeing Constable Tomlinson in the corridor next to the food preparation. I cannot remember what he was wearing. I asked him if he was alright to which he smiled and told me yes. He did not appear upset in any way. I didn't ask him any further questions. I just wanted to make sure he was alright and I didn't feel it appropriate to bring up him striking the man with the baton. I was worried for all members of Team 4."* I'm not 100% sure, but if I've said that at the time, I clearly did meet him. But I can't remember that just now.

59. From what the statement's saying, I must've been speaking to Ash near the food preparation area. On the floorplan of the station (PIRC-03664) this would

Signature of witness..........

be the room to the right of the "C15" camera in the doorway to the room labelled "Kitchen".

60. Later on at night I sent a text message to James McDonough, he was my probationer, I think he'd only been in the job about three or four weeks. I just sent him a text message and asked if he was all right and he replied back that he was and that was it, the only interaction I had with him. I've not contacted anybody else. The only message that I sent was to James.

61. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 23 July 2015 (PIRC-00356) at page 2: "*I cannot remember whether I have had further conversations with any other of the team 4 officers regarding this incident, however, it is possible that I have.*" I've seen that part again about speaking to Ash, the only recollection I did have was I spoke to Craig and it was the text message to James, but I know I've never spoken to anybody else about it. Why I said that at the time, I don't know, but, no, I certainly haven't spoke to anybody else.

### **CCTV transcripts**

62. I know the cameras record audio and visual, but initially they only had them in the cell area. But then I think they've put new ones in the corridor that go from the custody office where the Sergeant and the custody staff would sit. Then they were outside, because there's a public counter in there as well for the clericals that deal with the front office. They put cameras outside that room. And that corridor would take you down to the fingerprint suite and down to the interview rooms and then into the actual custody area itself, where the custody bowls are and all the cells. So they had mics and cameras in those areas.

63. On 3 May 2015, I knew the cameras recorded audio and visual but I didn't know how good they picked up, because we don't have access to them. We

Signature of witness..........

did know that there was mics there, but because you work on a day-to-day basis you didn't think about them. You get in and do your work, you talk, you laugh, you joke, you just do your daily life. Because you didn't actually see them you didn't think about them, but you knew they were there.

64. You dinnae think about the cameras when you're working. You're in there on a daily basis and all that, it's part and parcel of where we work.

65. I have been shown a transcript of CCTV Camera 12 in Kirkcaldy Police Station (PIRC-01463) at page 8:-

*08:07:11*

*PC Geddes, "Battered to the head by a cop. They'd reckoned he'd had a big machete type blade. He's been coming at the cops, they CS'd and PAVA'd him. Apparently just went ha ha (Gestures with his left hand to his face implying that he is wiping something from his face) and kept coming wi the knife eh. Straight for the wee-ist lassie, Nicole Short is about this height... (Gestures with his right hand a little under his shoulder height) short by ... (inaudible) ..."*

66. I remember I spoke to the boy from Edinburgh and saying to him what happened, but word for word and the gestures, no, I can't remember what I've said and what I've done. But I do remember I spoke to him or to them, and gave them updates on what I'd been hearing. But almost everything I was hearing was when I went back in the office.

67. If somebody was to tell me something it would be a word for word that I would pass on because, as I say, there's no point in making things up in this job that we do because, embellish things, lying about things, it just catches you out. There's no gain for me to embellish anything. Anything I was saying it's stuff that I've been getting told.

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68. I have been shown the transcript for Camera 12 at page 8 and 9:-

*PC Harris, "Yeah"*  
*PC Geddes, "...went straight for her. She'd been knocked to the grund, he's been stamping on her and Ash has then batted him to the head"*  
*PC Harris, "Unlucky, he's used lethal force..."*  
*PC Geddes, "I know"*  
*PC Harris, "...he's got a machete, fuck him"*  
*PC Geddes, "There's about, a dozen, loads of members of the public have phoned up about it by I dinae. How the fucks Ash going to feel about the fact"*  
*PC Harris, "Yeah, yeah"*  
*PC Geddes, "... (Inaudible) ... guilt ... (inaudible) ..."*  
...  
*08:07:52 PC Geddes continues talking but goes out of camera view as he appears to leave the cell corridor.*

69. I have been asked where I got this information from. I sound like I'm trying to blame Lorraine for a lot of stuff here, she's sitting in front of the computer, she's seeing all the call cards. Anytime we've gone in she's given us updates on what's been happening.

70. I have been shown the transcript for Camera 12 at pages 10 and 11:-

*08:27:17 PC Geddes enters cell corridor.*  
*PC Harris, "... (Inaudible) ... he was clinically dead for an hour they brought him back, they kept him then twenty four hours and he was ... (gestures with head to the right (ear to shoulder)) ..."*  
*PC Geddes, "Aye, that's what we're wondering noo because the ISIS attack and that on a female on Friday big boy .... (inaudible) ..."*  
*PC Harris, "ISIS staying in the station"*

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71. I have no recollection of this. I don't know what the ISIS attack is. That's certainly not a way I would talk, to even say to somebody "big boy". It's something that folk would use almost derogatory in terms of a rounder person. I have heard it used, slagging people off. I would say from reading that that there's going to be an attack on the Friday coming up.

72. The only thing I can think of, at the time there's been terrorists attacks on the go and it's whether there's some kind of connection between a black male being involved in an incident, and is there anybody going to link it to some sort of terrorist thing.

73. I have been asked what I understood the comment "ISIS staying in the station" to mean, and whether that related to somebody who was being kept in the cells. No I don't get it. I think it comes from something mentioned about the briefing that ISIS was going to attack a female officer. To my knowledge, we've not had anybody in the station because, for one, if anybody was linked to that they'd be going straight through to Glasgow. The Anti-terrorism Unit's based through that way, so if anybody was arrested in relation to anything like that they would not be coming to a local station.

74. I have been shown the transcript for Camera 12 at page 11:-

*08:27:45 Sg Maxwell observed in the cell corridor doorway.*

*Sgt Maxwell can be heard shouting to PC Geddes asking to borrow his airwave terminal.*

*08:28:02 Sgt Maxwell exits cell corridor followed by PC Geddes towards Charge Bar.*

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75. I have been shown a transcript of CCTV Camera 15 in Kirkcaldy Police Station (PIRC-01472) at pages 9 and 10:-

*08:28:04 to 08:28:12 Sgt Anderson, ASgt Maxwell and PC Geddes enter the secondary Charge Bar and exit out of the main door of the custody facility.*

...

*08:28:49 to 08:29:07 PC Geddes enters custody facility and opens door to outside custody yard allowing entrance to unrelated individuals. He then escorts these individuals out of the main door of the custody facility.*

76. If he had wanted to borrow my radio it's in what the floorplan shows as the "Enquiry Office". The Custody Office and the Enquiry Office is in one place. My radio would have been on my desk just as you come in the door. So I went to give him my radio and then went back to whatever I was doing.

77. I have been asked if I knew what was happening with the other Team 4 response officers at that time. No. I don't know where they were.

78. I have been shown the Camera 12 transcript at pages 12 and 13:-

*08:56:30 PC Lamb followed by PC Geddes enter cell corridor carrying out custody duties.*

*PC Cockburn, "What's happening now?"*

*PC Geddes, "The only good thing is he didn't have the knife in his hand when he attacked, Nicole (gesturing with right hand)"*

*08:57:19 PC Lamb exits cell corridor towards Charge Bar.*

*PC Cockburn, "He didn't?"*

*PC Geddes, "Nah, he just walked up and hooked him up ... (inaudible) ... standing on his back and then the other cop, he's about my size (gesturing with arms at his side) a little bit bigger eh, he was just trying*

Signature of witness.....  .....

*to run at him and knock him out the way, he was bouncing off him.  
Apparently the boy, seemed like, seemed like... (inaudible) ..."*

79. I don't remember that conversation. If he's been talking about Craig, certainly the boy I described was that size, bigger than me, that's Craig. And if Craig's there it sounds like he's been standing on Nicole's back and they've been trying to get him off of her.
80. I think it was actually Nicole that he was standing on, it wasn't a male that was down. From what I'm led to believe, they were trying to get him off of Nicole because it was her that was getting stood on. That should be "standing on her back".
81. The only place I would have had that information would have been if I'd been told that when I was back in the front office and that's been coming from Lorraine.
82. I don't know how she would have got that. I don't know if that had been passed on the radio or not because I didn't have my radio with me. I wouldn't know if that's been passed back or not, or if she's spoken to someone else and someone else has told her. They might have passed over the radio said that they're bouncing off him. It's something that could have been said so she could have got it that way.
83. I have been asked what "hooked him up" means. I would be taking that as somebody's hooked somebody, you just punch them in the face.
84. I have been asked what I mean when I say "the boy". If it's somebody you dinnae know you call him "the boy".
85. From what I've said to him, it's what had been told to me as I say, I'll just tell somebody basically word for word what I got told.

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86. I have been shown the transcript for Camera 15 at pages 17 and 18:-

*10:38:54 to 10:39:03*

*PC Walker enters secondary Charge Bar area at same time PC Geddes enters the custody facility.*

*PC Geddes, "Everybody alright?"*

*There is additional comments made but inaudible.*

*PC Geddes follows PC Walker back out of the main door of the custody facility.*

*...*

*10:42:16 to 10:42:23*

*PC Geddes enters custody facility and walks in direction of primary Charge Bar and cell corridor.*

87. That's the only time I saw Craig that day.

88. I have been shown the transcript for Camera 12 at pages 21 and 22:-

*10:37:57*

*PC Craig Walker enters cell corridor walks to store room and obtains what appears to be two sleeves of plastic / polystyrene cups.*

*PC Cockburn, "Is the girl alright?"*

*PC Walker, "Eh, aye she's fine, she's back"*

*PC Cockburn, "Aye"*

*PC Walker, "It's getting reported in the news though this morning, It's reported in the news that she'd been stabbed so it's fucken, I dinae ken where they got that fae but she's back fae the hospital, she's fine noo, just a bit shaken up"*

*10:42:26*

*PC Geddes enters cell corridor carrying out custody duties.*

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*PC Geddes, "His Mrs and baby are out front. And eh, it seems like it's almost everybody that was there hit him wi their baton not just one person but in ways I says, it's going to be better eh nobody's going to ken who struck the blow at the same point could be worse cause all of them hit him, know what I mean. Craig, the boy that come for the cups he's the one that was just bouncing off him ... (inaudible) ..."*

*PC Cockburn, "... (Inaudible) ... I was asking him if everyone was alright and everything aye he went we're all okay so"*

*PC Geddes, "Aw he could say was ... (inaudible) ... told no to say eh. ... (inaudible) ... in a debrief over a cuppa tea, coffee or whatever way they're daeing it"*

89. I have been asked if I remember this conversation. No. I dinnae. I'm not going to dispute I've obviously said it, but I dinnae remember saying it. No, he's said in the conversation a wee while earlier at the door that's where I've asked him "Who hit him" and he said "We all did."

90. I have been asked if I remember saying they've been "told no to say...". I don't remember but I know what it's about. They've gone to have a cup of tea and have a debrief with whatever gaffer's in in relation to the incident. I don't know if that would have been Colin Robson or not. I would say that's they've been told not to say anything about anything to anybody. Basically not to talk about it. Which, again, would be a normal thing to do for everybody involved not to discuss it with anybody else.

91. I have been asked if PC Walker had said to me they were told not to say anything about the incident. Not to my knowledge. I can't remember if Craig said that to me. But when I was speaking to him I wasn't wanting to go into too much details with him because he's the one that's been through what's happened and not me and I'd seen how upset he looked at the time. I wasn't wanting to elaborate on anything as he'd been through enough with what had already happened.

Signature of witness.....  .....

92. I have been shown the transcript of Camera 12 at pages 21 and 22: "10:42:26 ... PC Geddes... "...Nicole's back from the hospital, apparently she got a good cracking punch to the back of the head. He's put her doon and the boy just jump on her, stamped on her ... (inaudible) ... Then they couldnae get him aff oh her, didnae matter what they did they just couldnae get the boy moving eh, and then they've had ta that's when they got the batons oot".

93. I have been asked if this is information that would come over the Airwaves. No, I would assume not. It's not something I'd be making up. I've obviously heard that from someone. But I can't say, I don't know who could have said to me. The only person I can think of is Lorraine. I'm not wanting to say it was Lorraine because I don't know who it was that gave me that information.

94. I definitely didn't have that conversation with Craig, he's not told me about it. It definitely wasn't Scott Maxwell because he only came in to borrow my radio. I'd even forgotten that he had come in.


95. I have been shown the transcript of Camera 15 at pages 38 and 41:-

13:46:14

*CID Officers enter the secondary Charge Bar where they stop and converse with PC Geddes...*

...

*PC Geddes, "He's fucked eye. Ash seems alright but there noo theirsel eh, even Craig was saying that you know the size of Craig, he's a big strapping boy, he couldnae get him aff oh her. Nicole em she's only short tae but they came from the other side and as soon as they got there the boy never had a knife in his hand whether he drapped it on the grassy bit but he's been coming at them, I don't know how he ended up but they CS'd and PAVA'd him and he just went like that eh (gestures with his left hand in a wiping motion across his face).*

Signature of witness..........

96. I have been asked if I had seen PC Ashley Tomlinson by this point. I would say if I've said Ash seems alright. I've seen him when he's coming out the kitchen.

97. I have been shown the transcript of Camera 15 at pages 38, 41, 42 and 43:-

*[Redacted] CID, "... (inaudible) ..."*

*PC Geddes, "... (Inaudible) ... and laughed and kept coming straight for Nicole, he's flung a punch and it connected to the back oh her head I'm noo sure if she was on her back or her stomach but he's then went like that stamping on her (gesturing stamping motion with his right foot). ... (Inaudible) ... on her stomach so he's stamping on her back ... (inaudible) ... whatsoever eh but then Craig said ... (inaudible) ... he was just ... (inaudible) ..."*

*[Redacted] CID, "Then they hit him?"*

*PC Geddes, "... then he hit him wi the baton because it didnae matter what they did were daeing they just couldnae control him, he was just being an arsehole to everyone... (inaudible) ... couldnae get him aff, they couldnae restrain, couldnae dae nothing... (inaudible) ... (PC Geddes can be seen to imitate baton strikes during this description of the events.*

98. It sounds like Craig has said that he couldn't get him off Nicole. All I can say is Craig obviously has said to me at that point when I've spoke to him at the door. That's the only thing I can take from that is that Craig said he couldn't get him off her. I can only say I guess he must have told me that. I can't remember if he has said that. But the fact I've said it there, he must have said it to me.

99. But I genuinely have only spoken to the two people, that was Craig and Ash, the only time I've seen them at the station, and I've never spoke to anybody

Signature of witness.....  .....

else about that. The only guys that were involved in it that was there was the only ones I've seen at the station.

100. It's obvious that Craig has told me more than I thought he's told me. From my memory, I've literally thought I was only talking to him for seconds. What I've said, I've only said to him, "Who hit him?", "We all did," and it's just been in passing at the door. But clearly it's sounding like I've had a longer conversation with him, so I may well have been there for a bit longer, but time wise I have not got a clue.

101. I have been asked if PC Walker was telling me about the baton strikes. I would say that it must have been.

102. I have been shown the transcript of Camera 15 at page 43: "13:49:32... PC Geddes, "Cause, cause initially we thought Ashley hit him over the head and it was only Ash that hit him we thought for fuck sake and then apparently it's been them aw that have been in about him".

103. I have been asked what "in about him" means. In about them, round about him trying to restrain him, trying to control him, trying to get him up in handcuffs or whatever. Certainly, there's different ways you can look at it, I suppose. If you're "in about somebody", for me, for a policing side of it, , you're trying to restrain them, you're trying to get a hold of them and get them to stop them doing what they're doing.

**After 3 May 2015**

104. We had seen that Alan Paton and Nicole were off work, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We were told not to speak to them. They were off a few days, if I mind right. We were curious, wanting to know what happened, but at the same point because we knew that the PIRC would be involved, because it was a death in custody, we were just wanting to

Signature of witness..... [REDACTED] .....

distance ourselves if we could, because for want of a better description, not wanting to get involved with it.

105. I would say probably every police officer knows that PIRC will get involved in anything of a serious nature that happens that the police were involved in. PIRC will get involved to carry out an inquiry. I would say irrespective of if you're young in service or old in service, it's just one of they things that you know if there's something serious happens involving a police officer it will be investigated by PIRC.

### **Terrorism**

106. I have been referred to my statement to PIRC dated 12 January 2017 (PIRC-00357) at page 2: *"This comment is in respect of a briefing I am 95% sure was given by the police in respect of a possible attack on a female officer by ISIS. I cannot recall how the briefing was given, whether it was an electronic briefing or a memo. I also cannot recall who gave this briefing or when it was given. I believe this particular briefing was roughly about the same time we were told to always be double crewed and not go about on our own."*

107. I can't remember that. We've had umpteen different things where we've been told the potential is for attacks on female officers. That may well have been true about the possible attack on female officer by ISIS.

108. I have been asked if we would usually be double-crewed anyway. Not always. We should be, but unfortunately sometimes with staffing levels we don't have an even number of officers. Sometimes they send you out single-crewed.

109. It seems to be a periodical thing, depending on what the terrorist alert is at any given time, what intelligence they're getting picked up we are told not go to single-crewed. That might last for a couple of months and then staffing levels affect you and they start sending you out single-crewed again. For

Signature of witness.....  .....



corroboration purposes we'd go double-crewed. There's some things you can only do double-crewed. They're saying every single thing you do now go double-crewed.

110. It's just the way the police are. We don't have enough staff. So it's a common thing that we go single-crewed a lot. Certain calls, certain areas, groups of youths, you would not be sending anybody single-crewed to that. Especially if any intelligence about an ISIS attack had come out, you would not be sending any single crew. You would make sure there was at least one double-crewed unit, if not two.

**PIRC interviews**

111. In the first interview I wasn't impressed with the male interviewer from PIRC, his whole attitude. He was the stereotypical TV bad cop trying to lay down the law, whereby the female was sitting there not saying very much. I was told if I didn't tell him the truth and all that he could make things difficult for me, it can affect my career and everything. I'm thinking, I was sitting working in an office and heard stuff on the radio and I'm getting threatened with my career. It did not impress me at all.

112. I have been asked if this affected anything about my PIRC statement. They probably got shorter answers from me. If you know me, I don't shut up. I do talk a lot and I probably waffle quite a lot. But everything I said to him was honest and true, but I probably wouldn't have waffled as much when I was speaking to him. But I never kept anything back from them. I just didn't like his attitude and it was one of the things I wanted to just to get out of that room and away from him as quick as I could because I just didn't like him, didn't like the way he was speaking to me.

113. PIRC showed me the CCTV of Kirkcaldy Police Station in the second interview. I think it was the Craig Walker comment, they were saying to me I

Signature of witness.....  .....

never told them about that. But I remembered that they did, because when they boy spoke to me he made a point when I said to Craig, "Who hit him?" he went, "We all did." And I sort of done an "airquotes" gesture with my fingers. And the boy made some sort of reference to me making that comment. So when they came back the second time the boy made reference to it.

114. I wasn't impressed with the boy's attitude, truth be told. It's the way he's coming out and he made that comment at me as if I'm making something up. So when he came back and he said, "Oh, I've now watched the tapes," and it said that on the tape it shows me talking to Craig Walker, to which I said, "I know, I told you that." And he said, "No, you didn't." So that's when I went back to him and I said, "I did, because that's when he went "We all did,"" and I done that comment to him again.

115. He then left the room, which I only assumed he'd went and phoned someone else, who confirmed at that point that I did tell him that in the first statement, because they hadn't even brought me the first statement. Speaking to me the second time, I wasn't very impressed in the fact they're trying to say I never told him something the first time, which I clearly did, because to me he hadn't done his homework. He's not been prepared enough the fact he's come back and only asked me a question about something that he already had the answer to.

116. It was also picked up in the second interview that I had mentioned to them that PIRC will get involved. The boy from PIRC said: "How do you ken we would get involved?" and gave me a bit of a hard time about that. It's common knowledge that from the circumstances of what occurred they were always going to be getting involved. I knew the male had been in cardiac arrest, so I'd known at that point that that's happened. You fear the worst, so I thought PIRC are going to get involved because they're looking at a death in custody.

Signature of witness..........

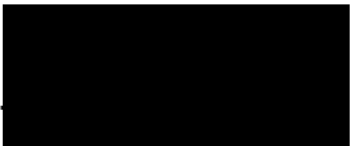
117. It was a male and female who interviewed me. I have been told from my statement to PIRC, the male noted was DSI Keith Harrower. Yes that will be right.

118. I have been told "[REDACTED] (Federation)" was said to be in my third meeting with PIRC. I've not got a clue how he was there. I couldn't even tell you he was there. Generally no knowledge of him being there. I think at one point before I got the first interview I did speak to one of the other Federation representatives, Austin Barratt, and asked him should somebody be in with me when I'm getting spoken to. He said not at this point because it's just a statement I'm giving. But I don't remember the Federation being there.

119. I was shown the CCTV but I can't remember if I was shown anything else. I signed the production label for PIRC. I can't remember if I had to watch all the footage before signing. I might just be guessing this, but I think they might have only shown me the part when I spoke to Craig.

120. 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.

May 24, 2022 | 9:50 AM BST

Date.....Signature of witness..........

