

TRANSCRIPT OF THE INQUIRY

Thursday 1 December 2022

(10.29 am)

LORD BRACADALE: Good morning. I'm sorry there has been on a delay this morning. There was a difficulty with the link to Opus 2, but that has now been resolved.

Before we continue with the evidence I wish to address the legal representatives. I have three matters to mention:

First, yesterday at the close of business Ms Mitchell drew my attention to an incident earlier in the afternoon in which in the course of evidence a legal representative appeared to use a mobile phone for a purpose clearly unrelated to the proceedings of the Inquiry. While that was a particularly egregious example, it was not the first occasion on which the sound of mobile phones has disturbed proceedings.

I have no difficulty with mobile phones being used silently to make communications on matters relating to the Inquiry, but inappropriate use within the hearing room is both distracting and disrespectful.

Second, I have received representations about legal

1 representatives engaging in lengthy conversations during
2 the evidence. This can be distracting to others in the
3 hearing room and to those watching on YouTube. While
4 I accept that occasionally it will be necessary for
5 legal representatives to speak to each other during the
6 proceedings, I remind them that as well as using
7 mobile phones silently, as I have just suggested, there
8 is a facility on Opus 2 for having private
9 conversations.

10 Third, I have received representations to the effect
11 that certain legal representatives have, on occasion,
12 reacted to some of the evidence by adopting
13 inappropriate facial expressions. If that has been
14 happening it would, on any view, be very disrespectful
15 and wholly unacceptable.

16 May I remind legal representatives that these
17 proceedings are being broadcast and watched around the
18 world. It is therefore as surprising as it is
19 disappointing to have to address members of the Scottish
20 legal profession in these terms. I very much hope that
21 I will not have to do so again.

22 Thank you for your attention. Could I have the
23 witness in, please.

1 MS JOANNE CAFFREY (continued)

2 LORD BRACADALE: Good morning, Ms Caffrey. I'm sorry of you
3 have been kept waiting. We had some difficulty with the
4 link to the transcription service this morning.

5 A. That's okay, sir.

6

7 LORD BRACADALE: Ms Grahame.

8 Questions from MS GRAHAME (continued)

9 MS GRAHAME: Thank you.

10 Ms Caffrey, good morning.

11 A. Good morning.

12 Q. Yesterday we were looking at the "Use of Force Standard
13 Operating Procedure" --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- as I asked you questions, and I wonder if we could
16 have that back on the screen, please. That's PS10933
17 and we were focusing on 4.6 and 4.7, "Profiled Offender
18 Behaviour" and a reasonable officer response. There we
19 are, 4.6, and we had begun to discuss a scenario where
20 officers use strong verbal commands, but the subject
21 does not comply --

22 A. Mm-hmm.

23 Q. -- and you had indicated, in relation to the scenario

1 I put, which was: the subject was already walking
2 towards the officers when they got out of a van, they
3 park in his path, he is not aiming at them as such, but
4 he continues walking, does not move and does not divert
5 away from them. So that was the scenario that we were
6 discussing at close yesterday.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You identified that offender behaviour as level 2 --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- if they failed to comply, which we can see on the
11 screen there at 4.6.3, "Level 2 - Verbal Resistance
12 and/or Gestures". And you said, as I understand it,
13 that a reasonable officer would be considering a level 2
14 response and we will see that at 4.7. So there's the
15 "Officers reasonable response" at 4.7 and level 2, if we
16 can just move down the screen, "Tactical communications"
17 and that would be within that -- the range of options
18 within the tactical communications level --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- and I think you agree that that -- where to pitch
21 that response by the officer would be a matter for their
22 discretion, tailored to the particular circumstances
23 they faced.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Thank you. Before we leave this scenario, may I return
3 to the question: if a reasonable officer is faced with
4 level 2 behaviour, would a reasonable officer consider
5 using a level 4 response, namely using their CS or PAVA
6 spray?

7 A. I don't believe so.

8 Q. Why do you say that?

9 A. Simply because looking at proportionality, if the
10 person's at level 2, they're not actually being a threat
11 to the officer and the idea of level 4 is it's
12 a defensive tactic, so it's used in defence of the
13 officer, or defence of another person, or all other
14 options have been discounted because of the severity of
15 the incident.

16 Q. And just looking at level 4, just if we can move that on
17 to the screen for the moment, this is a defensive
18 tactic -- if we can move up slightly, thank you:

19 "These tactics are generally perceived to be
20 strikes, whether delivered by ... empty hand techniques
21 or baton strikes, but also include the more robust
22 defensive handcuffing techniques and the use of CS
23 Incapacitant Spray."

1 Again, in relation to a level 4 response, would it
2 be reasonable to assume that, again, there's a range of
3 options open to a reasonable officer in adopting a level
4 4 response?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And it describes the use of spray as "a more robust
7 defensive handcuffing technique", or the -- and the use
8 of spray.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Are they the more robust ranges of options within that
11 defensive tactic level?

12 A. They can be. It's the decision -- because you could say
13 "Well, the open hand techniques could be more robust",
14 it would depend on force levels and some concepts by
15 using the CS, for example, can avoid the physical
16 impact, so depending on the circumstances, CS use could
17 prevent physical injuries, but CS brings about its own
18 potential injuries and risks as well.

19 Q. I will come on to that in a moment.

20 If a reasonable officer is endeavouring, or trying,
21 to adopt the minimum level of force in response to level
22 2 behaviour by the subject --

23 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- what options would be open to that officer?

2 A. So, defensive tactics would be as simple as hands up
3 (indicating) and being prepared to push the person
4 backwards. It would also give the opportunity for
5 an officer to back off as well because that's within
6 an officer's response options as well: hands up ready to
7 protect, but also backing off at the same time, whilst
8 using verbal communication.

9 Leading up that, if it was to be an engagement and,
10 for example, the arrest process, then you would be
11 looking at getting -- taking a hold of the person and
12 moving into some kind of restraint technique, which
13 could either be hands alone, so for a physical
14 technique, or it might be that if that's too high a risk
15 they decide then that they will use such as the CS or
16 the baton.

17 Q. What difference would it make to the options open to
18 an officer, a reasonable officer, if there is concern
19 that the subject had a weapon, perhaps concealed?

20 A. If there's belief that they've got a weapon the last
21 thing you want to really be doing is being within close
22 contact because the weapon can soon be produced and the
23 officer can be stabbed and even though you might have

1 the stab vest on, they only go down so far and they only
2 cover so many of the major organs. It still doesn't
3 prevent you being stabbed in an artery in like the
4 thigh, for example, or within the arms, or within the
5 neck area, here. So certainly you want to keep your
6 distance from a person who you think has got a weapon
7 because of your own personal safety.

8 Q. Thank you. You mentioned that sprays themselves have
9 potential -- the potential to injure the subject or
10 others.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Could you tell us a little about those potential
13 injuries?

14 A. So, for example, a person who has been sprayed, in
15 relation to say, for custody, they are considered
16 a higher risk detainee because of the impacts that can
17 happen. From the physical aspects we've got potential
18 for -- some people can suffer a kind of burn to the skin
19 from them, but a main impact is panic and breathing can
20 be affected as well, so for some people that are highly
21 sensitive to the chemicals that are used within either
22 CS and PAVA and the spray can affect their breathing
23 capabilities, so particularly then if you've got people

1 with other conditions such as asthma, angina, you know,
2 those then would increase the risk further for the
3 person.

4 Q. And is there a difference, if it's CS or PAVA?

5 A. Well, CS works by -- you can get CS on clothing, or even
6 you could have CS on you and I could be affected here by
7 it. Different people are sensitive to it in different
8 ways.

9 The PAVA works more on the actual individual that it
10 strikes and it needs to be striking them in their eyes
11 rather than the effects of the spray coming off, coming
12 off -- the molecules coming off the actual spray.

13 Q. And we may have heard evidence at the first hearing that
14 some people can become more agitated or aggressive as
15 a result of --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- having spray discharged towards them or on them.

18 A. Definitely, yes.

19 Q. Is that the case?

20 A. Yes, and it can disorientate people as well,
21 disorientate them, because your eyes will typically need
22 to shut because of the pain that they can cause, so the
23 person then, if they're disorientated, now can't see and

1 that also affects them -- sorry, impacts upon the
2 police officers, because if they get the impact of the
3 CS it can also blind them and make them go into panic as
4 well.

5 Q. And we have heard that sprays can -- the impact of the
6 spray, or the effectiveness of the spray, can be
7 affected by the weather --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- and the wind.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. I would like to move on and ask you about -- taking the
12 situation further now. If CS and PAVA sprays have been
13 used by the officers, so have been discharged towards
14 the subject, but the subject fails to react to either CS
15 or PAVA spray and continues to walk away from officers,
16 thinking again about the categories of behaviour, just
17 in that moment --

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. -- how would a reasonable officer categorise the
20 behaviour of the subject at that point?

21 A. So that then, when I mentioned yesterday about all these
22 little mini check sheets that you're thinking about when
23 you're dealing with things, that alone would be ticking

1 off things like high intoxication potential, mental ill
2 health crisis potential, which then would link to the
3 likes of the ABD potential, or it's one of these rare
4 people who it just doesn't affect, but the majority of
5 the time the reason it doesn't affect tends to be
6 because of intoxication or mental health crisis.

7 Q. And, I think you explained yesterday, but just for
8 completeness, if a reasonable officer is considering
9 intoxication or mental health crisis, what does that
10 reasonable officer do?

11 A. Notify his control for medical attention.

12 Q. And you mentioned the ABD. Again, could you simply
13 remind us what that is?

14 A. So that's "acute behavioural disturbance" and that
15 terminology, certainly within the police in England and
16 Wales -- prior to that it was "excited delirium" was the
17 common terminology and then in 2002 the Police
18 Complaints Authority published a report and a decision
19 to -- because there were so many different kinds of
20 delirium, they wanted to use one umbrella term, which
21 then they looked at acute behaviour disturbance, so it
22 didn't matter then, medically, what kind of delirium it
23 was, it would just all be accumulated under this one

1 heading, and at the end of the day, police officers are
2 not medical professionals. Therefore, it's just those
3 risk factors and a generalisation of thinking "This
4 could be that", and then looking at the control factors
5 around those risks.

6 Q. So if at this stage, in the scenario we're discussing,
7 we have reached a stage where the sprays have been
8 discharged and the subject has failed to respond, what
9 signs may have existed which a reasonable officer could
10 identify at that point?

11 A. So there you've got the collection of things now: you've
12 got the bulging of the eyes, you've got the
13 inappropriate clothing for the weather conditions,
14 you've got the lack of communication and response to the
15 officers, you have then got the CS and PAVA not working,
16 so all of that together then is -- there's more evidence
17 to indicate this is a medical requirement.

18 Q. And if a reasonable officer identifies a number of
19 warning signs and considers the possibility that the
20 person has ABD, or intoxication or mental health, what
21 would they do in response to that?

22 A. They must be dealt with as a medical emergency if
23 there's any indication or suspicion of ABD.

- 1 Q. So even any suspicion of the ABD?
- 2 A. Yes, yes, because the police officers can't confirm it
3 is or it isn't.
- 4 Q. Right. And again, does that mean contacting ACR on the
5 radio asking for an ambulance?
- 6 A. Yes, yes.
- 7 Q. And as well as the factors you have mentioned, to what
8 extent would a reasonable officer recognise behaviour
9 that members of the public had phoned up and complained
10 about as a factor?
- 11 A. I think police officers should be quite well-practised
12 in recognising it because the amount of people that
13 police officers are dealing with on a daily basis, plus
14 the amount of -- percentage of those people who are then
15 under the influence, or suffering with mental health
16 crisis, I think a police officer -- a reasonable
17 police officer would readily identify that the person
18 may be experiencing either or both.
- 19 Q. To what extent would a reasonable officer, at that
20 moment, consider pulling back or withdrawing from the
21 subject?
- 22 A. Well, that would certainly be the reasonable officer's
23 instruction to do so because, certainly with officer

1 safety training, the emphasis is in relation to a person
2 suspected of ABD is that "contain" rather than
3 "restrain". The moment you go into a restraint with
4 a person who is suffering from a delirium condition, it
5 significantly increases the risk of death during
6 restraint.

7 Q. Death to whom?

8 A. To the subject.

9 Q. Right. And can you explain what, if any, defensive
10 controls a reasonable officer would have open to them?

11 A. So, it's -- it's the body posture, it's the containment,
12 it's the dog, it's the -- it's the use of the baton, for
13 example, as a swing to try and keep the distance between
14 you and the person, so they would all still be
15 a defensive tactic, but without physically touching or
16 restraining the person.

17 Q. And to what extent would a reasonable officer engage in
18 a physical restraint, or touch the person, if they have
19 those concerns?

20 A. Well, the training is all focused on: you don't restrain
21 that person. It would be the absolute, sort of, final
22 straw to restrain that person because all other options
23 have either tried and failed or been discounted. So

1 then once if you went to the restraint there would be
2 all the control measures around that.

3 Q. What -- we will come on to that in a moment. What if
4 the reasonable officer suspects that the person may have
5 a knife on their person, although it is not visible?

6 A. Again, if you believe a person has got a knife on them,
7 the last thing you want to do is be in close contact,
8 particularly then if the person is intoxicated or in
9 crisis because there might be issues around their
10 capacity to understand what's happening and their
11 thought process and so you could be at a higher risk of
12 actually being stabbed by the person as well.

13 Q. And if a reasonable officer is seeking to adopt the
14 minimum level of force, what would that reasonable
15 officer be likely to do?

16 A. It would be trying to just keep a containment and keep
17 the person contained in the space.

18 Q. What would they do in terms of communicating with --

19 A. Talking, constantly talking, trying to offer help,
20 asking the person to be calm, to talk to them. It would
21 be trying to -- trying to impart non-aggression because
22 if the person is in crisis you don't want to aggravate
23 a person, or instill extra fear in them.

- 1 Q. And why would you not want to do that?
- 2 A. Because then the person can become either aggressive
3 towards you, or more unpredictable in their behaviour
4 and again, they could try and flee the area which then
5 displaces the risk and may put members of the public at
6 increased risk.
- 7 Q. And if, during that moment in time, there is a dog unit
8 available, what difference could that make to the
9 options open to a reasonable officer?
- 10 A. That the dog can easily contain a person and the
11 officers then can back right off and the dog can then --
12 the dog's got the ability to keep going around the
13 person and to keep them quite contained until the person
14 then gives up. Then once the person has given up and
15 sort of gone to their knees, put their hands up, the
16 officers can then move on in and handcuff and bring the
17 hands round and then a search of the person can be
18 conducted.
- 19 Q. Thank you. And again, if a reasonable officer is
20 endeavouring to observe the principle of preclusion,
21 what would -- the process they would go through?
- 22 A. It would be rapidly thinking about how can you resolve
23 this and bring it to a safe conclusion without the use

1 of force, if at all, or what's the minimal use of force,
2 so you're constantly thinking about "Can I try this
3 again?" and just because you have tried something once
4 and it has failed, doesn't stop you trying to again, so
5 it's about trying to exhaust that tactic, or it might
6 just be that that person isn't being successful with it
7 and somebody else could be, because we all have
8 different personality styles, traits, people will
9 respond differently to different officers as well, so
10 just because one officer has tried a tactic that hasn't
11 worked, doesn't mean to say that nobody else should try
12 it.

13 Q. So, either one reasonable officer could try things more
14 than once --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- or a separate officer who is at the scene could also
17 try?

18 A. Yes, and that's part of the teamwork, that if there's
19 more than one person involved in an incident, as part of
20 a team you can take turns. The key thing is that only
21 one person acts as the contact at any point, so that you
22 don't have multiple people trying to talk to the person
23 at the same time, because that's just going to cause

1 more stimulation and could then cause the person to be
2 more disorientated than they initially were.

3 Q. So would a reasonable officer, perhaps who arrived at
4 the scene a short time after initial officers, would
5 they say "Well, I couldn't do anything because those
6 other officers had adopted a particular approach"? Is
7 that --

8 A. No, you have still got the option. Any officer arriving
9 at the scene still has to decide for them what options
10 are appropriate, so just because another officer is
11 using force or not using force doesn't mean a new
12 officer coming on the scene has to conduct the same
13 method that that person is doing.

14 Q. Thank you. We heard evidence from Mr Graves and I would
15 like to ask you if you agree with some of his comments.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. He said that a reason -- in relation to what
18 a reasonable officer would be doing and thinking, you
19 would start thinking -- you would be happy that -- you
20 would have to be happy that you had hit the target:

21 "You [would] start thinking then: is this person 1
22 of 10 that isn't responsive, or is it something else
23 like intoxication, drug intoxication, or some sort of

1 mental health episode that's preventing this individual
2 from showing any signs of irritant or of -- effect from
3 those sprays."

4 A. Yes, with the sprays, yes.

5 Q. You agree with that?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And he indicated that the reasonable officer would:

8 "... now be starting thinking that this person is
9 suffering from some form of ... disorder, we're not sure
10 what, but I would certainly be now thinking that at this
11 point everything's not well and we need to try and deal
12 with this individual.

13 "... at some point when it is practical I am going
14 to summon medical assistance."

15 Would you agree with that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. So, moving on, as the subject walks away from the
18 officers, two other officers arrive at the scene. One
19 of them observes the scene and believes that at least
20 one of his colleagues has been slashed by the subject
21 and may be injured. Now, if you can assume for my
22 purposes for the moment that that's a genuine belief --

23 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- how would -- what sort of impact would that have on
2 a reasonable officer who had that genuine belief?

3 A. Okay, well, preservation of life is the top priority for
4 all police attending all incidents, so if you think that
5 one of your colleagues has been slashed with a knife
6 then your priority is going to be that officer, to make
7 sure, is it a life and death level? They're going to
8 need an ambulance whether it's minor or major, so
9 straight off you're going to be needing to be checking
10 on your officer, whether that's physically running over
11 to them or calling over to them while still trying to
12 contain the subject, but you would be on the radio as
13 well shouting "Officer down, ambulance required".

14 Q. Right. Thank you. For that officer, how would they
15 categorise the offender behaviour? We've got the --

16 A. Yes, so if you believe a colleague has been slashed,
17 that's level 6.

18 Q. Level 6. Why do you say that?

19 A. Because we're talking now about serious aggravated
20 assault on a person.

21 Q. And at 4.6, can we actually see level 6 on the screen?
22 So it will be going back up the page.

23 (Pause).

1 We can come back to that in a moment.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. And then, if the officer has considered that to be level
4 6, "serious aggravated assaultive behaviour", what would
5 a reasonable officer's response be to that behaviour?

6 A. Well, you want to make sure -- you mean excluding now
7 your colleague?

8 Q. Assuming that the officer has arrived at scene, has
9 a genuine belief that the colleague has been slashed,
10 categorises the subject's behaviour as level 6; what
11 options are open to that officer?

12 A. Okay. So, options would include, from the lowest end,
13 allowing -- depending on the numbers of staff now
14 available, even allowing the subject to flee the scene
15 whilst you administer life-saving response to your
16 colleague, or you have still got to think about -- if
17 you're going to deal with the subject, you have still
18 got to think about your own safety as well because if
19 they have stabbed -- if you think they have stabbed
20 a colleague you have also then got to be thinking "They
21 could stab me", so they need to be thinking about how
22 can they try and bring this to a safe resolution for all
23 people involved. So again, it would be the basics of

1 "Can tactical communications work?" So, for tactical
2 communications now it might be more directive as in,
3 you know, "Drop the knife, get down on the floor", so it
4 might be more -- it might be more dominant than the TLC
5 aspect at the start, but you would still try the
6 tactical communications, you would still try for the
7 person to give up without having to get into close
8 quarter combat with a person, so if the person can
9 either, you know, discard the knife so that you can see
10 that the knife is discarded and they can lie on the
11 floor, or kneel on the floor and get their hands on
12 their head, then again you don't want to be going into
13 a person whom you don't know whether they're armed or
14 not and if you believe they have already slashed
15 a colleague.

16 Q. So, even with a genuine belief that their colleague had
17 been slashed, would a reasonable officer still bear in
18 mind the preclusion principle --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- and the minimum force principle?

21 A. Yes. It just means you've got the options now to go up
22 that higher, but that doesn't mean to say you discount
23 all of the others. You're still going to try and bring

1 it to a peaceful resolution for everyone concerned.

2 Q. And the example that you told us yesterday about the
3 person who had been stabbed and was lying in the
4 building, the flat, and the subject present, is that
5 a similar situation where it would appear the subject's
6 behaviour, I think, was level 6?

7 A. Yes, because at that point we believed he had stabbed
8 that person, so even though we believed that he had --
9 we were looking at to arrest him for suspicion of
10 murder, we still kept that distance and tried to bring
11 it to a peaceful resolution, yet still prioritised the
12 preservation of life of the victim as well.

13 Q. So those lesser forceful options remain open to
14 officers?

15 A. Yes, yes.

16 Q. And what sort of information, at this stage -- you have
17 said the reasonable officer would be on the radio. What
18 information would be shared with ACR, by the officer?

19 A. So here you've got the issues of the officer down aspect
20 wanting the ambulance and you're also wanting an
21 ambulance for the subject because of the volume of risk
22 factors as well, so at this point you're needing two
23 ambulances to attend and you're also calling for -- in

1 relation to -- if you think your officer has been
2 stabbed you're going to be saying the "Officer down,
3 stabbed" because you want additional resources. You
4 want to avoid having to go hands-on into that close
5 quarter combat with a person who you think has already
6 stabbed a colleague and might still be armed because
7 it's demonstrating, in your mind, that they've got the
8 means and the intention to do that level of harm.

9 So again, this would be additional evidence for
10 tactical commanders to instruct officers even to back
11 off and withdraw, or saying, you know, "Hold the line,
12 the ARV or the dog is like 30 seconds away".

13 Q. Right. Would a reasonable officer in that situation,
14 where he believes his colleague has been slashed, still
15 be observing the subject and still looking to identify
16 warning signs of intoxication, mental health crisis or
17 ABD?

18 A. Definitely, yes, because all of that would be relevant
19 for the investigative phase as well, because then you've
20 got the aspect of, if there's a -- now an attempt murder
21 investigation against a person for trying to kill
22 an officer, or grievous bodily harm against the officer,
23 you're still then looking for the investigation side of

1 proof of capacity, intent, so you're still looking for
2 all of the evidence gathering as well and thinking about
3 the safety of the subject as well because that person
4 would still need to go, for example, to hospital to be
5 dealt with before then going to the custody unit.

6 Q. And would that response be different if the officer is
7 towards the end of their probationary period?

8 A. Certainly length of service can impact people's
9 performance and sometimes it's -- sometimes the younger
10 the service means they've got the most current training
11 at the forefront of the mind, whereas the longer
12 service, you have come through many different changes in
13 guidance, so the current guidance might not be the most
14 dominant in the mind, but it's also about backgrounds of
15 each officer's experience, day-to-day, but also
16 experience through training, different roles that they
17 might have performed, so there's no hard-and-fast saying
18 because somebody has got more service than another, that
19 they're more or less competent than the other.

20 Q. Right. So again it will depend on their own personal
21 circumstances as well?

22 A. Yes, yes.

23 Q. I would like to ask you again, at this moment in time,

1 to what extent would a reasonable officer consider
2 pulling back or withdrawing?

3 A. It would definitely be a tactical option because now if
4 you're seeing -- or you're thinking that a colleague has
5 been stabbed, your priority needs to be preservation of
6 life, so you might then want to pull back and think
7 "I will deal with the colleague", let the person either
8 go if they're going, but you're defending now your
9 colleague, knowing then that the person can be pursued
10 by police dog, ARV teams, and one of the other benefits
11 of not then following at times is for the track for the
12 dog, because the dog will follow scent, so if you've got
13 other people on the same path and officers putting their
14 scent onto the scene as well, that can sometimes cause
15 problems for the dog, so a clear scent path for the dog
16 is often beneficial. So if the officers remain, let the
17 person go, then the dog can be sent after them. It's
18 all about that level of risk and that's what a commander
19 then would make a decision on thinking about, do they
20 continue to put more officers at risk because if you
21 have already got one officer potentially stabbed, are
22 they then going to continue sending unarmed officers
23 after a person who has already shown intent to cause,

1 like, deadly harm.

2 Q. So even if the commander or the supervisor isn't at the
3 scene, is that one of the benefits of communicating on
4 the radio --

5 A. Yes, yes.

6 Q. -- that those decisions can still be made?

7 A. Yes, yes, because the idea of the supervision levels is
8 to think about the safety -- the overall safety and
9 looking at competing demands in relation to different
10 safety and different tactical options, so they might
11 then instantly say, for the unarmed officers, because
12 they're low in numbers, they have not got the equipment
13 that's ideal, they could direct them to back off and not
14 pursue.

15 Q. Thank you. And again, even in that situation, would
16 a reasonable officer try and observe the principle of
17 preclusion?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And adopt the minimum level of force required?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And in relation to Martin Graves' evidence, I would like
22 to see whether you agree with this. He indicated this
23 situation would:

1 "... cement to [the] officer that the weapon [was]
2 present ... They [had] carried out..."

3 He took the view that they would have viewed it as
4 carrying out...

5 "... [a] serious assaultative behaviour on another
6 officer, who ... [could] to some degree ... [have had]
7 life-threatening injuries ... you are including all of
8 this in the mix [in] the level of threat ... you are
9 considering what you may have to do to prevent further
10 injuries to that individual or ... to yourself or your
11 colleague who you've arrived with.

12 And:

13 "... at that point a reasonable officer may well be
14 considering basically any option that's open to them to
15 deal with that particular situation, and that would
16 include possibly causing serious injury or possibly
17 fatal injury."

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And do you agree with that --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- that any option is open to them?

22 A. Yes, through preclusion, yes.

23 Q. Thank you. So moving on, if the subject then chases

1 an officer, so officers have perhaps mirrored the
2 walking away, but then the subject chases an officer,
3 a female officer, as she withdraws and strikes that
4 female officer to the back of the head --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- which then causes her to fall forwards onto the
7 ground and, thinking again of the categories, if we can
8 look at 4.6, there we are, and if we can go towards the
9 bottom there. This, again, profiled offender behaviour.
10 How would a reasonable officer categorise that
11 behaviour?

12 A. Level 6.

13 Q. Right. And why is that?

14 A. Because the head is a "red area". So, officers are
15 trained in relation to body code colours of red, amber
16 and green. I know Police Scotland just use the red and
17 green, but the head, throughout the UK, is a red colour
18 and it's the highest risk of the red areas as well. So
19 red means dead or serious disability risk. The head
20 area is a specific mention for safer custody as well in
21 relation to high risk and any impact to the head can
22 cause internal bleeding to the brain. Then, as the
23 person -- if they're knocked to the ground, again you

1 can get a second impact injury from that fall. In
2 addition to the second impact, you have also got the
3 shake of the brain during the impact, so potentially you
4 can have multiple injuries to the brain from that one
5 punch and we -- you know, we often hear about "One punch
6 kills", so then when you're thinking about the
7 demographics of people as well, if the person who has
8 given the punch is to a much smaller person as well,
9 then the impact could be more significant to that person
10 than if they were of significant, like, body size
11 demographics, but certainly I would consider that
12 a level 6.

13 Q. And if we could have level 6 on the screen please just
14 for a moment, so if we go down the page, there we are.
15 That's a "Serious/aggravated assaultive resistance"
16 that's the highest level --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- of offender behaviour?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Thank you very much. And if that is the subject's
21 categorisation, how would a reasonable officer
22 categorise the level of response?

23 A. Then again, you've got all the options up to level 5

1 with preclusion, thinking about what's the lowest level
2 that you can deal with this, so the officer's going to
3 be looking at defence of their colleague by the best
4 means possible, but also defence of themselves whilst
5 still trying to achieve a safe detention of the subject.

6 Q. So let's look at 4.7, level 6 -- 4.7, which is the --

7 A. Level 5, officer response.

8 Q. Sorry, level 5. If we can go into the 4.7 section
9 please. That's it. It's at the very bottom of the page
10 now, thank you. So this is the reasonable officer's
11 response to the subject's behaviour and it would be
12 level 5 "Deadly or lethal force"?

13 A. Yes, up to that, yes.

14 Q. So, they don't have to -- a reasonable officer doesn't
15 necessarily have to go straight to that, they can still
16 bear in mind preclusion, minimum force --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- and look at any option underneath that level?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Thank you. And again, is this information that they are
21 putting into their National Decision-Making Model and
22 their risk assessment and assessing the threat?

23 A. Definitely, yes.

1 Q. And are they continuing to consider their observations
2 of the subject, considering issues of mental health,
3 intoxication, ABD?

4 A. Definitely, yes.

5 Q. And at this stage, to what extent would a reasonable
6 officer consider pulling back or withdrawing?

7 A. Well, again you definitely need to be calling to control
8 "Second officer down, ambulance required for this person
9 now, as well", and again hoping that they receive
10 additional instruction from the command structure
11 because now if the command structure are aware of
12 potentially one officer slashed, one officer now down
13 through a head punch, decisions need to be made from
14 a tactical level. The preservation of two officers'
15 lives and safety and you've got this other officer. Do
16 you continue to put them in a position of danger when
17 again, the option could be all officers withdraw, allow
18 the subject to leave and the subject then will be
19 pursued by specialist forces, or specialist officers
20 rather.

21 Q. And if the officer who witnesses this does not contact
22 the ACR, is it still open to other reasonable officers
23 in the area to contact the ACR and share information

1 with them?

2 A. Yes. Anyone who has got the information to pass it
3 because we need -- we need that command -- the feeding
4 back to the command structure so that they can make
5 their decisions.

6 Q. And we have heard some evidence about the use of an
7 emergency button on the radio and again, is it open to
8 any officer to hit the emergency button --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- and that would alert the ACR?

11 A. Yes. Any officer can press that button and then it
12 stays live for a quantity of time, but it doesn't stop
13 the control still being able to speak over it, but it
14 allows then -- for the button to be pressed for the
15 environment to be heard, so if an officer can't
16 physically deal with holding the mic button in to keep
17 talking, the quickest way is: press the red button, they
18 can continue dealing with the high risk event that
19 they're dealing with, but then other officers can hear
20 the commotion or the words that are going on and plus
21 pressing of the red button, it's not, you know, a daily
22 occurrence for officers, it's usually reserved for those
23 high risk incidents.

- 1 Q. Right, thank you. And I think you mentioned that
2 yesterday as well.
- 3 A. Mm-hm.
- 4 Q. If the subject stamps -- maybe once, maybe more than
5 once -- on the female officer as she is on the ground,
6 how would a reasonable officer categorise that
7 behaviour?
- 8 A. So again, that would be at level 6, potentially deadly
9 force, and that's because of the spinal cord. The
10 spinal cord is a red area as well and no matter where
11 the foot might go on the body, you could still get
12 trauma impact into the spinal cord, which is then
13 directly connected to the brain and part of the brain,
14 so any force to the spinal cord can cause disability or
15 death, but then you've got your other vital organs
16 nearby as well, such as your spleen, your kidneys
17 and ...
- 18 Q. So regardless of whether it's on the back, lower back,
19 or in the kidney area, or any other area on the back,
20 that would still be --
- 21 A. Yes, it would still be considered like, potentially,
22 deadly force.
- 23 Q. Right. And again, if a reasonable officer is observing

1 that, up to what level of response would be possible for
2 that reasonable officer?

3 A. And again, the officer would have available up to level
4 5 for them.

5 Q. And again, maintaining the observance of the --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- the principles and the minimum force?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Thank you. So would that -- just to be specific, would
10 that include the option of -- in those circumstances,
11 the option of striking the subject with a baton?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. On multiple occasions?

14 A. If need be, but each strike would need to be --

15 Q. Justified?

16 A. Justified, yes.

17 Q. And could that include a strike, or more than one
18 strike, to the head?

19 A. It could. However, the caveat with any head strikes,
20 it's the final -- it's the final level because of the
21 increased risk to that, so the baton strikes -- the
22 green areas are the primary target areas, so such as the
23 arms and the legs. Then red areas for Police Scotland

1 includes all of the torso and the head, whereas in
2 England and Wales the torso is split between amber and
3 red. But certainly the head would be a red area, but
4 it's not encouraged as a primary strike area. That's
5 sort of your final option because of the high risk of
6 death that's associated with it.

7 Q. Right. And if the first baton strike to the head causes
8 the subject to stop stamping, what would a reasonable
9 officer do in that situation?

10 A. So, you would instantly need to disclose to the control
11 room that you have struck the subject, a baton strike to
12 the head, "Ambulance required for this person now as
13 well", even if they're still on their feet and active
14 a baton strike to the head, because it's a red area and
15 the highest risk strike area, you need to get medical
16 attention for that person as soon as possible as well.

17 Q. So when you say "instantly", even as the person is --
18 the subject or the officer is standing up still, in the
19 moment --

20 A. Yes, if it's possible to, yes. If it's possible to make
21 that -- so it's as soon as practicable that the officer
22 can report this fact now as well.

23 Q. Right. And would it make any difference to that answer

1 if the officer is a probationer towards the end of their
2 probation period?

3 A. No.

4 Q. No. And again, would the reasonable officer have to
5 provide justification for each of those strikes?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And would that be strikes whether they were to the head
8 or perhaps to other areas on the arm or body?

9 A. Yes, because you still need to justify what target area
10 you were going for, why you were going for it and then
11 if you missed the target area, where it actually hit.

12 Q. And you have said that the head is not encouraged as
13 a primary area, more as a final area.

14 A. It's final, yes.

15 Q. So, would it be an option open to a reasonable officer
16 to perhaps strike the -- use their baton, but strike the
17 subject who is stamping at the back of their knees, or
18 on their legs, or something along those lines?

19 A. Definitely and when you're thinking about target areas
20 you're constantly thinking about maximum impact, but
21 with lowest level of risk, because you want the
22 person -- especially if there's -- if they're in
23 a continuation of attack, you want that attack to stop,

1 but you want it to stop as safe as possible for everyone
2 involved, so you will typically try less dangerous areas
3 before you escalate to more serious areas.

4 Q. And would the options open to a reasonable officer -- if
5 they observe the man stamping, the subject stamping on
6 the officer, would that also include the option of
7 shoulder-charging them to the ground --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- away from the officer --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- on the ground?

12 For you personally, do you see any difference, or
13 any distinction, between your views about the profiled
14 offender behaviour if there is only the strike to the
15 back of the head, compared to if there's a strike to the
16 back of the head and a stamp?

17 A. No. If there's the stamp -- the head strike alone would
18 be level 6. If the stamps also occur, that's just
19 a continuation and a reinforcement of a continuation of
20 such behaviour.

21 Q. Right, so continuation of the most serious level --

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. -- of the profiled offender behaviour?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And do you consider there's any difference, or
3 distinction, in the reasonable officer response options
4 that are open to a reasonable officer, whether it's only
5 a punch or a strike to the back of the head, or it is
6 the strike to the back of the head plus the stamp?

7 A. I think the reasonable officer, even if there was
8 a continuation of behaviour, they would still be -- they
9 would still be considering where they're hitting and the
10 risk, so they're still going through the NDM of thinking
11 "What information am I receiving? What are the risks
12 and the threats?" So all of that would then be taken
13 into consideration before they make their action plan
14 then as to what -- so it would be very much an
15 individual decision based on the continuation of
16 behaviour, their risk, their own -- back to that POP
17 model of "person, object, place". So "person", if
18 they're then thinking "Well, two people are now out of
19 the game injured", they're the last person standing,
20 that will impact then on what level of response they're
21 going to opt for, because they might then believe that
22 they're -- that the intention and the means is there to
23 harm them.

- 1 Q. Thank you. And you have listened to Martin Graves'
2 evidence.
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Do you see a distinction between his views on this
5 matter and yours?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. No. So, if he has suggested that perhaps the punch
8 to -- the strike to the back of the head is maybe of
9 less significance than the stamp or otherwise ...?
- 10 A. I wouldn't agree that the head strike is of less
11 significance. If anything, because of my background,
12 I would be saying the head injury is more, or at least
13 equal to, the back stamp, but neither is less than the
14 other.
- 15 Q. Right. It will be a matter for the Chair. It may be
16 that he has been saying, you would be looking at
17 a minimum of 4, a level 5, "assaultive behaviour", you
18 could be looking at a level 6, so he -- his evidence may
19 be interpreted that he is more variable on the subject's
20 behaviour category.
- 21 A. I -- yes, yes.
- 22 Q. But if that is his evidence, as it is interpreted, you
23 would maintain that you think it's still the highest

1 level.

2 A. Yes, especially when you're looking at the demographics
3 and if the force is such that it takes somebody off
4 their feet, then that, for me, is demonstrating that
5 additional aggravation to it and risk to the person
6 who -- the force has been such that it has taken the
7 person off their feet and to the floor.

8 Q. Thank you.

9 Could you give me one second please.

10 A. Yes.

11 (Pause).

12 Q. Thank you. I was just checking something there.
13 I don't need to change anything.

14 If -- we have also heard other evidence from Martin
15 Graves in relation to the situation where there was the
16 strike to the back of the head, plus the stamp, and his
17 view was that:

18 "... stamping on an unprotected officer on the floor
19 ... shows a level of ongoing serious assaultive
20 behaviour."

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. "The risk to an unprotected officer on the floor being
23 stamped or kicked is very serious, internal injuries,

1 et cetera, head injuries, so we're looking at possibly
2 life-threatening injuries in that situation ... If that
3 was the case, and an officer was being stamped on the
4 floor, then I would expect a reasonable officer to do
5 anything within their capabilities to prevent that from
6 happening or to stop it from reoccurring."

7 And you would agree with that?

8 A. Yes, with the issue of preclusion.

9 Q. Preclusion and minimum force.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And so a reasonable officer response, in relation to the
12 stamping and the strike to the head, that would be
13 a level -- and he agreed, that would be a level 5?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Thank you. I would like to move on to the next phase
16 where the subject has been brought to the ground, but
17 the subject continues to struggle.

18 I'm conscious of the time and --

19 LORD BRACADALE: Perhaps we should stick to the timetable
20 and have a break at this point, so 20-minute break.

21 MS GRAHAME: Thank you.

22 (11.23 am)

23 (Short Break)

1 (11.47 am)

2 LORD BRACADALE: Ms Grahame.

3 MS GRAHAME: Ms Caffrey, I would like to move on now to deal
4 with another situation, so to add further information
5 into this scenario we're exploring.

6 So at this stage the subject has been brought to the
7 ground.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Officers are trying to gain control of the subject and
10 trying to restrain the subject and the subject continues
11 to struggle against their attempts.

12 A. Mm-hm.

13 Q. Before I begin by asking you questions, I wonder if you
14 can help the Chair understand how a restraint should be
15 performed, or how reasonable officers will carry out
16 a restraint procedure.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. And I would like to do it first of all if there are
19 three officers available and secondly, we can look at if
20 there are four or more officers available.

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. Would you be happy to go through that with me?

23 A. Yes, absolutely.

1 Q. So let's look at how reasonable officers would conduct
2 a restraint of a subject where there are three of them.

3 A. Yes. So the first principle is a restraint is always
4 a combination of a use of force and a manual handling
5 process, so you're trying to combine both of these.
6 With three people, one person will instantly take the
7 role of what's often called a controller, which
8 sometimes doubles up with the supervisor as well, but
9 a person needs to take control as soon as possible when
10 a restraint starts and that's so that they can
11 coordinate the restraint techniques and the manual
12 handling process, otherwise it all becomes
13 counter-productive if each officer is trying to do their
14 own thing, so --

15 Q. Now, if -- can I pause you there for a moment.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. If there are three constables, so the sergeant has not
18 yet arrived at the scene --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- how do the officers go about identifying who the
21 controller would be?

22 A. So usually the head person is the controller, or if --

23 Q. When you say "the head person", what do you mean?

1 A. So usually the primary objective is the two arms, so
2 you've got an officer on each arm, and then the third
3 person who hasn't got the arm will hopefully be in
4 charge of the head, as in the head person is there
5 responsible for the safety as well, so as soon as
6 a restraint commences, then as soon thereafter the
7 medical checks by the officers need to be commenced, so
8 there's constantly safety checks going on throughout the
9 process of the restraint.

10 Q. Right, so we have heard some evidence of the name of
11 a safety officer.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Would that be akin to the person --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- in charge of the head?

16 A. Yes, so there's three roles which are typically
17 specified: we've got a controller, a safety officer and
18 a supervisor. Now, in an ideal world you've got
19 a different person doing each role, but often you have
20 to have those all combined into one person, but they're
21 the three roles. The controller is the person who is
22 directing in relation to the manual handling and the
23 technique. The safety officer role is to be conducting

1 the checks, the vital signs, and then the supervisor is
2 the umbrella overall supervision of what's happening,
3 but typically, especially in the early days if you have
4 only got a small number of officers, all of those
5 functions need to be conducted by one person.

6 Q. And that's usually the person at the head?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Thank you.

9 A. So with three people, if the person is on the floor, the
10 primary objective is one person on each arm to get the
11 arms behind the back and handcuffed, and the third
12 person -- if it's safe for them to be at the head,
13 they're at the head, but if there's a lot of issues in
14 relation to securing the legs, then that person might
15 need to go to the legs as the third person, in which
16 case then one of the arm people need to be declared as
17 the controller and safety officer.

18 Q. And how are they declared?

19 A. It's constant talking to each other and the person being
20 nominated or instantly saying, "I am the controller in
21 this use of force", and that might seem a bit sort of
22 false, but it happens regularly that as soon as an
23 intervention starts and a restraint starts, somebody

1 calls up "I am the controller", you know, "I am on the
2 right arm", "I am" -- so that you can hear who is doing
3 what and then you know if a certain act is being
4 conducted.

5 Q. And to what extent is there communication between the
6 officers during this process?

7 A. All the time. The more communication between the
8 officers and in a calm manner, the more then the
9 officers know what's happening, who is doing what, what
10 responsibilities are being conducted, but also it can
11 help the person who is being restrained to understand
12 what's happening. Otherwise if people aren't talking
13 and there's just a lot of movement going on, the
14 restrained person can be put in an even more heightened
15 state of distress because they don't know what's
16 happening.

17 Q. Right, so if an officer is, say, on the legs, what would
18 you expect that reasonable officer to be doing if
19 they're facing the other direction from the officers?

20 A. If that officer is facing the other direction, if they
21 can face up the body, fine, but if they're facing away
22 from the torso, because of the communication they're
23 still all talking to one another, so if they get their

1 arms tucked around the legs they will then say, like,
2 "Legs are secure", and whoever is the controller will
3 say, you know, like, "received" or "roger that",
4 you know, "right arm secure", "left arm secure", so
5 people should be constantly talking through what's
6 happening so that there's no dispute in relation to who
7 is doing what and if it's happened or not.

8 Q. And if they're engaged in that process how do they then
9 go about securing the subject? Do they use equipment?

10 A. Yes, so it's the handcuffs to the hands which ideally --
11 the ideal position is to handcuff to the rear for
12 maximum control but sometimes it ends up at the front,
13 but rear handcuffing is the primary objective but
14 sometimes it will end up being at the front, so once the
15 arms are secure -- if the officers then believe that
16 they've got more control over the subject than the
17 subject has got over them, they might then deem that the
18 person is secured purely with the handcuffs and no
19 necessity for the legs, or if the level is such that
20 they also need to do the legs with the straps, they
21 might then do the handcuffs and the legs before
22 announcing "secured", but the phrase "secured" implies
23 that the officers believe they've got more control over

1 the person than the person has, so there's no chance of
2 them escaping.

3 Q. So if there is a message to ACR saying "Male secure on
4 ground", does that mean something to police officers?

5 A. That would mean that they've got sufficient control to
6 prevent the person escaping or assaulting them.

7 Q. Right. And what if the officers experience difficulty
8 in getting the man or the subject's arms behind his back
9 and getting those handcuffs on?

10 A. So there's options. I mean, you can even do
11 chain-linking of handcuffs, so I know a particular
12 example that I had was we ended up using the three sets
13 of handcuffs to join, so one officer put their cuff to
14 the right-hand, one to the left hand, then with the
15 handcuffs they were used to get the hands behind and
16 then my cuffs went as the joining cuffs to those two
17 cuffs, just to get the initial control so that then as
18 time went on, we could then release the cuffs and make
19 them smaller, but sometimes with large men, for example,
20 body builders, because of the size of the chest it's
21 near on impossible to actually manage just with one set
22 of cuffs and you might need to link two sets to them.

23 Q. In what circumstances would you not handcuff to the rear

1 but handcuff to the front?

2 A. Maximum control is to the rear. If the person's

3 handcuffed to the front it means then they have still

4 got movement with the hands, they can still attack

5 somebody, they have still got control over the body

6 dynamics. When you put the handcuffs to the rear it

7 also affects the balance of the person as well, so it

8 can reduce the amount of resistance, but things like

9 shoulder injuries, those kind of scenarios, it might be

10 that person's arm doesn't bend so if a person has

11 injuries already existent, or any physical disability,

12 it might not be practicable to get their arm to the back

13 anyway.

14 Q. Right. What position would the subject be in during

15 what you have described?

16 A. So officers are typically trained to get the person

17 initially into prone --

18 Q. On their front?

19 A. Onto the front, yes, sorry. Onto the front, in prone,

20 so that the arms can be brought to the rear and

21 handcuffed, depending then on whether their legs are

22 going to be strapped. But then as soon as the person is

23 secured, the person then needs to be turned onto one

1 side or the other.

2 Q. Right. Now, you have in your report a description of
3 your understanding of prone. Are you able to just share
4 that briefly with the Chair?

5 A. Yes, so the basic prone is the person is laid fully on
6 their front, but there's variations of prone as well and
7 I know in the past, myths where it was only prone if the
8 face was actually looking at the floor and people used
9 to think well, if they just turn their head to the side
10 that meant they weren't in prone, but prone is just
11 meaning that the front of the body -- so basically from
12 the belly button up until the head area is towards the
13 ground. That means that the person is either in full
14 prone or partial prone, so it might be that you've got
15 the person on their front but they've got their torso
16 lifted up so there's just part of the torso to the
17 floor, that then would be a partial prone.

18 Q. And if the subject has perhaps tried to lift one
19 shoulder from the ground, would that be a partial prone?

20 A. Yes, it's still a prone, partial prone.

21 Q. Partial prone. Would a partial prone be treated in the
22 same way as a full prone by officers?

23 A. Yes, yes, it should be because the main thing about the

1 positioning is about then whether it impacts on
2 breathing functions and so even just with one shoulder
3 off we have still got potential of compression of the
4 like diaphragm area and the stomach, and even if it's
5 just the bottom of the stomach, if people then have got
6 excess weight or pregnancy weight, that weight can be
7 pushed up and into the diaphragm and prevent the
8 breathing function occurring.

9 Q. So what advice are officers given about the prone
10 position?

11 A. That because of its high risk you get the person out of
12 it as quickly as possible, you get them secured, you get
13 them onto the side, so the person might not be safe
14 enough to get up into seated or standing, but they're
15 secure enough to get into a side position.

16 Q. And when you say high risk, is that because of the
17 impact -- possible impact on the breathing?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Right. We have heard some evidence about positional
20 asphyxia.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Can you tell us about that?

23 A. Yes, so if we're thinking about positional asphyxia it's

1 all about a position which impacts the breathing
2 capability, so if we've got the front of a chest and the
3 back of the chest, two sides, there's four parts of the
4 body from the waist up which needs to be able to
5 function in order for breathing efficiency.

6 Now, if you compress either the back or the front in
7 any way, that means that one side doesn't move, but
8 likewise, even bent forward in a seated position because
9 now you have compressed the stomach, that can impact as
10 well, so that's a position which can start leading to
11 asphyxiation, so the asphyxiation is just connected to
12 a position. The person could be on their side which
13 would in itself be deemed a safe position, but then if
14 pressure is lent up against the person to then impede
15 the function of the front or the back expanding, that
16 would still be a position which is now impeding the
17 breathing, which could lead to asphyxia.

18 Q. So to what extent would simply lying on the pavement
19 say, in full or partial prone, compress breathing?

20 A. It would depend then because if you've got any
21 pressure -- in order for the breathing function to work,
22 you need everything from, you know, the very bottom of
23 the diaphragm to be able to function correctly, so if

1 there's any pressure going into the diaphragm, that will
2 impact, but then the muscles within the chest and
3 shoulder as well, they need to be without compression in
4 order to allow the lungs to inflate and deflate, so it
5 would depend on where the pressure is as to -- and then
6 the body weight of the person, because if the body
7 weight then is pressing in as well, their own body
8 weight, even if no officer is pressing against the
9 person, if there's stomach weight there that's pressing
10 in and hanging in, then that can cause some compression
11 as well.

12 Q. And then if one was to apply any pressure to the back at
13 the same time, would that again compound the possible --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- impact on breathing?

16 A. Yes, because it's impacting on the back's function to
17 expand and contract as well, so it's like a bellow, you
18 know, at a fire, you need the body to be able to expand
19 and contract in order to create the efficiency of the
20 breathing to happen.

21 Q. And when you talk about pressure, what type of things
22 are you talking about?

23 A. Even just leaning up against the person could be

1 creating pressure. It's something that's stopping the
2 full expansion of the torso.

3 Q. And could that also include putting weight on a person?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Applying force to a person?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And could that be in one area or over the whole back
8 area?

9 A. It could be any part of the torso, so again from
10 anywhere from like the belly button up, any part of
11 pressure against any part of the torso could create an
12 impact.

13 Q. We have heard some evidence that sprays can also have an
14 impact on the respiratory system.

15 A. Yes, yes. So because of the nature of the spray and
16 a person's response to it, it can impact on the
17 breathing capability.

18 Q. And as well as that, if the subject is intoxicated or
19 under the influence of drink or drugs, could that also
20 have an impact on the respiratory --

21 A. Yes, that all affects the breathing capability as well.

22 Q. And is this something that officers are aware of in
23 terms of training about positional asphyxia?

1 A. Yes, definitely.

2 Q. You have told us earlier you're a first aid trainer --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- and you have taught many courses. Is this the type
5 of information that officers are provided with?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Thank you. Can I ask now if this process is done by
8 more than three officers, so four or perhaps more
9 officers, can you explain to us how that changes this
10 type of --

11 A. Yes, so if we're looking now at a fourth officer, you've
12 got one officer on one arm, one officer on another arm,
13 officer number 3 is on the legs, officer number 4 is
14 the head officer, so that may or may not need any actual
15 touching of the head, but that head officer is the
16 person who can look right down the torso and ensure that
17 there's no compression, so they're the safety officer.
18 They're also the controller coordinating the officers
19 and they might then be saying to the leg officer, for
20 example: can you move lower or higher, so if you know
21 their names you can be using the names of the officers,
22 but it's about that clear instruction so that the other
23 three officers, even if they're not actually looking in

1 at one another, they know exactly who is doing what.

2 Q. So again, still communication required?

3 A. Yes, absolutely, and controlling what's occurring so you

4 might then say "The officer on the left arm, you're

5 going to apply the cuff first", so that you will -- the

6 officer on the right arm stays in a holding position of

7 the arm, a physical holding, until the officer has got

8 the cuff on the left arm first, so you want it to be

9 coordinated, controlled and a nice, easy process so that

10 it all just happens nice and smooth.

11 Q. And again, if the officers are communicating, would that

12 then allow the subject to -- or the possible opportunity

13 for the subject to understand what's happening?

14 A. Yes, and often, you know, you're -- depending on the

15 circumstances you can be talking to the subject saying

16 "We're going to start handcuffing you now, the officer

17 holding your left arm is going to apply a handcuff so

18 don't be worried", so it all depends on the

19 circumstances and is it -- are you able to speak to the

20 subject or at least try and speak to them, to let them

21 know what's going on to again reduce the fear and the

22 anxiety and hopefully reduce the opposition and

23 resistance.

1 Q. And again, yesterday, when you gave us the example of
2 attending at the scene with the man with the arterial
3 bleed, I think I commented then that you were talking to
4 the man and telling him. Is that the type of
5 communication you would expect during a restraint?

6 A. Yes, definitely, because -- the benefits are it allows
7 you as the person doing the talking to be thinking
8 logically about what are we doing, but it also then
9 allows you as a team to understand what's actually
10 happening, so you will often find officers, once they've
11 got their lock on, they will shout, you know, "Right arm
12 lock on", you know, "Left arm lock on", when the cuffs
13 have gone on they will shout "Left wrist cuffed", so it
14 is this constant talking and passing the information
15 between the team so that you know what's happened now
16 it's safe to move on to the next.

17 Q. When you say "Lock on", what does that mean?

18 A. So, for example, if you were taking -- there's something
19 called a figure of 4 lock where manually you will take
20 the arm back, so it looks like a figure of 4, so you
21 might then say -- you know, once then you as the officer
22 have got tucked into that, you will say "Right arm lock
23 on", so that officer then on the left arm knows it's

1 ready for them, so if there's a controller there they
2 will then say, "Right arm lock on, left arm put your
3 lock on", so then they know to turn and get the left arm
4 lock on, and then they will say, "Left arm lock on",
5 when they have achieved it.

6 Q. If we're talking about four officers, again, there's one
7 at the head who combines the three roles of controller,
8 safety officer and supervisor?

9 A. Mm-hm.

10 Q. But if more officers arrive, would that officer at the
11 head, would the role be split again or --

12 A. So then you might have the next person coming along who
13 takes over as supervisor, so -- who will then, you know,
14 start doing that. It's very much -- it's a flexible
15 option, but you take that position, so for me as the
16 sergeant, for example, these type of controlled events
17 would occur regularly in the custody unit, so then as
18 the custody sergeant I would take the supervisor's role,
19 but the controller has started, so then I would say,
20 you know, "I'm here now, I'm the controller" -- sorry,
21 "I'm the supervisor, confirming you're the controller",
22 you know, "Officer A, you're the controller", officer B,
23 C, D, then I would be moving around to keep looking

1 there and then saying to the controller, "Have you
2 checked the vital signs? Confirm to me that the vital
3 signs are still okay."

4 Q. So if a restraint is taking place with, say, four
5 officers and the sergeant arrives, when that's already
6 started --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- what would you expect that sergeant to do on arrival?

9 A. That the sergeant comes along and takes the supervisor
10 role so they should be thinking then about all the
11 issues around the holistic safety, so thinking about the
12 safer custody aspect and the NDM again and thinking is
13 this person going to police custody unit or are they
14 going to hospital? Have we got an ambulance en route?
15 Do we need an ambulance en route? And then asking the
16 officers, you know, "What are you doing? Is that lock
17 on? Is that" -- so getting involved as a supervisor and
18 making those, like, management decisions.

19 Q. So an active role?

20 A. Yes, and checking what decisions have been made and
21 confirming -- "Can you confirm the vital signs have
22 started?" You know, which are your DR ABC checks that
23 you're looking at so it is about the supervisor taking

1 that overview and thinking: you're doing that, you're
2 doing that, do they need additional people, is
3 an officer injured, because if you've got an injured
4 officer on a particular limb you might want to swap them
5 out for somebody else and then looking at how long has
6 this been going on, you know. In an ideal world, you
7 would instantly start clocking the time as well to be
8 thinking how long has this been happening now, where are
9 we at time-wise because that would be relevant for
10 the -- as a handover to the ambulance crews as well.

11 Q. And why would the controller be or supervisor be saying
12 "Where are we with the time?" Why is that relevant?

13 A. It would become relevant for clinical management at the
14 hospital. It may or may not end up being relevant, but
15 where possible, you always start clocking the time to
16 think where each stage has taken us, how long was the
17 ground restraint for.

18 Now, there is no mandate as to how long a restraint
19 lasts for, but it's also -- it should always be as short
20 as possible.

21 Now, in the past there's often been debate about
22 whether a time limit should be set as a warning mark and
23 I know from a previous death in custody back in 1999 the

1 inquiry into the death of Mr Bennett, they recommended
2 at that one about restraints -- 3 minutes was the
3 warning time, but that's not a mandate, but time could
4 be relevant as part of the handover package for the
5 clinical care really to then be saying the person has
6 been on the floor in a side position or a prone
7 position, resisting for, you know, three minutes, five
8 minutes, ten minutes, before we were able to get them
9 into seated position and then from seated position as we
10 got them up into standing they then collapsed at that
11 point, so it's just -- it's relevant information for the
12 clinical care of a person.

13 Q. And could it also be relevant information with
14 justifying that minimum force has been applied?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Or could it be relevant information in relation to
17 issues surrounding positional asphyxiation?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And concern to avoid asphyxiation, particularly if the
20 person is in prone or partial prone?

21 A. Yes, definitely, and the supervisor might then decide
22 that because of the time ticking on they want to ensure
23 that the person -- you know, are they going to try and

1 manoeuvre into seated and standing because of the time
2 issue and -- but again, it would be that decision on the
3 day, thinking about the NDM and thinking "Are we in
4 a position where we can attempt to get the person out
5 off the floor", even though they're out of prone or
6 supine, supine being on your back, they've been on their
7 side but there comes a point where when we need to now
8 try and get them into seated position, or the level of
9 consciousness, are we waiting on the ambulance. So it's
10 about those decisions and thinking "How long are we
11 waiting? Is this still a straightforward use of force
12 restraint, or are we in a medical emergency?"

13 So time can be relevant but it's not a topic just on
14 its own.

15 Q. And officers are still considering the possibility of
16 a medical emergency --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- even during that process?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And moving someone onto their side or into a seated
21 position, does that also remove the pressure if they
22 were lying on the pavement?

23 A. Well, it can remove the direct pressure, for example, to

1 the front if they were in the front or on their back,
2 but if officers then go close, we have still got
3 compression into the stomach or the back, so the idea of
4 the side roll is as a safe airway position. You're
5 holding the person up, but you create a little bit of
6 gap between you and them so that they can still expand
7 their torso in order to breathe.

8 Q. And so bearing in mind the risks of positional asphyxia
9 and the risk of compression --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- are officers made aware of the risks of lying next to
12 a person, or lying on the person, or having parts of
13 their body up against a person?

14 A. Yes, it's -- because it's about not having any pressure
15 against any part of the torso, regardless of what
16 positions they're in.

17 Q. Right. Thank you. And even if there are four or more
18 officers, would they again be seeking to apply handcuffs
19 at some stage?

20 A. Yes, because in order to get the person from the ground
21 restraint you're going to look at handcuffs. The option
22 then of leg restraints, depending on the circumstances,
23 but then getting the person into a seated position as

1 soon as possible and getting them stood up as soon as
2 possible, so that's always the objective. So even if
3 they could be stood up with leg restraints and handcuffs
4 still applied, but we've got them off the ground now
5 from a ground restraint.

6 Q. We heard from Martin Graves that he would recognise that
7 there's a control phase of restraint where officers are
8 attempting to control the subject and he would
9 distinguish that from the restraint phase where the
10 person is restrained.

11 A. Mm-hm.

12 Q. Is that a distinction you would recognise?

13 A. Yes. I mean, the initial bit is obtaining control, so
14 once you've got the handcuffs on then typically you've
15 got the basics of control then and you're into the
16 restraint. The restraint then is -- you know, the
17 person can still be moving and -- you don't have to wait
18 for a person to be passive, fully passive before you
19 consider moving them into a seated and standing
20 position.

21 Once you've got control of them, even if they're
22 trying to physically resist, if they're handcuffed and
23 their legs are restrained, there's nowhere they can go,

1 they can't run and they can't assault people, so it's
2 about trying to get them up. The officers are then
3 still holding their arms, so there's -- it's the safer
4 way to get them off the ground.

5 Q. And that moment arrives when handcuffs are fixed to the
6 wrists?

7 A. Typically, yes. You've got the person under control
8 enough to be able to manage them.

9 Q. Right. I understand from your report that there are
10 different types of restraint, not all restraint is
11 physical?

12 A. Correct, yes.

13 Q. Do you --

14 A. So -- well, you've got the physical restraint. You have
15 also got, like, chemical restraint, which is more common
16 in the mental health units where the person will be
17 injected with something and often the police are called
18 to mental health units to assist with -- so officers
19 might be doing a physical restraint in order for the
20 medical staff to inject for a chemical restraint.

21 You have also got, like, psychological restraint
22 where the person is kept in a room but the person is at
23 the door, so there's no physical restraint on the

1 person, but the mere presence of an officer standing at
2 the only exit is still restraining and containing
3 a person within a room.

4 Q. Thank you. I would like to ask you about the options
5 for a reasonable officer -- to go back to our ongoing
6 scenario that we have been discussing yesterday and
7 today, so it's a knife incident, possible knife, there's
8 issues that we have discussed about the way the subject
9 appears and there was the punch to the back of the head
10 and/or the possible stamp or stamps, and the subject has
11 been brought to the ground, and the officers are trying
12 to gain control of the subject and the subject is
13 resisting that control, perhaps at times forcefully.

14 What options would be open to three officers who are
15 taking part in that process, if they're reasonable
16 officers?

17 A. If you're looking at the full spectrum of options at the
18 very lowest end one option is withdraw from the
19 restraint.

20 Q. Under what circumstances would they do that?

21 A. If you think it's too dangerous for staff or subject
22 then it's still a tactical option that you can withdraw
23 from the restraint. Once you have commenced

1 a restraint, it doesn't mean to say you can never like
2 get out of it.

3 Q. Is it always an option to disengage?

4 A. There's always still an option to back off and consider
5 again other alternatives that you might have, or a fresh
6 approach again.

7 Other than that, you're trying to gain the
8 compliance, so it might be, for example, each officer at
9 each arm applies their single cuff to the relevant arm
10 that they're on to try and then get their arms brought
11 round into the figure of 4 type of lock.

12 Q. And just to stay for a moment with the option of
13 disengaging --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- you talked about a fresh approach, could that be
16 waiting for a dog unit to arrive or something along
17 those lines?

18 A. Yes, yes.

19 Q. So assuming that they don't adopt the disengaging
20 option, what other options do they have at that moment?

21 A. So it's still -- if you're continuing with the restraint
22 then you need to get the restraint achieved as quickly
23 and safely as possible and the only way to achieve that

1 really is then by the use of the handcuffs to bring
2 their arms in and the straps to the legs, so if there's
3 enough officers to be trying to get them going again
4 it's -- this is where the controller and supervisor's
5 role is important to make those decisions, how are we
6 going to do -- do we do one and then the other, or are
7 we going to go for then both together? Are they going
8 to go for the legs first -- typically it's always the
9 handcuffing is the first option.

10 Q. Why is that?

11 A. It's just to get the upper body secured.

12 Q. So that would be one officer on each arm?

13 A. One officer on each arm.

14 Q. And the controller at the head?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And would you recognise a description of the
17 controller's role holding the head in a position where
18 it's secured against the ground to prevent the
19 individual from banging their head on the floor and
20 sustaining secondary injuries?

21 A. Yes, so especially the prison office, the prisons teach
22 immediate holding of the head to secure it. The holding
23 of the head is a taught technique within the police

1 service but it doesn't have to be a mandatory hold. If
2 the person isn't at risk of doing such things then you
3 may deem it not necessary to actually hold it. You can
4 still be the head officer without physically holding
5 the head.

6 Q. And then in terms of disengagement, would you recognise
7 the possibility that officers take the view it's
8 impossible to restrain a person and they should consider
9 other tactical options, or in a situation where the
10 restraint has been attempted and failed they could
11 disengage and then they could use things such as
12 irritant sprays, or nowadays perhaps a taser. Do you --

13 A. Sorry, can you just repeat that?

14 Q. Sorry. So thinking about disengagement and the options
15 open to officers in that regard --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- would you recognise a description as a number of
18 officers decide it's nearly impossible for the officers
19 to restrain the subject and other tactical options have
20 to be considered, and in that situation, it may be the
21 case that where restraint has been attempted, has
22 failed, they will disengage and then use irritant sprays
23 or nowadays maybe use a taser?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. You recognise that as a possibility?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Obviously in 2015 there wouldn't have been the tasers
5 available with uniformed officers, but do you recognise
6 that that would be an option to disengage --

7 A. Yes, definitely --

8 Q. -- and go back to trying sprays or --

9 A. Yes. If the physical restraint becomes too high a risk,
10 either for officers or subject, then you need to
11 consider another option.

12 Q. Right, thank you. So the officers can consider those
13 other options. Assuming they're not disengaging --
14 we're talking about three officers, one at the head, two
15 on the arms -- they're trying to secure handcuffs. If
16 there's more than three officers by that stage what
17 would those officers be considering as options?

18 A. So one on the legs.

19 Q. One on the legs as well as the two on the arms?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And one on the head?

22 A. Just to try and stabilise the person.

23 Q. Would the priority still be for those officers to secure

1 the handcuffs first?

2 A. Yes, that would still be the first option, unless it was
3 deemed necessary to secure the legs first, so that the
4 leg officer can be relieved of that role and come and
5 assist with the arms. So particularly if you've got
6 someone that's really strong, you might then need -- you
7 might decide secure the legs so that releases that
8 person to come and assist with the handcuffing.

9 Q. And when we say secure the legs, we have heard evidence
10 that not only can an officer lie over legs, but they
11 have leg straps or Fast Straps?

12 A. Yes, Velcro straps, yes.

13 Q. Right. And that's a means whereby officers can secure
14 legs?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In terms of the pressure that those officers involved in
17 that process would be applying to the body, what would
18 reasonable officers be bearing in mind at that stage?

19 A. All pressure to the torso should be avoided. Pressure
20 to the legs by the body laying over is an approved
21 technique and pressure to the arms to secure them and
22 bring them round is an approved technique.

23 There's also the knee to the back of the shoulder

1 blade there to help with the ground pin, that's an
2 approved technique, but other than that there should be
3 no pressure going into the torso anywhere.

4 Q. And would that include on the back of the body?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And when you say a ground pin, can you tell us what that
7 is?

8 A. So when the person is down on the ground, for example,
9 particularly with a single officer technique you might
10 get the person to the floor and then you've got the arm
11 out and you're trying to bring it in to commence the
12 handcuffing, the officers will be trained to then use
13 one knee to go down onto the shoulder blade to
14 facilitate the handcuffing coming in.

15 Q. That's a recognised technique?

16 A. Yes, but then as soon as you've got the cuffs applied,
17 that knee pin would be removed.

18 Q. Right. But apart from the knee pin to assist with the
19 ground pin, what would a reasonable officer be doing in
20 relation to applying any weight or pressure on the back?

21 A. No pressure to the back.

22 Q. No pressure. Would they apply any weight, or their own
23 body weight to the back?

1 A. No, no.

2 Q. Would they lie over the subject?

3 A. No. The principle is no pressure to the torso.

4 Q. What about contact itself, if they were leaning over or
5 contact with the person's back?

6 A. It should be avoided and this is where if the head
7 person is there, if an officer is needing to lean over,
8 then is there already an officer on that side who can be
9 doing that task? And then you pass the arm over to the
10 other person. It's trying to keep like a sterile area
11 of the person. That's the principle. There will always
12 be exceptions to a principle, but the principle is you
13 don't put any pressure onto that torso.

14 Q. Right. Does it make any difference to your evidence
15 today if the person is on their back as opposed to on
16 their front --

17 A. Not at all.

18 Q. -- or partially --

19 A. Not at all. Because the same thing, you have to have
20 the front and the back of the body and the sides to be
21 able to expand in order for breathing function to work,
22 so whether the person is on their front or their back,
23 you need to keep those areas clear as much as possible,

1 for as long as possible.

2 Q. Thank you. And you have gestured when you were

3 describing the role of the controller, the person at

4 the head, and you have gestured with your hands.

5 A. Yes, so they're looking right down the torso --

6 Q. From the head to the feet?

7 A. From the head, yes, and the benefits of all of this is

8 to ensure that it's clear, so when I use the word like

9 "sterile", that there's no compression, there's no

10 officer laying over, anything going on, but also that

11 there's an alignment of, like, the spinal cord, so if

12 officers are trying to twist the body -- if it's not

13 coordinated and some officers are trying to push them

14 onto a side and others are trying to keep them on their

15 front, then you might get a twisting, which again

16 increases their injury risk, so that head officer as the

17 safety officer needs to be able to keep looking down the

18 torso and see that there's an alignment and that it's

19 without compromise, so there's no compression anywhere.

20 Q. And that risk of injury is to the subject?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What difference would it make, if any, to the evidence

23 you have given today if the officer -- sorry, if the

1 subject had continued to struggle against the officers
2 and had tried to bench press them off the subject?

3 A. I think the issue there -- again, it comes back to your
4 options: you have still got the option to withdraw and
5 think about new tactics, you have still got the option
6 to carry on trying to get the handcuffing process done
7 to achieve, because until a person is handcuffed to the
8 rear, they will always have the capability -- or
9 potential to be able to press, even if they're
10 handcuffed to the front they have still got the
11 opportunity to be able to put their hands down and press
12 up, so your options there would either be still
13 continuing to try and get the arms to the rear to use
14 and that figure of 4 can either be done manually with
15 the officers' arms, or there's also an approved baton
16 technique to be able to use the baton to help get the
17 arms around, but the majority of officers prefer to use
18 their own limb to get in and get the arm under.

19 Q. And in relation to the bench pressing, is there any
20 difference to your evidence if the subject is seeking to
21 remove weight, or officers from his back?

22 A. I think for that if -- if a person is able to bench
23 press an officer up off the floor, I would be worried

1 there about the amount of strength they're showing to be
2 able to do that, but also I would be worried that the
3 officer was actually on their back in the first place as
4 well. It's just confirming that somebody was on their
5 back, so then it would be trying to again, go back round
6 to the NDM and think "Do we need to all withdraw from
7 this and think about another tactical option, or do we
8 carry on trying to adapt what we've got to try and
9 secure as quickly as possible and get them out of the
10 ground restraint?"

11 Q. And would it only be the controller that could make that
12 decision, or would it be any of the officers involved?

13 A. Any of the officers involved could take over control.
14 If they feel whoever is controlling is not controlling,
15 then they need to declare -- but as a team they need to
16 work with this as a team, and that's where at times
17 we've got these specified roles, but that controller can
18 then hand over control function to somebody else, so
19 someone else might become involved who is more skilled,
20 for example, at this kind of coordination, so they can
21 agree to hand control over to that other person, then
22 everyone else involved in the technique knows now
23 they're listening to the new controller.

- 1 Q. And a moment ago when I asked you about the bench
2 pressing --
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. -- you said you would worry about that and why would you
5 be worried about that?
- 6 A. Just the demonstration of strength and thinking about if
7 it we've got other ticks of risk, is this then another
8 tick of risk that again we need to be reporting back
9 because this could emphasise again that we need
10 specialist resources to deal with this. This is beyond
11 business as usual for operational officers. Do we need
12 the specialist resources and again, if we have not
13 currently got an ambulance en route, is this now extra
14 confirmation that we need an ambulance because if
15 there's that much strength being used, this person needs
16 to be checked by a healthcare professional before going
17 to police custody unit, or the decision to go to
18 hospital.
- 19 Q. When you're talking about the tick list or checklist,
20 are these the risks you mentioned earlier: intoxication,
21 mental health crisis or ABD?
- 22 A. Yes, yes, so it's this accumulation of more ticks coming
23 on those lists.

1 Q. And for a reasonable officer that maybe isn't involved
2 at that time in the restraint but standing and observing
3 at a nearby location, what action might that reasonable
4 officer have?

5 A. Contacting control room and passing the information back
6 because if they're then seeing the officers are not
7 doing it, somebody needs to be doing it, so when we
8 think about professional responsibility and curiosity of
9 an event, they need to be passing that information back
10 to the higher ranks to be saying , "This is what we're
11 seeing, tactical advice, please".

12 Q. Seeking advice from the supervisors?

13 A. Mm-hm.

14 Q. Right. What difference would it make if the subject
15 remained non-verbal during that time, so wasn't speaking
16 during that time?

17 A. Well, non-verbal is always a risk because of the fact
18 you're thinking: well, why are they non-verbal? Is it
19 a disability -- you know, a life-long disability that
20 the person has got, or is it because of a medical issue,
21 such as the -- a high level of intoxication which is
22 preventing the person from being able to operate their
23 vocal cords, or have we got a mental health crisis,

- 1 which again, it's a medical issue.
- 2 Q. What difference would it make if the subject was making
3 roaring noises and shouted something similar to "Get off
4 me"?
- 5 A. So again, the basic warnings for people being unable to
6 breathe will be saying things like, "I can't breathe",
7 or "Get off me". Those are threaded throughout officer
8 safety training about listening to warnings from people,
9 to again take them into consideration because you're not
10 going to let go of every single person who says, "Get
11 off me" or "I can't breathe", but you're looking then
12 and thinking, well, if they're now triggering this
13 I need to satisfy myself that there's nothing which is
14 causing a risk to the person.
- 15 Q. And if we think about the techniques that a reasonable
16 officer might be using in terms of their baton as part
17 of this restraint process, would you -- what techniques
18 would a reasonable officer be using?
- 19 A. It would be trying to get their arms round for the
20 handcuffing and that -- the majority of officers will
21 just attempt that with their arm into the subject's arms
22 to get them round, or the use of the handcuff to act as
23 a lever to get them round. Next level up would be

1 trying to maybe use the baton to get the figure of 4
2 position, but that can be quite technical and to be
3 honest, I have seen very few officers ever use the baton
4 for a figure of 4 technique, because it's not really an
5 easy option to do.

6 Q. Right. And what if an officer used a technique with
7 a baton that wasn't trained?

8 A. So there's always the scope for techniques to be adopted
9 and made up as the scenario goes on, but the purpose of
10 approved techniques means that if you're conducting an
11 approved technique, the organisation is saying: we have
12 approved this technique and we are satisfied that it's
13 been medically risk assessed, and then we have listed
14 what the safeguards are around it, so if an officer is
15 then using a technique which is not on the approved
16 techniques, they then have to justify to themselves the
17 necessity to use that technique and also be conscious
18 and aware of the risk factors with it. So you tend to
19 find officers will try and use the techniques that are
20 actually approved and taught, rather than deviate.

21 Q. Thank you. Can I come back for a moment to breathing
22 and monitoring of breathing. We have heard evidence
23 about breathing and not breathing and I saw in your

1 report that there was a distinction that you drew
2 between normal breathing and not normal breathing.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Could you explain the distinction for us, please?

5 A. Yes, so basically every five years there's a new code
6 released by the Resuscitation Council as guidelines for
7 all first aid training and certainly from 2005 they
8 changed the breathing/not breathing to be breathing
9 normal/not normal, because what they were looking at
10 there was the decline at times in a casualty that it's
11 not often you go from being a normal breather to not
12 breathing, there's usually a decline.

13 So part of their cycle then would be early
14 recognition that something is going wrong as the first
15 key stage in survival and you may see on posters these
16 little circles attached with, like, the defibrillation
17 at the end, but the first stage is early recognition
18 that something's going wrong, and that's where the
19 breathing/not breathing normal comes into it, so normal
20 breathing, for an average adult, is two to three breaths
21 within 10 seconds, and that sounds quite effortless and
22 what they say then is within a maximum of 10 seconds the
23 first aider or person who is monitoring the breathing,

1 within a maximum of 10 seconds they need to decide if
2 the person is breathing normally or unknown and if it's
3 unknown, then they treat them as not breathing normal,
4 so at that point of not breathing normal it's a medical
5 emergency and CPR is commenced.

6 Q. Right. So let me just ask you this: are all first aid
7 trainers aware of this guidance?

8 A. Well, if they follow the Resuscitation Council
9 guidelines, then they should be aware of it and it's in
10 the first aid manuals, particularly things like the
11 St John's manual, it all refers to not breathing
12 normally.

13 Q. And was that the position in 2015?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And when was that distinction introduced?

16 A. It was brought in certainly in 2005. So the guidance is
17 every five years, so it was in the 2005 guidance as
18 breathing normal/not normal and then the 2010 guidance,
19 then the 2015 guidance and now in the current guidance
20 as well.

21 Q. Are you aware when the guidance is issued?

22 A. Every five years.

23 Q. So a month in a particular year?

1 A. I'm not sure which -- but certainly the 2010 version had
2 the normal/not normal interpretation.

3 Q. And the 2005?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Thank you. And when that breathing is not normal, you
6 say that's a medical emergency and CPR commences?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Even though the person may still be breathing to some
9 extent?

10 A. Yes, because for a lot of people -- they use the phrase
11 agonal breathing and a lot of people will still show
12 signs of some form of noise which might sound like gas
13 or snoring or moaning or -- there's one explanation
14 which says about like fish mouth where the person might
15 be going (indicating), and it looks like a fish mouth,
16 whereas if -- with the old interpretation of
17 breathing/not breathing, things like the fish mouth,
18 agonal breathing, the moaning, they would be incorrectly
19 assumed to still be meaning the person's alive, where
20 this person was actually in life and death scenario.

21 Q. Right.

22 A. So breathing normally, breathing not normal was
23 certainly the version of the Resuscitation Council

1 guidelines in 2015.

2 Q. Thank you. Just to finish this scenario, is it safe for
3 me to say that a reasonable officer will, during the
4 struggle and restraint, still be seeking to use the
5 minimum level of force?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And still have regard to preclusion?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And moving on to if the subject is on the ground, either
10 prone or supine, the officers are trying to gain
11 control, the struggle has continued -- the subject has
12 continued to struggle against their attempts and that
13 has continued for a period of around four minutes,
14 during which time the officers ultimately manage to
15 secure handcuffs and leg restraints, the subject is then
16 turned onto his side and the officers see that he is
17 non-responsive or unconscious, but deemed to be
18 breathing. What would a reasonable officer be
19 considering at that stage?

20 A. So this is where your DR ABC comes into it all --

21 Q. Remind us about that?

22 A. So D is danger, so that's danger not just from the
23 environment, like they're on the ground, on the road,

1 but danger in relation to any risks posed to them from,
2 say, officers being too close to prevent any movement.
3 The R then for the response, there's then another
4 acronym called AVPU, A-V-P-U, that gets taught, and the
5 first bit is alertness, what's the level of alertness?
6 Do they respond to voice at all? Do they respond to
7 pain? So pain there, they're typically taught to either
8 squeeze the shoulders or sometimes certainly the nipping
9 of the earlobe might be considered, but then if those
10 are showing no response, then the casualty is classed as
11 an unresponsive casualty at that point.

12 Q. And what would a reasonable officer do with an
13 unresponsive casualty?

14 A. So unresponsive casualty is ambulance and then
15 a suitable safe airway position so there's -- people
16 will often talk about the recovery position but it's
17 about a safe airway position, so any side lateral
18 position, so, for example, the position that officers
19 are taught to put the person in when they're restrained
20 anyway, on the side, as a barrel, that is still a safe
21 airway position as long as there's no compression up
22 against the torso, either front or back.

23 Q. And would compression include an officer lying at the

1 side of the subject?

2 A. Yes, yes. So you want to be able to remove the weight
3 and you can still balance the person by holding onto
4 the, like, upper arm.

5 Q. As they're on their side?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Right?

8 A. So then at that point if they're deemed to be
9 unconscious you then have the A, B and C to do. So A is
10 the airway: is the airway open enough and no blockage
11 because it might be that you find the person is actually
12 suffocating, asphyxiating on an object, so if they had,
13 for example, a ball of drugs in their mouth and that's
14 now gone into the windpipe, so it could be an object or
15 it could just be that the airway is impeded by, for
16 example, the tongue or the position, so if you're sure
17 that the airway is clear, if the person is on their back
18 then it's a case of just you get hold of the forehead
19 and move the forehead backwards and that then should
20 ensure the alignment of the windpipe and that is all
21 open.

22 Then it's the breathing check, so this is where
23 you've got a maximum of 10 seconds to decide is the

1 person a normal breather or not normal, so if there's
2 any doubt about that allocation, you go with not normal.

3 Q. And if they're not normal, what do they do?

4 A. Then it's C for compression/CPR, so you start the CPR.

5 So then you would have an unresponsive casualty, not
6 normal breathing, CPR commenced.

7 Q. And an officer -- a reasonable officer would also be
8 calling for an ambulance?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Treating it as an emergency?

11 A. So you would have called for the ambulance before
12 checking the airway, because as soon as you get to the
13 unresponsive, that's where you're saying "Ambulance,
14 unresponsive casualty", you carry on with your A, your
15 B, non-breather, so then you're updating control to
16 update the ambulance control, your unresponsive casualty
17 is not breathing normal.

18 Q. And we may look at something later that uses the term
19 "rousability" --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- or "not rousable." Is that the same as
22 responsive/not responsive?

23 A. Rousing is commonly talked about within -- for

1 physically within police custody and rousing checks, so,
2 for example, anyone who is at high risk, they need to be
3 roused at certain time limits, so --

4 Q. What does that mean?

5 A. So that means is the person -- so on every visit you
6 might need to mandatory rouse them, so you need to make
7 sure that they're awake, alert, they can speak, they can
8 hold a conversation, so they have to demonstrate
9 physical and neurological function, so it's no good me
10 just saying to you, "Are you okay?" and you going,
11 "Ugh", so I need you to be able to give a few words back
12 to form a sentence and show that you can respond, so the
13 first time I might say to you "What is your full name
14 and address?" The second time I might say to you "What's
15 the address of your workplace? What is your phone
16 number", on the next one, but a lot of people fail that
17 one with the phone numbers.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. So rousability is showing about even if they're
20 physically awake, are they actually able to communicate
21 and can understand things, so --

22 Q. So it's not quite the same as responsive/not responsive?

23 A. No.

1 Q. Would a reasonable officer consider slapping the subject
2 in the face to determine if they are --

3 A. It's not taught within first aid or officer safety
4 training.

5 Q. Right. Would a reasonable officer step back -- so as
6 the subject has been handcuffed and leg restrained,
7 turned onto their side, noticed to be not responsive,
8 but breathing, would a reasonable officer stand up, move
9 away to a small degree for an estimated period of
10 30 seconds to one minute, consider excited delirium for
11 a few seconds, and then return to have a closer
12 examination of the subject?

13 A. Well, preservation of life is always the top priority
14 for all police officers, so if you've got any doubts
15 about the life of your casualty, then you're going to
16 give them constant supervision, constant observation and
17 be dealing with them as a casualty, so it would look at
18 what is the priority of leaving the casualty. If it's
19 because, for example, they can't get a signal, or their
20 radio is over there so they have gone for the radio,
21 then that would justify leaving your casualty, so it
22 would all be looking at the prioritisation, but the
23 basic principle is you've got a casualty, preservation

1 of life is the priority, your casualty is constantly
2 monitored and then you're constantly monitoring your
3 DR ABCs and deciding on whether has breathing now
4 changed from normal to not normal.

5 Q. Would a reasonable justification be checking superficial
6 injuries on hands or --

7 A. No, because on the balance then of risk, the
8 preservation of life would take precedence over that.

9 Q. Thank you. Could I ask you briefly to look at the care
10 and welfare of persons in police custody SOP, PS11014.

11 If we can begin with section 1.1.2. There we are, this
12 is "General", 1.1.2:

13 "It is essential that the care, welfare and security
14 of persons held in police custody be maintained to
15 consistently high standards."

16 And:

17 "... all custodies are to be treated with care and
18 consideration, ensuring that their fundamental
19 human rights are maintained. No custody should receive
20 less favourable treatment on the grounds of age,
21 disability, gender, race, religion or belief,
22 relationship status, sexual orientation or transgender
23 identity."

1 Can I ask you, does this SOP apply from the initial
2 point of custody or apprehension?

3 A. Yes, yes, from the initial contact and the initial
4 arrest, right through then all the transportation to the
5 physical custody unit.

6 Q. If we had heard it suggested that this has nothing to do
7 with a restraint which is taking outwith a police
8 station, would you agree with that?

9 A. No, definitely not.

10 Q. Right, thank you. Could we look at page 12, please,
11 section 5, and if we can begin with 5.1.1, the first
12 part:

13 "Any person is considered to be in custody the
14 moment they are apprehended."

15 And is that -- does that set out why this SOP
16 applies?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And then can we look at 5.1.3:

19 "Any apprehension should be made with the minimum
20 amount of force necessary. Any use of force required to
21 affect an apprehension must be recorded in the custody
22 record in accordance with the criteria for the use of
23 force contained within the Use of Force SOP."

1 So does this suggest that there's a custody record
2 if they're in a police station?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. But again, links in with the use of force SOP that we
5 looked at earlier today?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And then 5.1.4:

8 "A person apprehended must be promptly informed, in
9 a manner he or she can understand, of the reason for the
10 apprehension. If a person is incapable of understanding
11 the reason for their apprehension or is so violent as to
12 pose a risk to themselves, Police Staff or any other
13 person, this may be delayed until he or she has
14 sufficiently recovered, or an appropriate adult,
15 interpreter or translator is available to achieve this
16 aim."

17 So again, is this recognising the importance of the
18 person's understanding?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And then can we look at 5.1 -- sorry, 5.3.1. There we
21 are. This relates to "Custodies suffering from
22 injury/illness/intoxicated by drink/drugs":

23 "In certain circumstances a custody must be taken

1 directly to a hospital after apprehension rather than
2 being taken to a Custody Centre, to ensure suitable
3 medical assistance is provided at the earliest
4 opportunity and this may require the Arresting Officers
5 to summon an ambulance crew or remove the custody
6 directly to hospital."

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And is that consistent with what you said earlier?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And then 5.3.2:

11 "Any requirement for immediate or urgent medical
12 provision takes priority over apprehension. These
13 circumstances may include where the custody ..."

14 And there are a number of bullet points there, let's
15 have those on the screen:

16 "Has suffered a head injury;

17 "Is, or has been, unconscious;

18 "Has suffered serious injury;

19 "Is drunk and incapable; (unless local arrangements
20 are in place...)

21 "Is believed to have swallowed or packed drugs;

22 "Is believed to have taken a drugs overdose;

23 "Is suffering from any other medical condition

1 requiring urgent medical attention;

2 "Is suffering from any medical condition that the
3 arresting officer believes requires treatment prior to
4 detention in custody; or.

5 "Has been exposed to CS Spray/PAVA Spray and they
6 experience difficulty in resuming normal breathing; or
7 if any other adverse reactions are observed."

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And again, is that consistent with what you said today?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Thank you. Can we now look on to the final -- back to
12 the scenario that we're exploring and discussing today,
13 but I'm thinking about the period from the moment that
14 the subject is noticed to be unconscious or not
15 responsive but breathing, and then a period of time
16 elapses until they are noticed to be not breathing.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. So this is the distinction that was made where they're
19 breathing but unconscious, until they're not breathing,
20 so that period.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. If that period is around four minutes, what would
23 a reasonable officer be doing during that four-minute

1 period?

2 A. Okay. So that would be the ambulance is called because
3 of the unresponsiveness and then because it's an
4 unresponsive casualty they must be constantly monitored
5 and assessed, preparing for the -- in case CPR is
6 required.

7 Q. And does that have to be monitored by the controller or
8 the safety officer, or it could be any of the officers?

9 A. It could be any, it could be any of the officers, as
10 long as they then agree that that person is competent to
11 do so.

12 Q. And what does that constant monitoring look like on the
13 ground?

14 A. So you're going to be constantly right beside the
15 person's, like, head and looking down, listening to the
16 breathing, looking for signs, you might then even be
17 checking capillary refill of the fingers, but you're
18 going to be constantly --

19 Q. What does that mean?

20 A. It means where you press the nail and you see it goes
21 from pink to white and then when you let go, the pink
22 comes back, so normal capillary refill is near instant,
23 but the slower the refill shows that the body's system

1 is closing down.

2 Q. What's that due to?

3 A. It means the heart isn't functioning correctly, so it's
4 showing that the cardiovascular system is failing in
5 some way, so again, as a first aider, you're not
6 a healthcare professional, it's just another indicator
7 that is indicating that the capillary refill isn't right
8 as well.

9 Q. And what's the purpose of this constant monitoring?

10 A. Well, twofold. One is that from the medical side, but
11 the other thing is any person who is restrained is
12 required to be constantly monitored anyway because of
13 the fact that at any point they may go into a medical
14 episode, but then the flip-side of that is in relation
15 to any medical, what the European standard says is that
16 any detainee must receive treatment comparable with if
17 they weren't a detainee, so if as a police officer you
18 came across a member of the public who has just
19 collapsed and become unresponsive, they would instantly
20 get an ambulance called for them and what the European
21 custody standards say is that same principle should
22 apply to anyone within the UK who is held at the hands
23 of the state.

- 1 Q. And are those European standards -- I think you said
2 yesterday Scotland was seeking to observe those?
- 3 A. Yes, so all of the UK signed up to them to be mandated
4 from 2006.
- 5 Q. Right. And if during the period we're describing the
6 subject is handcuffed and has leg restraints and during
7 that period there is an Airwaves transmission that
8 officers -- it's open to officers to listen to -- that
9 the subject has been struck to the head with a baton and
10 may have been sprayed with CS and PAVA spray, what would
11 a reasonable officer do in light of that?
- 12 A. Ambulance.
- 13 Q. Ambulance. And again, would it need to be an officer
14 involved, or could it be an officer listening in?
- 15 A. It could be anybody. As soon as those risk factors are
16 mentioned then you know that person has got to go to
17 hospital.
- 18 Q. Could it even be an officer who is in a remote
19 location --
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. -- like in a police office --
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. -- or an ACR?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And what would a reasonable officer do with the
3 handcuffs?
- 4 A. Remove them, because if you have already established
5 that the person is unresponsive when you're thinking
6 then about the purpose of the restraints is to prevent
7 the person escaping or assaulting, but if you have done
8 your checks right and concluded they're unresponsive,
9 then there's no necessity to keep the physical
10 restraints on any more, because medical attention must
11 be prioritised over the restraint process.
- 12 Q. And would that include the leg restraints being removed?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. What would the reasonable officer do regarding perhaps
15 the subject is lying on the ground, it's been raining
16 that day, it's cooler weather, what would they do
17 regarding a blanket or maybe covering the subject?
- 18 A. So the preservation of life and the immediate, like,
19 first aid response would take priority over the other
20 welfare aspects, but then if you've got sufficient staff
21 then as well as staff dealing with the preservation of
22 life and the first aid monitoring, then basic things
23 like a jacket or a blanket over the lower part of the

1 body or the upper until the ambulance crews or anyone
2 needed to get to the upper part, just basic things like
3 that and if for nothing else, for public perception as
4 well to show that the care and welfare is there in
5 relation to the casualty, but you're trying to keep the
6 casualty from losing body heat because the loss of body
7 heat -- if the heart is not pumping correctly, the body
8 is going to start cooling anyway, so then if the body is
9 exposed to the elements, that's going to increase the
10 cooling as well, so trying to keep the casualty with
11 some warmth isn't going to harm them.

12 Q. What access do reasonable officers have to jackets or
13 blankets or anything like that?

14 A. Well, I have seen officers take their own jackets off
15 and put them over the lower part of the body, or gone to
16 houses and asking do they have a blanket to put over
17 people, I have seen officers do that on occasions.

18 Q. We have heard some evidence that an officer went to ask
19 for a glass of water at one point.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. They could presumably equally go to nearby people,
22 residents...

23 A. Yes, "Do you have a blanket that we can use?"

1 Q. And after the person is noted in this position to be
2 non-responsive but not breathing, again, is your
3 evidence the same as you have just described --

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. -- in what a reasonable officer would do?

6 A. You would commence the CPR and you would have all the
7 restraints removed.

8 MS GRAHAME: Thank you.

9 I'm conscious of the time, would that --

10 LORD BRACADALE: Would that be a convenient point to stop
11 for lunch?

12 MS GRAHAME: Yes.

13 LORD BRACADALE: 2 o'clock.

14 (1.01 pm)

15 (The luncheon adjournment)

16 (2.04 pm)

17 LORD BRACADALE: Ms Grahame.

18 MS GRAHAME: Thank you.

19 Ms Caffrey, I would like to move on to another issue
20 and this relates to the time things take over which
21 decisions are made by officers and actions are taken, so
22 if we can look at a scenario where, following on from
23 what we have been discussing yesterday and today, that

1 the first officers arrive at the scene at 7.20.23 to be
2 precise.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And those are the first officers at the scene in the
5 time and they're looking for a subject in light of the
6 grade 1 calls about the knife incident.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. By 7.21.19 -- now on my calculation that's about
9 56 seconds in total, but I'm very happy to be corrected
10 on that, but the time is 7.21.19 that -- that is at the
11 time an officer has pressed an emergency button and by
12 that stage the man is on the ground.

13 A. Mm-hm.

14 Q. During that period of time, CS and PAVA have been
15 discharged six times, the man has been struck to
16 the head and body multiple times with a baton and has
17 been shoulder-charged to the ground.

18 Now, bearing in mind your evidence about the actions
19 of a reasonable officer, or reasonable officers, and
20 bearing in mind the minimum force principle and the
21 attempts by reasonable officers to observe preclusion,
22 do you have any comments about the duration at which
23 those events took place, the period of time over which

- 1 those events took place?
- 2 A. My initial feelings when looking at how many uses of
3 force were used in that period of time was that that was
4 a lot of use of force within that period of time,
5 especially when you start thinking about some of the
6 timing with the CS and PAVAs because the average -- if
7 the CS is full there should be six seconds of use in
8 a can of CS, and if the PAVA is full to empty, it's
9 about 10 seconds of use in PAVA, so thinking about it,
10 if they used -- that's time as well and then --
11 everything just seemed to be a lot in a small period of
12 time. Now, that's not to say it wasn't necessary, but
13 it's a lot in that time and all the time thinking about
14 preclusion, the amount then of tactical communication,
15 for that to occur as well. Tactical communication can
16 be a lengthy process, or it can be a short process, but
17 it's trying -- it's trying to use the lower levels
18 before the use of force.
- 19 Q. And are there any limits on the time that officers,
20 reasonable officers can take to communicate, build
21 rapport with a person?
- 22 A. There's no time limit at all.
- 23 Q. So again, it depends on the circumstances?

1 A. Yes, and it can be beneficial to, in some ways, stretch
2 out the communications, especially if you're aware of
3 other resources attending and specialist resources. The
4 more that you can delay having to approach the person
5 and delay it through communication, then that can be
6 beneficial.

7 Q. And is that what you were saying yesterday about buying
8 time?

9 A. Buying time, yes.

10 Q. For other units, other resources, other specialist
11 resources to attend the scene?

12 A. Yes, and it gives you thinking time. It's buying time
13 for other resources to get there but it's buying you
14 time to think and start thinking about what
15 checklists -- you know, what options do I have?

16 Q. And to feed that back to ACR?

17 A. Yes, yes.

18 Q. And perhaps if you're buying time and able to buy time
19 that that gives time for those resources to arrive and
20 gives you more options if you're a reasonable officer?

21 A. Yes, yes.

22 Q. Thank you. Now, there may be some comment that although
23 we're talking about hypothetical scenarios today that

1 perhaps it's easy for us to sit in the calm of an
2 inquiry hearing -- some of us may feel calmer than
3 others -- but that fails to recognise the reality on the
4 ground and, you know, events can escalate very quickly,
5 they can deteriorate very, very quickly.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. What -- have you had regard to that reality or possible
8 reality in your evidence today?

9 A. Definitely. I mean another example I can think of is
10 I was on patrol as the sergeant with a male constable.
11 He had lengthy service. He was taller than I was. We
12 went to what we thought -- we were going to arrest
13 a person in relation to breach of bail. We knew the
14 particular male in question and usually he was of no
15 high risk. We knew where he was living, so the male
16 officer went to the front door for knocking on and
17 I went round to the rear door just in case he tried to
18 slip out the back, and based on previous knowledge,
19 I was thinking about, you know, the NDM and thinking
20 about the risk, I was quite happy as a young, fit woman
21 at that point that there was no high risk to me if he
22 came out at the back door.

23 So then I was next aware of a commotion within the

1 property of just loud bang, bang, bang, bang coming
2 closer and the next thing the back door opened and this
3 male officer and the subject came hurtling out of the
4 door and it looked like -- this young man that we had
5 gone to arrest, he was smaller than I was, but the
6 officer who was in excess of 6-foot -- it's -- the
7 impression I got was that he had the officer off his
8 feet. I know in reality he wasn't off his feet, but it
9 was as though he had just picked him up with this,
10 again, this like superhuman strength and that then --
11 I mean it was a shock to me because it was outside of
12 what we had assumed would occur. Seeing how he was
13 handling the male officer, I instantly then got my baton
14 out and racked it, and at that point this one was the
15 PR24 baton which is the one with the side handle bit,
16 not the asp, the asp replaced that one, so I racked the
17 baton as the young man just seemed to throw the male
18 officer across this back yard. Then he turned to me and
19 he just stood there and made himself -- he just appeared
20 as though he suddenly went 6-foot tall and just pumped
21 up, and I had my hands out and I just said, "Keep away",
22 or words to that effect, and he just started slowly,
23 like in slow motion moving towards me and growling, in

1 effect.

2 I knew the male officer was in a heap over in the
3 corner area and I swung the baton as I said "Get back",
4 and I swung across at his leg which was the primary
5 target area. As the baton came back up and he is still
6 just slowly walking towards me I said again about "Get
7 back" and hit the thigh on his right leg, and at that
8 point I looked at the baton because I thought "Has it
9 racked?" I thought it had maybe failed to open and I was
10 just swinging into air, but it hadn't, so at this point
11 his arms were up like this (indicating) and I hit across
12 at what would be his left arm and again, nothing
13 happened and then he just seemed to do a -- I don't know
14 whether it was a smirk or what, but just his face just
15 changed and by this point he is sort of this distance
16 (indicating) but it was just a really slow but very
17 intimidating move towards me, and at this point I was
18 still thinking where next to hit and I just thought
19 I don't want to hit the head because I was thinking "Red
20 is dead", but the other area then that I struck,
21 I struck into the chest, because although the English
22 version was the red, amber, green colour, so the sternum
23 was red, around the sternum was the amber, so I hit

1 across the chest as hard as I could thinking
2 now: I don't know what else and at that point he just
3 seemed to drop to the floor and again, at that point,
4 two other officers came running in because -- sorry, as
5 this had gone on, I had called up for urgent assistance
6 as the two of them came out, so the other two officers
7 then arrived and my other colleague who had been thrown
8 across the yard, he was then there and the four of us
9 managed to quickly get him under control, but then one
10 of the first things I asked for was an ambulance to the
11 location because it instantly -- it was out of character
12 anyway but it was specifically out of character for him.

13 We then ended up going to hospital with him with the
14 ambulance and then once he was cleared from hospital we
15 took him to custody and then the healthcare
16 professional, the FME, came to custody to examine him as
17 well because of the use of force that was used against
18 him and he was bruised across the chest and the arms and
19 the legs from the baton strikes, so I knew the strikes
20 had hit, but it turned out -- because then afterwards he
21 apologised to me for his behaviour and said he couldn't
22 remember anything and I had been custody sergeant for
23 him at times as well, so we had that sort of

1 professional relationship, but he couldn't remember the
2 actual event at the house.

3 Q. How long did those -- that sequence of events take at
4 the scene, not as you went to the hospital?

5 A. Very quick really, because even though I'm saying he
6 walked towards me slowly, it was like time slows down in
7 your mind as you're seeing things happen because you're
8 still looking at these checklists and thinking,
9 you know, "Is this really happening? What do I do now?"
10 So I think my mind was working quicker than reality was.
11 It was a very quick event.

12 Q. Could you give us an estimate of the duration?

13 A. You're maybe talking about 10 seconds from them flying
14 out of the door to him hitting the floor, we're probably
15 only talking about 10-20 seconds tops.

16 Q. And in that experience were you observing the principle
17 of preclusion?

18 A. Yes, thinking that there was only -- he was -- the fact
19 that he had thrown this male officer like he did, I just
20 knew straight away with my demographics if he could pick
21 this officer up, he could pick me up no problem. If he
22 was able to throw this officer, he could throw me no
23 problem, so then thinking about the risks, then the fact

1 he was just purposefully then just staring straight at
2 me and coming for me, he could have easily gone by to
3 the gate but he was just coming straight for me, so
4 thinking about then going straight to defensive tactics,
5 I was still saying "get back" but then I drew the baton
6 ready in case he didn't.

7 Q. So you were demonstrating with your body language and
8 communicating --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- what you wanted and also you mentioned you were
11 giving feedback, or you were on your radio, I should
12 say?

13 A. That was as they first came out, I then called out for
14 urgent back-up to the location. I don't remember the
15 exact message. I do remember saying "urgent back-up" to
16 the location.

17 Q. And you have also mentioned you were pressing your
18 radio --

19 A. Yes, the radio.

20 Q. -- for the ambulance at the end?

21 A. Yes, when we then ended up on the floor one of the first
22 things I did was call for "Ambulance required at the
23 scene".

1 Q. And at that -- in those circumstances, were you bearing
2 in mind minimum force? You have talked about the
3 different areas you tried?

4 A. Yes, because I was thinking there I tried -- I mean I --
5 I thought I was only at the back door as an over --
6 I wasn't actually expecting anyone to come out the back
7 door, but then I tried the -- you know, the hands up,
8 the backing off, because I think if -- I slightly moved
9 back, but there was clear access he could have gone out
10 of the gate of the yard as well, but he didn't opt to go
11 that way, so I wasn't blocking the exit there.

12 Q. And you went for the legs first, the arms next, but not
13 the head?

14 A. Not the head, no. I've never struck anyone in the head.
15 Only because I keep thinking back to basic training all
16 the time about "Head is red, red is dead".

17 Q. Right. So is it fair to say that in considering these
18 circumstances, the hypothetical scenarios I have put to
19 you, you have borne in mind that reasonable officers
20 could be in a situation where events occur very quickly?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And does that minimise or diminish any of the evidence
23 you have given today?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Thank you. Can I ask you about -- take you back to the
3 National Decision-Making Model and the risk assessment.
4 Would a reasonable officer consider that a person's race
5 was a relevant factor in assessing that risk assessment?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Why is that?

8 A. Because race shouldn't bear an issue on it at all.

9 Q. Right. If there is intelligence, the police are
10 notified of a threat level at the time and -- would
11 that -- would the existence of that threat level or
12 intelligence about, say, a terrorist threat be something
13 that could be factored by a reasonable officer into
14 their National Decision-Making Model?

15 A. No, because then you would just be putting a blanket --
16 a blanket on something rather than it being
17 intelligence-led, as in this particular person, or this
18 particular group of people, names are, so then you --
19 you can't just say because of the colour or the sex or
20 the gender of the person that that would be a blanket
21 application.

22 Q. If there's information at the time that there is
23 a severe threat level for police officers, is that

1 something that reasonable officers would consider when
2 they're processing their NDM risk assessment?

3 A. They may consider the fact, the raised level, but then
4 it would be wrong to apply that just to one group of
5 people without any specific intelligence about that.

6 Q. And what would a reasonable officer be looking for to
7 perhaps provide more of a link between the intelligence
8 or the threat level information they had with
9 a particular incident they were attending?

10 A. So you're particularly meaning the terrorism side?

11 Q. Mm-hm.

12 A. Well, if there was an indication of terrorism because of
13 the serious national threat of terrorism, any indication
14 of a potential link to terrorism, that should be the
15 command and control system all over that and they
16 wouldn't then be directing officers, unarmed officers
17 straight into that and one of the things all forces will
18 have available are plans in relation to different levels
19 of terrorism threat.

20 Q. So if there is a genuine terrorism threat in relation to
21 a particular incident, would a reasonable officer be
22 right in thinking that would be information shared by
23 ACR?

1 A. Definitely, because then you would need instantly
2 a strategic lead on this, and the likes of the counter
3 terrorism security advisors, the -- the officers who are
4 involved in the terrorism strand would be all over this
5 as principal partners.

6 Q. In the absence of any of that, would a reasonable
7 officer be able to assume that it wasn't a terrorist
8 incident?

9 A. Yes, because you would assume that the first filter of
10 risk assessment and dynamic risk has been conducted by
11 the ACR, and that they have now decided it's not
12 terrorism which is why you're getting it. It shouldn't
13 come out of ACR with any -- with any concept that it's
14 still terrorism. So that's not to say it wouldn't be,
15 but it shouldn't be coming out of the ACR if there's any
16 indication that it's linked to terrorism.

17 Q. Thank you. From your experience in training officers
18 I'm interested is there any training that you know of,
19 or indeed that you have delivered, that would assist
20 officers in minimising the risk of them factoring racial
21 stereotypes into their risk assessment?

22 A. Well, if we look back over the history of policing and
23 diversity training, I attended the Home Office diversity

1 train the trainer course, which was six weeks, in
2 I think it was 1996 I attended and it was six weeks down
3 in Bedfordshire at a place called Turvey, it was one of
4 the Home Office training sites.

5 That then permitted me to deliver any kind of
6 diversity training within any of the Home Office
7 establishments. Now, at that point because I had
8 already -- in order to do that I also needed prior to
9 that the Home Office law course so that was a 13-week
10 course and then that was six weeks on top of that, so
11 you built these things up as different modules.

12 I then went back to Cumbria and I designed and
13 delivered some of the roll-out of the initial -- they
14 called it community and race relations training at that
15 point. I delivered during the first year of the
16 roll-out. Now, the initial plan was after that that all
17 training courses would be incorporating all the relevant
18 strands of diversity, so then years later when I was
19 then designing and delivering the custody training, for
20 example, I would then ensure that as often -- as much as
21 possible it was as diverse as possible and we were
22 looking at all issues which would include race, sex,
23 sexuality and disabilities as much as possible

1 throughout the whole thing.

2 Q. So was there specific training that you're aware of from
3 your own experience that assists officers in avoiding or
4 guarding against any racial bias?

5 A. No, not specifically. It would be very much down to
6 each force to design their own -- looking at performance
7 needs analysis and training needs analysis, it would be
8 down to each force to establish at what level they
9 wanted their staff trained. There was no one national
10 standard that said "Every police officer has to have
11 this", so you would find differences between each force
12 in relation to whether the focus, for example, was
13 mostly internal in relation to race relations or
14 equality and diversity, or whether it was external or
15 a mix.

16 Q. And as I understand, we will hear more evidence about
17 training in the future, but can I ask you one final
18 thing: in relation to -- we have heard about annual
19 reaccreditation or recertification of officers.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And I think at one point I had said officers in Scotland
22 do one day; I think that was incorrect, it's now
23 two days --

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. -- every year. We heard some suggestions that equality
3 and diversity is taken into account when they're doing
4 use of force training, or OST training. What's your
5 views on that?

6 A. Well, it's supposed to be, but then it's down to -- it's
7 down to each individual trainer then and what emphasis
8 they give on it, because they have their training
9 objectives to meet but it's mostly around: can the
10 delegate do this technique, that technique, rather
11 than: have you included an example about this and about
12 that? So yes, the training is more aimed at performance
13 task rather than the process within it.

14 Q. Thank you. Could you allow me one moment, please.

15 A. Yes.

16 (Pause).

17 Q. Could I ask you about your awareness, if you have an
18 awareness, of deaths of black men in custody, perhaps
19 after restraint, and whether that's something that's
20 covered in OST, officer safety training?

21 A. Yes. The main case that was significant for me was the
22 death of Christopher Alder which -- it was released --
23 the inquiry into it was released in 2006 by the

1 Independent Police Complaints Commission, in conjunction
2 with the launch of the safer detention guidance, so that
3 one became quite a national, well used case study
4 throughout custody training, but it was custody training
5 rather than officer safety training, but then in custody
6 training you're also teaching the theory of officer
7 safety training and how it fits.

8 The downside is the only people who go on the
9 custody track are either the custody officers, or the
10 civilian detention officers, not all your mainstream
11 constables, but Mr Alder, he -- he had been the victim
12 of an assault with a scenario of the one punch outside
13 a nightclub. Because of his behaviour then he was
14 considered to be disorderly. He had been taken to
15 hospital. Again, his behaviour was considered to be
16 disorderly rather than the by-product of a head injury.
17 He was then released from hospital. The officers then
18 took him to custody on the grounds of a breach of the
19 peace. By the time they got to the police custody -- he
20 was handcuffed to the rear but unconscious but they
21 believed he was faking it and lay him face down in the
22 booking-in area at the custody unit and it was some sort
23 of 12 minutes later before staff realised that he wasn't

1 actually fully conscious. The noises they thought was
2 breathing was actually signs of -- it was not breathing
3 normal and believed to be heading into cardiac arrest
4 and then unfortunately he died.

5 So that incident was used by a lot of custody
6 training in relation to the emphasis of the use of
7 force, the first aid, the head injuries, looking at the
8 racial aspects as well because that was brought up in
9 the investigation as well about the racial aspects, the
10 first aid aspects. It sort of held a lot of the topics
11 which then safer custody was covering.

12 Q. Again, we will probably hear more about this at a later
13 hearing, but does this also tie back to what you said
14 earlier today about the distinction between breathing
15 and not breathing and normal breathing --

16 A. And not normal.

17 Q. -- and not normal breathing?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And the current view, or the view in 2015 would have
20 been whether the breathing was normal or not normal?

21 A. Or not normal, yes, because throughout that footage you
22 can hear him -- you can hear him breathing on the
23 custody CCTV recording, but it's not normal. It was

1 seen a fairly lengthy Rule 9 application was submitted
2 timeously on behalf of those that I represent. That was
3 responded to by the Solicitor to the Inquiry indicating
4 that the number of questions that had been raised by
5 ourselves and by others were such that Counsel to the
6 Inquiry didn't feel it was going to be possible to put
7 all of the matters to the witness herself, and so it has
8 transpired.

9 My Lord, there are a number of issues in the Rule 9
10 application that have fallen away, but there remain
11 various issues that I would like to explore with this
12 witness, and in addition to that, given her commentary
13 on Mr Graves' evidence today, I would like to explore
14 the extent to which she agrees with certain other
15 aspects of Mr Graves' evidence that we haven't heard
16 about.

17 I'm not sure, my Lord, if your Lordship wants to
18 hear from me on all of the paragraphs. I can certainly
19 outline the various paragraphs that remain extant, but
20 that will take some time in itself, or your Lordship
21 might just trust that I will exercise all due economy in
22 asking the questions of this witness.

23 LORD BRACADALE: Well, I mean the Rule 9 is designed to

1 apply to lines of questioning rather than a whole series
2 of specific questions, and I would welcome a submission
3 from you as to what lines of questioning you consider
4 have not been covered.

5 DEAN OF FACULTY: So the first of those, my Lord, relates to
6 the qualifications of the witness to offer the opinion
7 evidence that she does in a number of different aspects,
8 and that might be said to be the first 28 paragraphs in
9 the Rule 9, although, as I say, an awful lot of those
10 have fallen away.

11 LORD BRACADALE: Well, that's my point. I wonder to what
12 extent that issue, now that she has given evidence, is
13 one for submission as to what weight I can place on her
14 evidence.

15 DEAN OF FACULTY: Well, we have considered that, my Lord.
16 The view I took and that I continue to take is it would
17 be quite unfair for me to attack the credentials of this
18 witness in a submission without putting to her the basis
19 upon which I challenge her expertise and, my Lord,
20 I don't want to be unfair and I'm sure the Chair doesn't
21 want to be unfair either, so in my submission that
22 wouldn't be appropriate.

23 The second aspect, my Lord, really relates to the

1 question of waiting for the dog unit.

2 The third relates to ABD, or excited delirium and
3 the extent to which --

4 LORD BRACADALE: Just before you go on to that --

5 DEAN OF FACULTY: I'm sorry.

6 LORD BRACADALE: -- in relation to waiting for the dog unit,
7 her report was compiled on the basis of the evidence
8 available to her at 31 October.

9 DEAN OF FACULTY: Yes.

10 LORD BRACADALE: And then there's subsequent evidence which
11 clarifies the amount of time that would be available for
12 the dog unit to come which she has now taken account of.

13 DEAN OF FACULTY: Well, the evidence available to the
14 witness would have included the evidence of Mr Stewart
15 which said it would have taken 25 minutes.

16 LORD BRACADALE: Yes, yes, precisely.

17 DEAN OF FACULTY: This witness thus far has proceeded on the
18 basis of 10 to 15 minutes. So it would be appropriate
19 to explore with her the extent to which it would be
20 appropriate to wait for the dog unit. As I understand
21 it, she is still saying it would be appropriate to wait
22 for the dog unit. Now, that is a view that requires to
23 be explored further, in my submission.

1 LORD BRACADALE: Well, I can't precisely remember what she
2 said, but my impression was that she had taken account
3 of a longer time, but I could have a look at that.

4 DEAN OF FACULTY: Well, certainly -- we can get the precise
5 aspects -- certainly my impression from the evidence
6 given by her yesterday and today is that she still holds
7 to the view it would have been appropriate to wait for
8 a dog unit.

9 LORD BRACADALE: Oh, yes, that may be the case, but for
10 a longer time.

11 DEAN OF FACULTY: Yes, and that is something that requires
12 to be explored, in my submission.

13 The third relates to what the witness has said about
14 ABD or excited delirium, and that in part relates to her
15 own expertise, but also in part relates to the actual
16 available evidence regarding what the officers saw or
17 should have seen at the time.

18 Then we move, my Lord, to the question of
19 containment and the extent to which -- because that is
20 again -- I mean, that's closely allied to the dog unit
21 point, the extent to which containment was feasible.
22 It's obviously this witness's view that containment was
23 feasible; that is not something that is shared -- a view

1 that is shared and again, requires to be explored.

2 Then leading from that we then have --

3 LORD BRACADALE: So what questions does containment -- what
4 questions relate to containment, sorry?

5 DEAN OF FACULTY: So containment, that begins, my Lord,
6 with -- it's basically paragraph 79 onwards, through to
7 89, and then moving on from that we have the assessment
8 of, first of all, the approach to Mr Bayoh; secondly --

9 LORD BRACADALE: Sorry, can you just expand on that a little
10 bit: the approach to Mr Bayoh?

11 DEAN OF FACULTY: Yes, so this is paragraph 83, through to
12 88, and then we have the deployment of CS spray or PAVA,
13 that's 91 onwards. Again, a lot of this has fallen
14 away, so, for example, 97, 98, 99 have all gone, but
15 again, it is appropriate that we explore that aspect of
16 the witness evidence.

17 Then we have the reaction to Mr Bayoh chasing and
18 striking PC Short. That's 100 to 102.

19 Then a few questions on the restraint itself,
20 primarily 119 and 120.

21 I don't intend to put any of the miscellaneous
22 points at the end, so that's 132 onwards, but -- and
23 I would intend to wrap things up under reference to what

1 Mr Graves has said and to see to what extent she agrees
2 or disagrees with Mr Graves. We have had a lot of
3 agreement with Mr Graves today but not necessarily with
4 the points in which the Inquiry will be most interested.

5 LORD BRACADALE: Well, we -- I departed from the ordinary
6 arrangements for Rule 9, as you say, because of the
7 scale of the applications, written applications, and in
8 further pursuit of that exercise, I suggest that when
9 I rise, after hearing from Mr Jackson, you and
10 Ms Grahame should sit down and go through this
11 application and identify precisely what the areas are
12 that you require to -- you require to apply to me to
13 allow examination, so if you can return to your seat,
14 Dean, I will hear from Mr Jackson now, please.

15 (Pause).

16 Yes, Mr Jackson.

17 Application by MR JACKSON

18 MR JACKSON: Like the Dean of Faculty we have lodged a very
19 lengthy Rule 9 application, and like him, much of it has
20 been dealt with, and I had anticipated that when he had
21 finished, more of it would have been dealt with, leaving
22 me with less, and of course that remains to be seen.

23 I can direct you to the paragraphs in my Rule 9

1 which I'm particularly interested in, which are broadly
2 speaking from 52 -- 52 and then from 66 to 86. These
3 tend to deal with the situations involving PC Tomlinson
4 and PC Smith and are all to do with what I might say are
5 criticisms of those two officers in the report by the
6 witness and in her evidence.

7 What I thought might be better, subject to you of
8 course, was I would cover the -- rather than doing them
9 individually, but I think it would receive the same
10 result -- what I wanted to do -- want to do is to put to
11 the witness what has been said by Officer Tomlinson in
12 his evidence about the matters she is critical of to see
13 if she would comment on that in the light of what his
14 evidence actually was, and I would also want to do the
15 same as far as Officer Smith is concerned. That seemed
16 to me to be better than going through, as it were, the
17 individual paragraphs but by simply and reasonably
18 quickly, I hope, putting that evidence that's been given
19 by the officers to this witness, that would in effect
20 cover all the individual things that I have raised in
21 the Rule 9.

22 Now, I don't know if that makes sense or not.

23 LORD BRACADALE: Just before I turn to that, you made

1 reference to paragraph 52, that relates to the
2 practicality of diagnosing -- oh no, I'm sorry, I'm
3 looking at the Dean's. Yes, let me just get your Rule 9
4 application out. Yes, 52, and is it just 52 or is it
5 after -- apart from the second tranche that you
6 mentioned?

7 MR JACKSON: No, I just said 52 and then I went to 66.

8 LORD BRACADALE: Yes.

9 MR JACKSON: Could I just add this: like the Dean, it seemed
10 to me to be fairness in some ways to the witness to be
11 able to put this sort of material I was intending to put
12 to her for her comments. You may, Chair, say to me
13 "Well, a lot of these things could be done just in
14 submissions", and I get that, I do understand that, and
15 like the Dean, I have given some thought to that, but
16 I was left with the view, which I think he had too, that
17 there is fairness to a witness also involved. I know
18 these are not normal proceedings, but in any proceedings
19 it is fairness to a witness in evaluating their evidence
20 to put the sort of things that we were suggesting,
21 albeit they could be made in submissions without putting
22 them to the witness I suppose, but fairness perhaps
23 suggested that we should put these things to the

1 witness.

2 I may say I have already discussed with Ms Grahame
3 what I intend to do in general terms and what I'm saying
4 to you is how I wanted to approach it in general terms,
5 rather than the individual paragraphs. I have already
6 indicated that to Ms Grahame at the luncheon
7 adjournment.

8 LORD BRACADALE: Well, what I will do is I will consider
9 your application, Mr Jackson, while the Dean and
10 Ms Grahame spend some time on his and hopefully come to
11 a decision in due course.

12 MR JACKSON: I should add again, I think I have said this,
13 of course to some degree I was anticipating that what
14 the Dean did might affect what I would then be asking to
15 do.

16 LORD BRACADALE: I can see that. Thank you, we will
17 adjourn.

18 (2.54 pm)

19 (The Inquiry adjourned until Friday 2nd December 2022)

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