

Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service

Procurator Fiscal's Office
10 Ballater Street, Glasgow G5 9PS



CRIMINAL ALLEGATIONS AGAINST POLICE DIVISION

AAMER ANWAR
AAMER ANWAR & CO
63 CARLTON PLACE
GLASGOW
LANARKSHIRE
G5 9TW

Enquiries:

Legal Post -

Your ref:

Our ref:

Date: 22 October 2015

Dear Mr Anwar

ENQUIRY INTO DEATH OF SHEKU AHMED TEJAN BAYOH

Thank you for your email communications of 16 October 2015 and 20 October 2015 addressed to the Lord Advocate that had been passed to me for reply.

In respect of your communication of 16 October 2015 regarding the approach being adopted by PIRC Investigators in relation to the Swan family, I understand that the Commissioner has responded to you directly in relation to the approach taken by investigators.

In respect of your communication of 20 October 2015 regarding the concerns expressed by the Bayoh family in relation to media coverage, the Lord Advocate has taken the exceptional step of issuing a statement calling for restraint from all parties in the provision and publication of information in respect of the death of Sheku Bayoh.

I attach for your information a copy of the text and it is hoped that this will be of assistance in preventing distressing and speculative media coverage. I would also be grateful if you could indicate whether you are in a position to respond to my letter sent on 15 October 2015 concerning the instruction of expert witnesses so that this can be taken forward.

Yours sincerely


L A BROWN
Head of Criminal Allegations Against Police Division

The Lord Advocate today called for restraint from all parties in the provision and publication of information in respect of the death of Sheku Bayoh.

Lord Advocate, Frank Mulholland QC, said:

“The investigation into the death of Sheku Bayoh is being conducted by PIRC under the direction of the Crown and both are well aware of all the evidence, the lines of enquiry and the issues surrounding this case.

The Crown and PIRC are not influenced by comments made in the media and that is how it should be. However, speculation and a running commentary on the investigation can be upsetting to the family of Sheku Bayoh as well as the families of the officers involved.

A decision will be taken at the end of this extremely complex investigation as to whether or not criminal proceedings should be raised.

An inquiry will also be held at which all the relevant evidence will be heard, open to the public and the media, and it is right that it is this forum where the evidence will be rigorously tested and judicially assessed.”

PIRC, and the Crown, should be allowed to get on with their job.”