



The Sheku Bayoh Public Inquiry

Witness Statement

Pauline Morgan

Taken by [REDACTED] via telephone

on

Friday 1 April 2022

1. My full name is Pauline [REDACTED] Morgan. I will be 52 years old in [REDACTED]. My contact details are known to the Inquiry. I live in the same house in which I was living in 2015. We moved there in 2000, so we've been there now for 22 years. I live with my husband Neil and my daughter Tegan who was [REDACTED] at the time.

2. [REDACTED]

3. Pauline Morgan's house at Arran Crescent [REDACTED] is a semi-detached house. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The houses are all similar on the street. They have gardens at the front, and they've got gardens at the back as well and we've also got access for garages [REDACTED]

4. The houses are on two floors. [REDACTED]

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5. The gardens in front are just a bit longer than a car. The street is just wide enough for two cars to pass. With cars parked on both sides, it can be a bit of a struggle.

6. At number [redacted] we are looking out across at [redacted] where Mr Bayoh lived. [redacted]

7. I knew Mr Bayoh as Chris. In 2015 I think he had lived in Arran Crescent for possibly a year to two years. At that point I knew that he had a girlfriend but that was it.

8. [redacted]

9. My impression of Chris was that he was very pleasant, to be honest. Always sort of smiling. If he passed us by in the street, he would always say hello. I didn't have great in-depth conversations with him or whatever, but we did, like, maybe speak about the weather or whatever, just general chit chat. He seemed very approachable.

10.2 May 2015 was a Saturday night. I still remember the events of that night. I remember my husband was working night shift. And my daughter had a friend staying over.

11. My husband is an [redacted] and that night he finished his shift at 6 o'clock in the morning. It would take him probably about 15, 20 minutes to get home.

12. My daughter's friend was staying the night. Her name was Amy Hutchinson.

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13. My bedroom looks onto the street. Tegan's bedroom was right next to mine on the front. Nothing happened on the Saturday evening before I went to bed. [REDACTED] maybe I went to bed at 11, 12-ish or something. The girls were in the room, but I did hear that they were awake, [REDACTED]

14. I was awakened by Tegan. In fact, I was already awake. I heard my husband coming in, and then I heard Tegan then, shouting to her father. That would be about twenty past six.

15. I heard Tegan speaking to her father, "Chris is fighting", and she shouted again, "He's fighting in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] garden". [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] house was to the left of us.

16. The next thing I heard Tegan running down the stairs, so I thought, "What's going on?" To let you understand, we had been broken into two separate occasions, in that house. I heard my daughter shouting, "I think somebody's breaking into [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]". We were under the impression that maybe Chris was apprehending this burglar. That's what we thought at that point.

17. I went from my room into Tegan's room and had a look out the window, but by that time they'd sort of stopped fighting. Tegan was down the stairs, so me and Amy then followed, we went down the stairs. We were all down the stairs looking out the window, wondering what was going on.

18. I just seen Chris sort of walking down the street at that point. He was walking towards his house.

19. I spoke to my husband. We were all sort of at the window. And my husband then went out to see if Chris was okay, you know, if it was a burglar, what was going on. My daughter was shouting, "There's somebody breaking in", and I said that to my husband, "Do you think it's

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been somebody on the prowl again?" you know, and he said, "Oh, maybe", and, "Maybe I should go out and see if he's okay". I just thought Chris was trying to help somebody.

20. So my husband goes out to see if he can also help. We stayed in the living room at that point. The living room looks out onto the street. It was daylight at that time in the morning. I remember it was a dry day. I could see quite clearly out of my window.

21. So me and the girls are just chatting away, wondering what was sort of going on, talking about it and whatever, and they were just explaining about him fighting, then not long after my husband came back in and he said to me, "I don't even know if it was Chris", and I says, "What made you think that?" And he said that he looked like he was maybe a bit drunk or taken something, as my husband said it, and I was like, "Oh", which I was kind of shocked, and then he said to me that he had spoken to Chris, asked him to sort of, like, cool down and noticed that he had a kitchen knife on him.

22. And Chris had said, "No, no, no, no, I'm fine, I'm fine", and my husband kept saying to him, "You know, you're going to get into trouble carrying that. Come in, have a cuppa, like, calm down." So, when my husband was repeating this to me, I was quite cross with him because I thought, why would you invite him in when he's carrying a knife?

23. I was quite shocked at that. I said so and then my husband also told me that Chris had turned the knife round and just sort of like tapped my husband's belly, not, like, poked it in or anything, just tapped it to say, "Look, you know, it's not sharp, it's okay," sort of thing, but for me, that was alarm bells – you wouldn't invite somebody back to your house not knowing what frame of mind they are in when they're carrying a weapon.

24. I don't think though that my husband felt threatened at all.

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25. So we were all saying, "Oh my God, you know, what has he got a knife for?" and, you know, "Is he fighting?" He said there wasn't a burglar, that everything was okay, so it sort of died down a wee bit, but my husband was then ready for bed, because this was-- I think this could have been, like, after 7 by this time, and he has just done, like, his [REDACTED] nightshift, so he goes away to bed. I have a coffee because I'm awake now, I'm up, and, to be honest, we were being quite nosy because at that point we see Chris, like, trying to get back into his house, like banging on the door, so now we are wondering, you know, what's happened, what's going on. We also then see Chris sort of, like, walk through the gardens. He was stepping from one garden to the next, which was odd. So he was coming out his garden, walking through the gardens in front of everybody's front windows.

26. The girls stayed downstairs with me for a good bit. We were still chatting because I think we were all a bit shocked, you know, thinking that Chris was going to take somebody out that was burgling, and then realised it was a bit more than that, the fact he was carrying a knife. We were kind of watching what was going on as well.

27. Then we saw Chris then, sort of, like, go through the gardens, like I said, and then he come back at one point and at that point I seen the knife.


28. He comes back and he's like very angry at this point, and there was this car, I couldn't really remember the make and model; I would like to say it was a silver car, but I'm not entirely sure.

29. He started banging on the car with it, with the bottom end of it. With the handle. He seemed, like, really angry.

30. The car was parked beside Chris's house, in front of Chris's house.

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- 31. When he was hitting the car, I don't remember if he was saying anything or shouting. But it was obviously anger when I saw it. I would say he hit the car maybe five, six times.
- 32. I don't think he was just thinking about damaging the car, I think it was just a frustration thing, like banging hard because he was angry or frustrated, or, that's what it looked like to me.
- 33. The knife would have had to have been bigger than a penknife because it had a solid, like, handle. I didn't have a clear view of the knife, but I knew it was like something thick and heavy.
- 34. When I saw Chris he was on his own. I never seen him with another guy. I didn't see him fighting with anybody. I didn't see the discussion when Chris showed my husband the knife because they were out of my sight.
- 35. After he was hitting the car, he seemed to disappear. Then the van arrived. It was a white Transit van.
- 36. It was pointing up the street, so the opposite direction to Cramond, so it must have come in Cramond Gardens end. It stopped like almost directly outside my house.
- 37. Someone got out of the passenger seat. This Asian guy, I would say, got out of the van. He got into the car, but I remember he was sort of like smirking, smiling. At that point the girls were shouting, "That's who Chris was fighting with."
- 38. The man that got out was quite tall, slim build, Asian. That's about all I could really say. I can't remember clothing or anything at this point. I would say he was, like, late 30s.
- 39. I was quite embarrassed because I think we had been nosing. I told the girls to get back from the window. He got in his car and then he sped

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away. He got into the car that Chris had been hitting. He drove up the street, the same way the van was parked, so up towards the end of Arran Crescent.

40. The driver of the van did not get out. He just dropped him off and then went. I did not see the driver

41. That was it after that. Everything went quite quiet. [REDACTED]

42. When I left there was nothing going on in my street, but when I got to [REDACTED] she told me there was something going on as Temple Avenue had been all taped off.

43. I am asked whether we thought about phoning the police. I think we did actually discuss it, but we didn't do it.

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

May 6, 2022 | 4:20 PM BST

Date.....Signature

[REDACTED]

