

From: [Anthony Crandell](#)
To: [Craig Middleton](#)
Subject: Re: Taradale [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Date: Thursday, 9 March 2017 17:30:07

Thanks Middo,

I agree that we should stick to the same parameters of Parrabell and conduct a thorough review of the 3 outstanding cases. In reality it would be good to have an investigator/s that has/have Parrabell experience re-seconded for that purpose. Parrabell will not be complete until the final reviews are undertaken.

I don't think we should be asking now for any assistance from Homicide (UHT) because they have been criticised as homophobic, which whilst clearly ridiculous, is not something we want to now introduce to Parrabell.

Are you able to make inquiries with Andy Holland regarding obtaining some resources with Parrabell experience to complete the job. The earlier the better because we can also supply the academics with those findings. To my mind priority should be given to these matters over reviews of the ACON files. I know it is a big ask however perhaps Cameron could make a start on the outstanding files and we hold ACON off until they are complete. That would at least give us consistency.

I am happy to discuss and agree that we need to be careful here so as not to tarnish the Parrabell findings and report. I am not beholden to any timeframe with Parrabell and will extend until we are ready to release.

Regards



▼ Craig N Middleton---09/03/2017 17:01:03---Hi Boss I have been doing some thinking and digging on the Taradale issue. I am abit concerned as t

From: Craig N Middleton/[REDACTED]Staff/NSWPolice
 To: Anthony Crandell/[REDACTED]Staff/NSWPolice@NSWPolice
 Date: 09/03/2017 17:01
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Hi Boss

I have been doing some thinking and digging on the Taradale issue. I am abit concerned as to Mr Willing request to now review these matters. I have read over the Coroners report and in my opinion it will not give us enough information to conduct a proper review.

For instance in one matter (Mittaini) the coroner states that she cannot determine the manner or cause of death (ie whether it was misadventure, murder or suicide) as such she made an open finding. The Coroner does not explore the evidence other than some basic information in her summing up. This is not enough for us to make a determination as to whether bias was involved. In the other 2 matters (WARREN and RUSSELL) the Coroner was very critical of the investigation. Whilst she does make some more definitive findings in relation to both these matters (concluding that they were probably assaulted before death). The issue for me is that in order to conduct a review and make a finding consistent with the terms of reference of Parrabell - we really do need to access and review the NSWPF holdings on all 3 of these matters (and I suggest the Taradale re-investigation documents) in their entirety for us to make a determination of a Bias motivation or not.

I suppose I am just worried that we have come so far with Parrabell and done a thorough job on these matters I am wary of cutting corners on the Taradale matters - particularly as they are the most controversial and probably subject to the most media scrutiny. I believe that it would be remiss of us to now short cut the review process in order to

provide Mr Willing an answer - when in fact if you are pressed about our review process (which I am sure you will be asked by media about at some point) - you would have to admit that we didnt follow proper procedural review in these 3 matters. To me I think the media and cohorts (Page, Tomsen, Thompson) etc could use this to damage and tarnish the good work by Parrabell and open us up (and you) to some unwanted criticism in these 3 specific matters as to why we didnt follow our on terms of reference like we did for all the other matters. (conspiracy to cover up perhaps ?). I am also wary that Parrabell will be mentioned in some capacity at the current coronorial inquiry into the Johnson matter as will no doubt the Taradale matters. Presently we can honestly say that as per our agreement with UHT we have did not review these matters. If we now review Taradale and dont do it properly I think we could be open for some criticism by the Inquest. Again trying to explain why we didnt do these matters properly and according to our terms of reference that we have so stringently stuck to throughout this entire process.

Anyway my point is, in my opinion I think to finish this off properly - we should access and review all NSWPF holdings on these 3 matters. I imagine they all sit at UHT at the moment. The next issue is that I simply no longer have the staff to do this. Cameron is transferring on the 9/4/17 - he is currently sifting through the ACON material which will take up a significant amount of his time before he transfers. I imagine that there is substantial holdings on these 3 matters since they are all currently 'active matters' on the books at UHT. Any review of these documents in alignment with the terms of reference for Parrabell will take time and resources - time and resources that we simply dont have since Parrabell completed its review.

I am still little perplexed why Mr Willing has now requested this after Parrabell has been running for since 2015. As we discussed earlier Homicide have put no resources, money, equipment time or effort into this review. All they did was agree to give us access to some of their holdings. It was also by their suggestion that we agree not to review these matters in the first place. He has had ample opportunity to change his mind when we did have the resources and the time to review these matters. I am not critical of Mr Willings request but I am suspicious of his motives and his bad timing.

In summary, I think that if we are going to review the Taradale matters, to maintain the integrity of Parrabell it needs to be done the same way as all the other matters - as to how we now do that given Parrabell no longer physically exists ? I dont have that answer. Of course the simple solution is that we stick to our original agreement with UHT and let Mr Willing deal with the Johnson/Taradale issues.

You know me I'm never backward in giving you my thoughts (wanted or otherwise).

Regards

Middo



Craig Middleton | Detective Chief Inspector
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