

NSW POLICE FORCE

STRIKE FORCE

PARRABELL

Bias Crimes Indicators Review Form

Investigation No:	68
Victim/Deceased:	James MEEK
Date of death:	07 March, 1995
Investigation Status:	Unsolved
Offender/s:	NP134
Investigative Unit:	Surry Hills LAC
Description:	<p>James MEEK was a 47 year old homosexual man who lived in a unit within the Northcott Flats, Surry Hills. MEEK preferred younger males from the age of 12 and up. MEEK was murdered in his unit by NP134. NP134 was an 18 year old male who was believed to be heterosexual. He knew MEEK as he lived in Northcott Flats and two days earlier had slept on MEEK's couch. MEEK was found with head injuries from blunt force trauma by an unknown weapon. NP134 was charged with murder however was found not guilty by direction.</p>

1. Differences

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Immutable characteristic differences between victim and POI's sexual orientation</i> 	<p>James MEEK was known by friends as a homosexual male. Evidence suggests he was living an 'out' homosexual lifestyle. [129], a friend of MEEK stated, "I knew he was gay. He didn't hide this. I knew that he was HIV positive" (ST-229). MEEK was very well know around the Northcott Department of Housing Complex in Surry Hills, as someone who preferred younger men, often seen trying to solicit sex from the younger boys around the building or in Ward Park, next to the housing complex. [132], an employee of the Department of Housing, grew to know MEEK over time following MEEK moving into the Northcott building and becoming a "tenant's activist involved in local tenancy issues on behalf of the tenants living in the complex." [132] stated, "There had been times when complaints had been made that MEEK was attempting to solicit sex from young male tenants who reside in the complex" (ST-230). NP134 was charged with the murder of MEEK, however, was later found not guilty. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was homosexual. During record of interview, NP134 was asked if he had ever had a "homosexual relationship with Jim MEEK?" NP134 replied, "No, never" (TR-41). NP134 sister, [133] was friends with MEEK and participated in a record of interview following MEEK'S murder. During record of interview, [133] was asked to make comment on her brother and MEEK'S relationship given MEEK'S homosexuality. [133] stated, "...I don't remember Jim [MEEK] being touchy or anything like that, so Michael was therefore comfortable with him" [133] explained her brother, and their family, were not homophobic "...we're very open. We're a very open bunch and it's never – basically, no one's homophobic in our family" (TR-43).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Victim is a member of a group which is outnumbered by members of another group in the area where the incident occurred</i> 	<p>MEEK was a member of a number of different groups such as Mardi Gras and Clover Moore's Campaign (ST-232). MEEK was also known to attend luncheons with the organisation called 'People Living with and affected by HIV/AIDS Luncheon Club' (ST-234). MEEK was openly gay [redacted] Dr. [134] stated MEEK [redacted] Dr. [redacted]</p>

	<p>1134 S [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] (ST-228). MEEK lived in the Surry Hills/Darlinghurst area having resided at his Surry Hills unit for two years prior to his death. MEEK would not be considered an outnumbered member of a specific group in this particular area.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victim was engaged in activities promoting his/her group 	<p>MEEK was an active member of the gay community involving himself in the Mardi Gras, HIV/AIDS advocacy groups and had wiliness to participate [REDACTED]. He was known to be an active 'beat' user, utilising Ward and Centennial Parks as a means for meeting men. A friend of MEEK'S, 1135 stated, "I believe that Jim [MEEK] would use... [Ward] park as a meeting place to pick up males with the view of having sex with them. I am aware that Jim preferred younger men" (ST-231). MEEKS involvement within the gay community surrounding his involvement with the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation (a charitable foundation for HIV/AIDS welfare) and the People Living with and affected by HIV/AIDS Luncheon Club, coupled with his frequenting of 'beat' locations to meet men, were activities that promoted MEEK'S homosexual lifestyle.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incident coincided with a holiday or date of particular significance to the victim or POI's group 	<p>There is no evidence to suggest the date of MEEK'S murder had any significance to either him or NP134.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victim, although not a member of the targeted group is a member a member of an advocacy group that supports the victim, or the victim was in company of a member of the targeted group 	<p>MEEK was a member of a number of groups affiliated with the gay community. He also played an active role on the Northcott Estate Advisory Board for the Department of Housing as tenant's representatives (ST-235). It is not believed MEEK was not in the direct company of any other person at the time of his murder.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical animosity exists between the victim's group and the POI's group 	<p>There is no known historical animosity between MEEK and NP134. NP134 upon arrest for the murder of MEEK, refuted the suggestion of any animosity existing between the two, denying having any involvement in the murder of MEEK.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
<p>Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.</p>	No

Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

MEEK on all accounts was living an 'out' homosexual lifestyle and often utilised 'beats' to meet men. He was known around the Northcott Department of Housing Complex as a man who preferred younger men, often seen trying to solicit sex from the younger boys around the building or in Ward Park, next to the housing complex. [I132], an employee of the Department of Housing grew to know MEEK over time following MEEK moving into the Northcott building and becoming a 'tenant's activist involved in local tenancy issues on behalf of the tenants living in the complex.' [I132] stated, "There had been times when complaints had been made that MEEK was attempting to solicit sex from young male tenants who reside in the complex." NP134 was charged with the murder of MEEK however was later found not guilty. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was homosexual. During record of interview, NP134 was asked if he had ever had a "homosexual relationship with Jim MEEK?" NP134 replied, "No, never."

2. Comments, Written Statements, Gestures

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Bias related comments, written statements or gestures were made by the POI</i> 	<p>During record of interview NP134 denied having any involvement in the murder of MEEK. NP134 gave a recount of what occurred on the evening he stayed, presumably the evening before or of MEEK'S death. NP134 stated "...we [MEEK and NP134] sat up at the table, me and the security guard, Jim, talking, just laughing and joking. I was smoking marijuana, Jim's marijuana, watched a few movies. I can't actually remember what the movies were 'cause we weren't paying much attention to them – and then that was it. We went to bed. The security guard left, the security guard come back, the security guard left, the security guard come back" (TR-41). There is no information to suggest NP134 had any issue with MEEK'S sexuality. As such there is no evidence of NP134 making any bias related comments or gestures towards MEEK at any point in time. During the investigation a letter addressed to MEEK from 'Daewoo</p>

	<p>Australia' was seized from within his unit. On the rear of the letter a number of "scribbling patterns" were observed (ST-301). During record of interview [NP134] was asked about the presence of such drawings, specifically the letters 'ST' and what that represented. [NP134] stated, "I might've did some of the heavy black stuff. That's all, I reckon, 'cause it was sitting on his table." In relation to being asked what the 'ST' stood for, [NP134] stated, "I wouldn't have a clue, I didn't do it" (TR-41).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Comments and gestures can occur before, during and after the incident</i> 	<p>There is no evidence to suggest any comments or gestures occurred before, during or after the murder of MEEK.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Victims may not be aware of the significance of gestures made</i> 	<p>There is no evidence to suggest any comments or gestures occurred before, during or after the murder of MEEK. [NP134] did not provide evidence during interview indicating he made any adverse comments or gestures to [NP134] on any occasion. He denied having any involvement in MEEK'S murder.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
<p>During record of interview [NP134] denied any involvement in the murder of MEEK. [NP134] gave a recount of what occurred on the evening he stayed, presumably the evening before or of MEEK'S death. There is no information to suggest [NP134] had any issue with MEEK'S sexuality. As such there is no evidence of [NP134] making any bias related comments, written statements or gestures towards MEEK at any point in time.</p>	

3. Drawings, Markings, Symbols, Tattoos, Graffiti

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were left at the scene or were seen on the POI</i> 	<p>Thirty two (32) photographs were taken of the scene by crime scene officer, Plain Clothes Constable Suzana CATHERINE. No photos of the scene were viewed during this review. PCC CATHERINE in her statement provided a details description of the scene and deceased during the crime scene processing. PCC CATHERINE made no mention of any bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti being left at the scene (ST-226). Two (2) photographs of NP134 were reviewed. No bias related markings were observed on the face and neck area of NP134. The photographs did not depict NP134 body (PH-31). A description of tattoos on NP134 body was given in the 'Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System' Form describing NP134 as having [REDACTED] (OD-162).</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Before discounting symbols, ensure that you understand the meaning of the symbol</i> 	<p>No drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were described as being present at the scene or on the body of MEEK or NP134.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No

GENERAL COMMENT

No bias related drawings, markings, symbols or graffiti were described as being present at the scene or on the body of MEEK or NP134

4. Organised Hate Groups (OHG)

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Objects or items that represent the work of an OHG were left at the scene, e.g. business cards, flyers, burning cross</i> 	<p>No foreign objects that may have been introduced to the scene during the murder of MEEK were recovered during processing. As such, there is no evidence available that indicates any objects that represent an OHG were left at the scene by NP134 following the murder.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>An OHG claimed responsibility</i> 	<p>NP134 was arrested three months later in Tasmania having been identified as the probable person responsible for the murder of MEEK. No admissions were made by NP134 with him denying any involvement in MEEK'S death. NP134 was eventually found not guilty of all charges. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was affiliated with an OHG.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>There are indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area</i> 	<p>There are no indications that an OHG was involved or active in the area.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>MO is similar to known MO of an OHG</i> 	<p>NP134 died as a result of receiving blunt force trauma to his head. It is unknown what was used to inflict such injuries. The MO used does not possess any unique characteristics that may be linked to or known to be similar to that of an OHG.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
<p>Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.</p>	No
<p>Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.</p>	No
<p>Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.</p>	Yes

Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
<p>NP134 was the only offender identified as being responsible for the murder of MEEK. He was arrested three months after the murder, and charged, however, later found not guilty. NP134 made no admissions to the murder denying any involvement. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was affiliated with an OHG. There is no evidence available that indicates any objects that represent an OHG were left at the scene. The MO used, being blunt force trauma to the head by unknown means, is not unique or representative of any known OHG'S.</p>	
5. Previous existence of Bias Crime Incidents	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Victim was visiting a location where previous bias crimes had been committed against members of the victim's group</i> 	MEEK was murdered in his Department of Housing unit within the Northcott Building in Surry Hills. A considerable amount of crime is known to have occurred within the Northcott Building however it is unknown if any of these crimes were motivated by bias.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Several incidents occurred in the same area and the victims were members of the same group</i> 	No previous incidents of bias related crime or homicide are recorded against MEEK'S address.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Victim has received previous harassing mail, email, social media posts or phone calls or has been the victim of verbal abuse (anti-gay) based on his/her affiliation with a targeted group</i> 	There is no evidence or previous reported incidents that suggest MEEK had been receiving harassing mail, email or phone calls because of his sexuality, HIV status or affiliation with various gay organisations.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Recent bias incidents or crimes may have sparked retaliatory bias crime</i> 	MEEK and NP134 are not known to have been victim to or engaged in any recent bias incidents or crimes that may have sparked retaliatory bias crimes. NP134 is not known to have been involved in other bias related crimes or incidents that may have caused him to murder MEEK.
Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No

Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
There is no evidence that suggests any previous existence or incidents of bias related crime having occurred towards MEEK. As such, it is unlikely that the murder of MEEK was a retaliatory attack.	
6. Victim/Witness Perception	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Witnesses (actual) perceive that the incident was motivated by bias</i> 	There were no actual witnesses to the murder of MEEK. A number of MEEK'S friends and acquaintances provided statements during the investigation. There is no mention by any persons that they believed this incident to have been motivated by bias.
Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

There were no actual witnesses to the murder of MEEK. A number of MEEK'S friends and acquaintances provided statements during the investigation. There is no mention by any persons that they believed this incident to have been motivated by bias.

7. Motive of Offender/s

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>POI was previously involved in similar incident or is a member/associates with members of an OHG</i> 	<p>Prior to the date of MEEK'S murder, NP134 had not been involved in any incidents involving such high levels of violence. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was associated with or a member of an OHG.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was in company of a member of the targeted group</i> 	<p>MEEK was not in the company of any other persons at the time he was murdered. During record of interview, NP134 explained that he had stayed at MEEK'S unit in the days prior to MEEK'S murder. During his time in the unit a security guard only known to NP134 as 'Michael' was also there. "He was coming backwards and forwards, say up till midnight..." (TR-41). The sexuality of Michael is not known. There is no evidence to suggest MEEK was definitively targeted because of his sexuality.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was perceived to be breaking from traditional conventions or working non-traditional employment</i> 	<p>"MEEK was unemployed and received a disability support pension. MEEK had recently received a large compensation pay out as a result of an incident which occurred when he was previously employed as a security guard" (ST-230). MEEK frequented beats at Ward and Centennial Park where he would often meet other men. Quite often he would invite these men to his unit to engage in sex with him. It was not uncommon for MEEK to be seen around the Northcott Building with young boys from about the age of 12. I136 stated, "I also saw him [MEEK] in the park at night time. I knew that Mr MEEK was gay and he liked young boys from 12 years old upwards. I have seen Mr. MEEK with several young men, including people from the flats" (ST-236). MEEK'S method of meeting other men and his desired age could have been frowned up by both the gay and broader community at the time of his murder.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The POI has a history of previous crimes with similar MO and involving other victims of the same group</i> 	<p>Prior to MEEK'S murder NP134 had no prior convictions relating to crimes displaying such a high level of violence. NP134 was found not guilty of all charges surrounding the murder of MEEK. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 ever had any incidents involving homosexual victims.</p>

Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

Prior to MEEK'S murder, NP134 had no prior convictions relating to crimes displaying such a high level of violence. NP134 was found not guilty of all charges surrounding the murder of MEEK. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 ever had any incidents involving homosexual victims or was a member/associate of and OHG. During record of interview, NP134 denied any involvement in the murder of MEEK. It was established NP134 had slept on the couch at MEEK'S unit two days prior to him being discovered deceased. NP134 denied any sexual advances or activities ever taking place between him and MEEK. Whilst at MEEK'S unit, NP134 admits to stealing a 'gents 9 carrot ring', hocking the ring the same day. Robbery was listed as the possible motive in the 'Violent Crime Linkage Analysis System' form.

8. Location of Incident

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The victim was in or near an area or place commonly associated with or frequented by members of a particular group e.g. beat</i> 	MEEK was murdered in his Department of Housing within the Northcott Building in Surry Hills. MEEK frequented Ward Park which is located next to the building, often using this 'beat' location as a means of meeting young men to take back to his unit to have sex.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The location of an incident has specific significance to the victim or POI group e.g. cemetery, religious building, historical landmark, etc</i> 	There is no evidence to suggest the location of the incident had any specific significance to either MEEK or NP134 other than being MEEK'S home.

Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	Yes
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	No
GENERAL COMMENT	
MEEK was murdered in his Department of Housing within the Northcott Building in Surry Hills. MEEK frequented Ward Park which is a 'beat' located next to the building, often using this as a means of meeting young men to take back to his unit to have sex. There is no evidence to suggest the location of the incident had any specific significance to either MEEK or [NP134] other than being MEEK'S home.	
9. Lack of Motive	
Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>No clear economic or other motive for the incident exists</i> 	<p>There were no signs of disturbance in the unit, and no forced entry (ST-226). It was established that [NP134] had stayed at the MEEK'S unit two days prior to him being discovered deceased. [NP134] denied any sexual activities or advances ever taking place between himself and MEEK. Crime Scene Officer PCC WHYBRO noted a used condom on the floor of MEEK'S bedroom during her processing (ST-226). During record of interview, [NP134] denied any involvement in the murder of MEEK. [NP134] was eventually found not guilty of all charges. Admissions were made in relation to the stealing of a 'gents 9 carrot ring', which [NP134] hocked the same day.</p>

Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
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Not Bias Crime – the incident has been determined as either not being motivated by bias towards a protected group or although bias motivation is in evidence it does not relate to a protected group.	No
Insufficient Information – insufficient information has been recorded to make a determination in regards to bias motivation. This may be due to a lack of detail recorded by police or a lack of information supplied by victim's and/or witnesses.	Yes

GENERAL COMMENT

No clear motive was established during the investigation into the murder of MEEK. NP134 was charged with the murder; however was eventually found 'not guilty.' It was noted that there were no signs of disturbance or forced entry on MEEK'S unit. Investigations revealed NP134 had stayed at MEEK'S unit two days prior to him being discovered deceased. During crime scene processing, PCC WHYBRO noted the presence of a used condom on the floor of MEEK'S bedroom however NP134 denied any sexual activities or advances ever taking place between himself and MEEK. Admissions were made by NP134 during record of interview in relation to the stealing of a 'gents 9 carrot ring', which NP134 hocked the same day however he denied any involvement in the murder of MEEK.

10. Level of Violence

Prompts	Comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The level of violence and injuries sustained by the victim/s is greater than would be expected for a crime of that type</i> 	<p>Pathologist, Dr. Christopher LAWRENCE was of the opinion that MEEK "...died as a consequence of blunt force head injuries." The autopsy revealed "...extensive bruising and injury of the head. The pattern of the bruising [was] extensive with almost continuous bruising around the entire head. The contused abrasions show[ed] a pattern which is yet to be identified." "There [was] no skull fractures; however, there [was] subarachnoid and subdural</p>

	<p>haemorrhage.” “...in my [Dr. LAWRENCE'S] opinion the pattern of the injuries is consistent with an assault” (OD-139). No clear motive was established during the investigation with robbery listed as the probable motive. Should this be the case, the level of violence displayed involving the assaulting of MEEK to the head in a manner in which such extreme injuries were inflicted ultimately causing his death is not justifiable. A sexual motive was not established despite a used condom being located in MEEK'S bedroom during crime scene processing. NP134 denied any sexual activities having occurred between him and MEEK.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Weapons of opportunity are used in the incident</i> 	<p>A broken crockery dog bowl was located beside MEEK'S deceased body. It is not known if this was used as a weapon. In Dr. LAWRENCE'S medical report it was noted that there was a "...contused abrasion show[ing] a pattern which is yet to be identified." Dr. LAWRENCE states that this pattern "...may represent a shoe print" (OD-139). No definitive murder weapon was identified during the investigation however MEEK'S injuries were caused as a result of blunt force.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The number of POI's is greater than the number of victims and all POI's take an active role in the assault</i> 	<p>NP134 was the only offender identified for the murder of MEEK. NP134 was charged however eventually found not guilty.</p>
Indicators	(y/n)
Bias Crime – sufficient evidence/information exists to prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the incident was either wholly or partially motivated by bias towards one of the protected categories and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
Suspected Bias Crime – evidence/information exists that the incident may have been motivated by bias but the incident cannot be proven beyond a reasonable doubt that it was either wholly or partially motivated by bias and constitutes a criminal offence.	No
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GENERAL COMMENT

NP134 was the only offender identified for the murder of MEEK. NP134 was charged however eventually found not guilty. No clear motive was established during the investigation with robbery listed as the probable motive. Should this be the case, the level of violence displayed involving the assaulting of MEEK to the head in a manner in which such extreme injuries were inflicted ultimately causing his death is not justifiable. A sexual motive was not established despite a used condom being located in MEEK'S bedroom during crime scene processing. NP134 denied any sexual activities having occurred between him and MEEK. A broken crockery dog bowl was located beside MEEK'S deceased body. It is not known if this was used as a weapon. In Dr. LAWRENCE'S medical report it was noted that there was a "...contused abrasion show[ing] a pattern which is yet to be identified." Dr. LAWRENCE states that this pattern "...may represent a shoe print." No definitive murder weapon was identified during the investigation however MEEK'S injuries were caused as a result of blunt force.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Indicator: Not Bias Crime (NBC)

Comment: James MEEK on all accounts was living an 'out' homosexual lifestyle often utilising beats to meet men. He was known around the Northcott Department of Housing Complex as a man who preferred younger men, often seen trying to solicit sex from the younger boys around the building or in Ward Park, next to the housing complex. NP134 was charged with the murder of MEEK however was later found not guilty. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 was homosexual. There were no actual witnesses to the murder of MEEK. A number of MEEK'S friends and acquaintances provided statements during the investigation however there was no mention by any persons that they believed this incident to have been motivated by bias. There is no evidence to suggest NP134 had ever been involved in any incidents involving homosexual victims or was a member/associate of an OHG. During record of interview, NP134 denied any involvement in the murder of MEEK. The investigation established NP134 had slept on the couch at MEEK'S unit two days prior to him being discovered deceased. NP134 admitted to stealing a 'gents 9 carrot ring' from MEEK, hocking the ring the same day. It was noted that there were no signs of disturbance or forced entry on MEEK'S unit. During crime scene processing, PCC WHYBRO noted the presence of a used condom on the floor of MEEK'S bedroom however NP134 denied any sexual activities or advances ever taking place between himself and MEEK. No definitive murder weapon was identified during the investigation however MEEK'S injuries were caused as a result of blunt force to the head.