

**STATEMENT OF DETECTIVE SERGEANT PENELOPE BROWN**

1. On 21 August 2023, I was served a summons to attend and give evidence in the Special Commission of Inquiry into LGBTIQ Hate Crimes. I was also invited to provide a statement.

Involvement in SF Neiwand

2. This statement is in addition to a statement I provided on 19 September 2023 and is to clarify my involvement in SF Neiwand.
3. My duty book shows that on 1 October 2015, Mr Willing has advised the next Strike Force for investigation will be the Death of John Russell and disappearance of Ross Warren and Gillies Mattaini, and requested I inform DCI Lehmann of Commander Willings' wishes.
4. When SF Neiwand was established in 2015, I was the officer in charge on SF Macnamir and Macnamir 2. The investigation of SF Macnamir and Macnamir 2 involved a considerable amount of work, including travel and speaking to numerous people and brief preparation. SF Macnamir and Macnamir 2 became my full time responsibility that ended a few months after the conclusion of the Inquest.
5. On 26 September 2023 at the inquiry, I saw a document shown to Mr Lehmann and I saw that it had me recorded as the OIC of SF Neiwand. Initially at the creation of SF Neiwand, it was a Management decision that I would be the Officer in Charge. This was due to my involvement and knowledge of the reward application and subsequent reward media release as well as my knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr John Russell and disappearance of Mr Ross Warren and Mr Gillies Mattaini.
6. Initially I did perform a role in the beginning stages of SF Neiwand that is shown in the relevant emails I have forwarded on 17 December 2015 and 1 February 2016 to other investigators involved in SF Neiwand. But due to the work load of SF Macnamir and Macnamir 2, statement preparation for the inquest, being part-time and on a return to work plan following knee surgery due to a work related injury it was not possible for me to remain as the Officer in Charge of SF Neiwand.



Detective <sup>Penelope</sup> Sergeant Penelope BROWN

Dated: 29.09.2023