

Witness Name : [REDACTED]
Statement No : First
Exhibits: [REDACTED] 1- [REDACTED] 18
Dated :

THE INDEPENDENT JERSEY CARE INQUIRY

Exhibit [REDACTED] 13

Leonard Harper, c/o Chancery lane, London will say as follows:

1. I am a retired police officer. Until 31st August 2008 I held the rank of Deputy Chief Officer with the States of Jersey Police Force when I retired from the Police Service.
2. I had the day-to-day operational conduct of Operation rectangle which was concerned with allegations of child abuse on Jersey and was primarily focused on the former children's home known as Haut de la Garenne.
3. The Force received many allegations of abuse from former residents spanning several decades.
4. A number of allegations concerned a former State's employee who I shall refer to as [REDACTED] I shall refer to his alleged victims where appropriate by their initials.
5. I believed that [REDACTED] should be charged because I felt there was more than enough evidence to do so. Given the evidence in our possession I also thought it important to charge him as his was the name that aroused more fear than any other among the victims. The reaction to his name was invariably strong and disturbing. I had somewhere in the region of ten witnesses who would give varying degrees of testimony against him - at least seven of them alleging assaults of a sexual or physical nature - mainly sexual as I recall. Two of them - [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were alleging anal penetration. I can briefly summarise the witnesses' evidence as follows.
6. [REDACTED] alleged physical abuse.
7. [REDACTED] made a complaint against [REDACTED] in or around 2004. [REDACTED] was questioned but there was no action taken by the authorities. [REDACTED] wanted to proceed with her "case".
8. [REDACTED] made a complaint in 2002 or 03. [REDACTED] was also interviewed for this one, but "could not remember" it. This allegation was corroborated by [REDACTED].
9. [REDACTED] was alleging sodomy and assault with burning cigarettes by [REDACTED]. A police entry at the time cast doubt on this as apparently "records" showed that [REDACTED] was not in the home at the time. However, we had plenty of reason to doubt the accuracy of that police

One of the most disturbing examples of this activity by a senior police officer was that of Chief Inspector X. I was approached by a Detective Sergeant who told me that he had submitted a report to Chief Inspector X in which he outlined evidence of abuse at HDLG and in which he asked for an investigation to be commenced. Chief Inspector X took no action and later made some unlikely excuse as to the reason why. Furthermore, when I was re-examining some historical cases I discovered one case in which [REDACTED] Y was named by two convicted paedophiles as being "one of them" and implicated in passing information to them. I found that Chief Inspector X had ordered the officer investigating not to interview [REDACTED] Y. When I challenged him for the reason, X told me that they had carried out transcript checks on his phone but nothing had turned up. When I looked further I found that the checks had been carried out on the phone belonging to Y's wife. When I again asked X about this he told me that they had been unable to find a phone for Y. Within twenty minutes of enquiring I had a phone number for Y and later found out it was the phone and number presented to him by the States of Jersey Police on his retirement. Accordingly, My Chief Officer and I instigated an investigation into X's activities by West Yorkshire Police. Just before I retired the officer in charge told me he was submitting the report and felt that the findings would end the career of Chief Inspector X. I know also that my successor, David Warcup, told Chief Officer Graham Power that the enquiry was "career changing" for Chief Inspector X. However, after I retired and Graham Power left the force, Chief Inspector X was promoted to the third most senior post in the force.

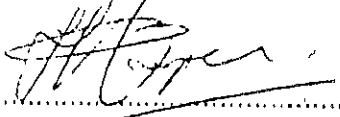
10. We had other reasons to doubt the claim that [REDACTED] had not been in the home at relevant times he said he was. We knew the records at HDLG and other institutions were useless, incomplete, and did not cover many of the "casual" admissions made by the Hon. Police. Furthermore, [REDACTED] mother said he was in the home at various times between the age of nine and eleven. We also knew that [REDACTED] had told [REDACTED] of the abuse by [REDACTED]
11. [REDACTED] - allegations of numerous indecent assaults where [REDACTED] rubbed himself against her and had a clear erection.
12. [REDACTED] - allegation of assault against [REDACTED] which was partially corroborated by staff members. [REDACTED] account of incident differed from that of [REDACTED] and other inconsistencies apparently arose during his interview. [REDACTED] states he reported the incident to [REDACTED] (maybe [REDACTED] but [REDACTED] denied that. [REDACTED] also contradicted himself during the police interviews.

[Handwritten signature]

14. A number of mentions were made of assaults during [redacted] attachment to HDLG [redacted]
[redacted]
15. [redacted] file with the States appeared to have been "cleaned."
16. I recommended prosecution because of the amount of evidence and its quality. There were too many complaints from different sources, which independently provided similar fact evidence. I do not understand the Attorney General's decision not to prosecute.
17. There was nothing to suggest in any of the accounts by [redacted] or [redacted] that either were mistaken or making any false allegations.

^{12th}
Dated December 2012

I believe that the content of this statement to be true



Lenny Harper

12/12/2012