

15. When I was told about the toxicology results in around September 2014, which detected the presence of GHB in Anthony, I told Mr Slaymaker that Anthony would not use GHB and that he must have been drugged. Again, I highlighted that since he was mugged, Anthony was incredibly safety-conscious and he would not have taken drugs with a stranger which risked rendering him vulnerable and out of control. Both China Dunning and I mentioned that GHB was a 'date rape' drug. Mr Slaymaker, however, was adamant that Anthony had taken the drugs himself.

16. A meeting took place in Hull on 20 March 2015, which was the only face to face meeting we had with Barking and Dagenham police – nine months after Anthony had died. This meeting does not appear to be recorded in the family liaison logs. In his statement [IPC000355, p34] Mr O'Donnell claims that he spent a day with us. In reality, it was no more than about an hour. Both he and Mr Slaymaker arrived without any paperwork or material. It was only on this day that Tom and I found out that Stephen Port was due in court on the following Monday charged with perverting the course of justice, and so neither Tom or I could attend the hearing given the short notice and the distance down to London. We felt we were denied an opportunity to see Stephen Port in court, but the officers did not seem to care. They provided the wrong age for Stephen Port, claiming that he was around 28-29.

17. I highlighted various discrepancies in the evidence to the officers during this meeting, which I considered to be suspicious. For example, it materialised that the fee that had been agreed between Anthony and Stephen Port was £800. I asked whether Stephen Port was in the type of profession which would leave him with a spare £800, and whether the police knew if he had this amount of money at the time. I later found out that Stephen Port was actually overdrawn when he met Anthony. I highlighted to the police that I thought it was strange that Stephen Port had said he had gone to work and left Anthony, who was essentially a stranger at the time, in his flat alone. I also wanted to know whether the police had checked the flat for vomit because Stephen Port had said that Anthony had become sick whilst at his flat. I recall that Tom highlighted to the officers that it was simply not normal for a person to drag a body out of a