

(vi) Interviews of witnesses or suspects were referenced with 'Y' numbers. These total 36.

13. From the outset of Operation Lilford, the SIO began documenting decisions, strategies and investigative updates within decision logs, ("MPS Book 194"), which were allocated the HOLMES reference **D4**.

Modus Operandi

14. Stephen Port's modus operandi or method of offending was revealed through the evidence obtained from his victims who are still living and evidence gleaned from the investigations into the deaths of Anthony Walgate, Gabriel Kovari, Daniel Whitworth and Jack Taylor.

15. Port would meet men predominantly through social media and online dating apps. In the main, Port arranged to meet men at Barking Station before taking them back to his home address at 62 Cooke Street, Barking.

16. Once inside the property the victim was either:

(i) Quickly offered a drink, which Port had surreptitiously laced with the drug GHB; or

(ii) Once the initial stage of sex had begun, Port would apply sexual lubricant laced with GHB into the victim's rectal canal under the guise of it being standard lubricant.

17. Port viewed an extensive amount of 'drug rape' pornography while his victims were in his flat or during the broad timeframe of his interactions with the victims.

18. Examination of Port's phone showed that he deleted or blocked the social media/dating accounts on which he had met the individuals swiftly after the meetings with the deceased victims.

19. Port disposed of the deceased's mobile telephones.

20. Port changed his own mobile handset and telephone number shortly after each death.

Kovari on 28th August 2014 and Daniel Whitworth on 20th September 2014. MIT 1 took over the investigation on 15th October 2015.

Mobile phone use up to and throughout 2014

29. Upon his arrest on 26th June 2014, Stephen Port was in possession of a Samsung Pocket Neo using the number 07903 854105 (**#4105**) which was seized as **exhibit CSP/1** by DC Portsmouth.
30. From 2004 Port had used the mobile telephone number **#4105** but had interspersed its use with other numbers.
31. The number **#4105** was being utilised in handsets on both occasions of his arrests on 26th June 2014 for perverting the course of justice, and again on 15th October 2015 for murder.
32. Enquiries by PC Figg revealed that the handset **CSP/1** was activated on the network and used for the very first time with **#4105** on the afternoon of 19th June 2014, the day that Anthony Walgate was found deceased outside 62 Cooke Street.
33. Due to the passage of time Operation Lilford could not establish what the previous handset had been, nor could any of the call data usage for the period covering Anthony Walgate's death be recovered.
34. Port was released from custody at Barking Police Station on bail on 27th June 2014 with his mobile phone and SIM being retained by police for enquiries.
35. On the 1st July 2014 Port began using the telephone number 07773 964576 (**#4576**) which Port's sister, Sharon Port, referred to in her statement of 28th October 2014 as belonging to her father but loaned to Stephen Port as he had been "*mugged*" of his own⁹.
36. It was also established via examination of Ryan Edwards' mobile handset (**Exhibit RYE/1**) that Port had texted Edwards on 1st July 2014 providing him

⁹ IPC000954 (S75)

gaybubble.com from 11.11pm and then looking at Facebook³³. No search terms could be determined.

122. The laptop was logged off the internet at 2.57am on 19th June 2014 and shows no further use by Port until 23rd June 2014³⁴.

123. Enquiries were not made with Port's employer, OCS, during the original investigation. When spoken to by officers from Operation Lilford, Port's line manager at the time, Stanley Worthington, made a statement on 24th November 2015³⁵ in which he stated:

"I recall getting a phone call from Stephen, it would have been about three years ago, his mobile number is 07903854105, Stephen told me that he was leaving for work. He was due to start at 0600 hours so it would have been very early he called me. He told me that he had tried to get out of his flats and the external door was blocked by a young boy in the way. Stephen said that he had moved him out of the way, but said that something wasn't right, he couldn't leave him there. He said that he called an ambulance, they had arrived and found that the person was dead. He has then said he had tried to leave and come to work when he was stopped by the police."

124. The personnel department of Port's employer confirmed that he did not have any periods of sickness or annual leave during this time period, in a statement made by Ms EI-Aasar³⁶.

125. Port's employers were not asked about Port's normal shift pattern.

126. Sharon Port provided some detail of her brother's shifts in her statement stating that he would either work 6am-2pm or 2pm-10pm – 5 or 6 days a week³⁷.

127. No further information could be gleaned by Operation Lilford as to Port's movements at this time.

Anthony Walgate - Drug use

³³ IPC000086, pp.18-23

³⁴ IPC000086 p.23

³⁵ MPS000513 (S183)

³⁶ MPS000533 (S379)

³⁷ IPC000954 (S75)

139. DC McNeir secured a Court Production Order from Harrow Crown Court on 3rd November 2015 for the accounts of Stephen Port and then later from Wood Green Crown Court on 12th February 2016 for the accounts of Anthony Walgate. The production orders were served on the days they were obtained and the results returned in 10 days for Port's accounts and 4 days for Mr Walgate's.

140. All account material was then provided to a financial intelligence officer for analysis and summary, which DC Craig Thomas completed and is reflected in his witness statement dated 26th July 2017⁴⁴.

141. The simplified summary of the accounts is shown in the table below.

Port

BANK	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT HOLDER	BALANCE AT 23:59 HRS ON 19/06/14
Santander	Mortgage – 019544672	Stephen PORT	-£22,923.95
Santander	Cash Isa – 88798499	Stephen PORT	£6.41
Santander	Credit Card	Stephen PORT	-£496.46
Santander	Current – 742636608	Stephen PORT	-£1,003.68
Port – Combined Balance (Excluding mortgage)			-£1,493.73

Anthony Walgate

BANK	ACCOUNT	ACCOUNT HOLDER	BALANCE AT 23:59 HRS ON 19/06/14
Halifax	Isa Saver – 03352454	Anthony WALGATE	£7.05
Halifax	Online Saver – 10323860	Anthony WALGATE	£5.76
Halifax	Online Saver – 10611660	Anthony WALGATE	£0.04

⁴⁴ MPS000510 (S800)

Halifax	Current – 00473113	Anthony WALGATE	£24.36
Anthony Walgate – Combined Balance			£37.21

142. Port's current account was continually overdrawn at the time and a number of direct debits were repeatedly declined on his account. Port was also guarantor on a loan for which payments were not being made. The only income Port appeared to receive was from his employment as a chef at around £1,100 per month. Various debits from his account then took it into a regular unauthorised overdraft.

143. Anthony Walgate had monthly rent to pay of £625 and was funded by Student Loans and some cash payments into his current account from his family. The overall balance at the time of his death was £37.21. At the time Mr Walgate was found deceased on 19th June 2014, a search of his clothing revealed only £5.23 in change (**Exhibit DGP/22**).

Financial Summary

144. Based on analysis of his financial position, Port appears unlikely to have been able to raise £800 to pay for a night with an escort.

145. Based on analysis of his financial position, it appears unlikely that Anthony Walgate would have turned down £800 once a booking had been made and the fee agreed with a client.

Social Media

146. As set out in the 'First contact' section above, Port and Anthony Walgate got in contact with each other initially via Mr Walgate's Sleepyboy account, this being discovered from exhibit **RLB/1**, Mr Walgate's Apple Mac. Mr Walgate was receiving many messages from potential customers to this account.

147. Much of the evidence contained within Port's laptop (**BSG/9**) is not dated and as such cannot be relied upon as relevant to this period. What can be seen is that Port visited several gay dating sites and gay escorts sites – Gayromeo / Gaydar