

RECORD OF INTERVIEW

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Person interviewed: DS Peter SWEETMAN Place of interview: IPCC, Southern House, Croydon Date of interview: 19-10-2017 Time commenced: 13:09 Time concluded: 14:45 Audio tape reference no: D819 Interviewer(s): Ben WILLIAMS - IPCC Lizzie BURCH - IPCC Other persons present: Simon WARWICK - Friend	Police Exhibit No: Signature of interviewer/transcriber producing exhibit Duration of interview: 1 hour 36mins Visual image reference no:
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Tape counter times	Person speaking	Text
	BW	Okay, this is a resumption of the misconduct interview of DS Sergeant Peter SWEETMAN. Er, the time is now 13:09. Erm, I'm Ben WILLIAMS, obviously the investigator for the investigation. Erm, Peter would you just confirm that it's still the same four of us that were in the interview earlier?
	PS	SURE. ABSOLUTELY.
	BW	And that we haven't talked about anything to do with the investigation while...
	PS	NO.
	BW	... the tape's been off?
	PS	NO.
	BW	Okay. Erm, I will just remind you of the caution, and that's: Whilst you do not have to say anything it may harm your case if you do not mention, when interviewed or when providing any information to the investigation, something which you later rely on in any misconduct proceedings or special case hearing or any appeal proceedings. Is that okay?
	PS	YEAH, I UNDERSTAND.
	BW	Thank you very much. Erm, so we were just talking erm, before we took a break around...
	PS	UH HUH.

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	BW	...erm, sort of the, you've talked about the email that you'd sent after you returned from the scene.
	PS	UH HUH.
	BW	Erm, and you said that there hadn't been any sort of further requests for you or advice or involvement on...
	PS	NO.
	BW	...the investigation.
	PS	NOT TO MY RECOLLECTION.
	BW	No. Erm, what's your recollection of what's happened when Dan WITHWORTH'S body was found?
	PS	ER, NOT, NOT A GREAT DEAL REALLY, AND HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	I WAS OFF, ER IF I REMEMBER RIGHTLY. ERM I, I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT ME TO SAY.
	BW	Yeah. Okay.
	PS	I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, NOTHING.
	BW	Do you remember when, do you remember when you were then asked about Gabriel KOVARI and his link to Dan WHITWORTH?
	PS	NO.
	BW	Do you remember erm, because I think there's an email you sent to, erm a DC ADEYEMO-PHILIPS with the...
	PS	RIGHT.
	BW	...briefing, with, with that erm, that note on the 22 nd of September. Do you remember that, do you remember what happened before that was sent?
	PS	22 ND OF SEPTEMBER FROM ME. NO.
	BW	No. So do you remember Dan WHITWORTH'S name every being mentioned to you at any point?
	PS	NO.
	BW	No. Okay. And did you have any erm, awareness then of CID taking on Gabriel's death?
	PS	ER, YES AND NO. THERE WAS, I WAS AWARE THAT THERE WAS SOME FORM OF INVESTIGATION GOING ON BUT...
	BW	Yeah.

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	PS	ERM, I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS, I HAD, I DON'T KNOW THE EXACT DATE, YOU CAN FIND THAT OUT...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... IN MY FILE IF YOU WANT TO.
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	ER, IT'S AR, ABOUT OCTOBER 2014.
	BW	Okay. So you'd been there just under a year by September '15?
	PS	YEAH.
	BW	Yeah. Okay. No problem. Erm, so yeah just with Jack TAYLOR what, what happened there, what did you do?
	PS	ER, I WAS IN THE, SO OKAY SO I REMEMBER, YOU KNOW, WHERE I SAT IN THE OFFICE WHEN I DID THAT ROLE, I REMEMBER MY TEAM THAT WAS AROUND ME, REMEMBER, I THINK IT WAS A BUSY DAY. I TOOK WITH ME DC ADEYEMO-PHILIPS, ER YINKA, ER A GOOD OFFICER, AND SHE, WE HAD A SCENARIO, THE WAY THAT THE OFFICE WORKED WAS THAT ER, JUST DUE TO THE SHORTAGE BASICALLY, WE HAD ONE RADIO BETWEEN THE TEAM AND THAT ONE OFFICER GENERALLY VOLUNTEERED TO STAFF THE RADIO THROUGHOUT THE COURSE OF A SHIFT, ER AND AT SOME POINT THERE WAS A REQUEST FOR CID TO ATTEND ER, THE SCENE OF AN INCIDENT WHEREBY A BODY HAD BEEN FOUND. ERM, I WAS AWARE OF THAT IMMEDIATELY, THAT, I THINK THAT CAME INTO YINKA. AT SOME POINT THAT WAS MENTIONED TO ME IN THE COURSE OF ALL MY OTHER DUTIES. I DON'T REMEMBER FOR SURE BUT I'M PRETTY SURE IT WAS A VERY BUSY DAY, ER AS WERE MOST IN THAT OFFICE TO BE HONEST, IT'S THE KIND OF OFFICE WHERE YOUR FEET DON'T TOUCH THE FLOOR, CONSTANTLY MANAGING HUGE AMOUNTS OF CRIME, AND I SAID OKAY. THE INFORMATION WOULD HAVE BEEN RELAYED TO ME AT SOME POINT AND I THINK YINKA PROBABLY HAD THE LEAST TO DO. I DON'T, THERE WAS NO RHYME OR REASON AS TO WHY I DECIDED TO TAKE ER, DC ADEYEMO-PHILIPS WITH ME AS OPPOSED TO ANYBODY ELSE ON THE TEAM, ERM, ER IT MAY BE FOR HER EXPERIENCE TO BE HONEST, I, I CAN'T REMEMBER THE REASON I'VE CHOSE TO TAKE HER, ERM BUT THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A REASON BECAUSE I DO VERY LITTLE WITHOUT ONE. ERM, WE WENT TO THE SCENE WHERE I MET ER; THE SCENE OBVIOUSLY WAS NOT TOO FAR AWAY FROM THE SCENE OF GABRIEL'S DEATH, ER I WAS

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	PS	IMMEDIATELY AWARE OF THAT WHEN I ARRIVED, ER OF COURSE YOU WOULD BE. IT WASN'T NECESSARILY AT THE FOREFRONT OF MY MIND, I WAS JUST AWARE THAT I'D BEEN THERE PREVIOUSLY, ER AND I SAY THERE, IT WAS A DIFFERENT SCENE, THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... TO STIPULATE, ER IT WAS AS DIFFERENT SCENE AT A DIFFERENT LOCATION BUT IN A SIMILAR GEOGRAPHICAL AREA. ERM, PARKED OUR CAR NEARBY, ER BECAUSE AS WE DROVE ALONG ONE OF THE ROADS WE COULD ACTUALLY SEE WHERE THE SCENE WAS; IT WAS QUITE CLOSE TO A ROAD IN FACT, ERM IN KIND OF FULL VIEW OF THE PUBLIC PRETTY MUCH; ANYONE WALKING THROUGH THE PARK ALONG A CERTAIN PATHWAY WOULD HAVE SEEN WHAT WAS GOING ON, ER AND PROBABLY WOULD HAVE SEEN JACK THERE AT SOME POINT I'M, I'M GUESSING, ER I DON'T KNOW, ER AS DID THE PARK WORKER. SO I ARRIVED AND I SPOKE WITH ER, INSPECTOR JASON O'DONOHUE. ERM, OBVIOUSLY I'D NOW BEEN ON THE BOROUGH, WHERE PREVIOUSLY IT WAS THREE WEEKS I 'VE NOW BEEN ON THE BOROUGH JUST OVER A YEAR, ERM AND I SPOKE TO INSPECTOR O'DONOHUE WHO GAVE ME AN INITIAL ASSESSMENT PRIOR TO DOING THAT, VERY SIMILARLY, AND A LOT OF THIS WILL RING, MAKE, THERE'S A LOT OF SIMILARITIES IN TERMS OF WHAT I DID...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... AND THE WAY IN WHICH THIS ALL UNFOLDED AND, AND, AND MAYBE THAT JUST SPEAKS REAMS FOR THE WAY IN WHICH I TRY AND DO THINGS. BUT ER, ON APPROACHING I REMEMBER THAT THERE WAS SOME TAPE UP, ERM FOR A CRIME SCENE, AND THAT THERE WAS SOMEONE ALREADY POSTED ON TO THE CORDON WHO HAD A CRIME SCENE LOG RECORDED. I GAVE MY NAME AS DID DC ADEYEMO-PHILIPS, AS YOU SHOULD WHEN ENTERING A SCENE, ERM AND FROM THERE I WAS MET, WHO, WALKED OVER, I CAN'T QUITE REMEMBER WHETHER THAT PERSON WAS, THE LOG WAS STOOD IN RELATION TO THE SCENE, ERM AND THEN I MET INSPECTOR O'DONOHUE AND I SIMPLY, AS YOU WOULD, SAID, OKAY WHAT, WHAT'S GOING ON, WHAT, WHAT DO WE HAVE, WHAT HAVE WE FOUND, AND ER EXPLAIN IT TO ME. ER, AND HE DID, HE EXPLAINED IT TO ME, HE GAVE ME HIS VERSION OF EVENTS, ERM HE ESSENTIALLY EXPLAINED THAT A PARK WORKER ERM, HAD DISCOVERED JACK'S BODY, I THINK HE MENTIONED INTIALLY MAYBE HE THOUGHT HE WAS DRUNK, ER HE'S THEN, THIS PARTICULAR PERSON MENTIONED IT TO

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	PS	<p>WHICH WAS REALLY IMPORTANT, AND, AND THEN THEY WENT ON TO SAY THAT - AND I'M STILL TELLING THE STORY OF WHAT I'M BEING TOLD HERE - THEY, THEY HAD TAKEN PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE BODY IN SITU, ERM THEY HAD PUT REQUESTS IN TO HAVE EMERGENCY ER, LAS/DOCTOR TO ATTEND IN, IN ORDER FORMULATE THE DEATH, AND, AND DONE THE THINGS THAT YOU WOULD EXPECT; AND I'M STILL HAVING THIS STORY RELAYED TO ME. ERM, I SAID RIGHT, OKAY, FINE. WE BELIEVE THE GENTLEMAN'S NAME IS JACK TAYLOR, ER FROM SOME IDENTIFICATION WHICH HAS BEEN DISCOVERED ON HIS PERSON. RIGHT, OKAY, FINE. ER, WHAT ELSE? THERE IS DRUG PARPHANALIA WHICH WAS DISCOVERED. ER, IN JACK'S CASE THERE WAS AT LEAST ONE HYPERDERMIC NEEDLE, THERE WAS WHITE POWDER, ERM IN FACT THERE WAS S, THERE WAS SOME LIQUID AS WELL, SOME CLEAR LIQUID, ERM IN A BOTTLE, FROM MEMORY. ER I SAID, RIGHT, OKAY.</p> <p>AND IMMEDIATELY, ALRIGHT YOU'RE LISTENING TO THIS AND I'M, AGAIN BRINGS US BACK TO THE CONTEXT OF THE LOCATION THAT WE'RE AT. NOW OF COURSE I WOULD BE FOOLISH TO NOT RECOGNISE THAT I'M IN THE SAME LOCATION AS, OR A SIMILAR LOCATION AS I WAS A YEAR PREVIOUS, BUT IT WAS A YEAR AND SEVENTEEN DAYS PREVIOUS. ERM, AND ALTHOUGH THAT WAS IN THE BACK OF MY MIND, AND THERE'S NO REASON THAT IT WOULDN'T BE, IT WAS RIGHT TO BE THERE, ER THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO REASON FOR ME AT THAT POINT TO EVER CONSIDER THAT THOSE TWO ISSUES WERE LINKED. AND THIS IS BASED ON THE INFORMATION THAT I'VE NOW GOT AT THIS TIME. SO THERE'S STILL MORE TO DO BUT, 'CAUSE IT'S OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING THAT YOU, YOU QUITE RIGHTLY TRY TO IDENTIFY, ERM AT THAT TIME I WAS AWARE BUT I, IN MY MIND DID I LINK IT, NO, OTHER THAN THE LOCATION, WHY WOULD I.</p> <p>JASON CONTINUED TO GIVE ME HIS BRIEFING OF WHAT HAD BEEN FOUND AND WHAT WE WERE LOOKING AT. OKAY, FIN, SO WE'VE GOT THESE ERM, TH; I CAN'T REMEMBER IF THE DRUG PARAPHERNALIA IN ALL HONESTY WAS DISCOVERED PRIOR, I THINK IT MAY HAVE BEEN, PRIOR TO INSPECTOR O'DONOHUE EXPLAINING WHAT HE HAD AT THAT POINT, BUT CERTAINLY ONCE I'D LISTENED TO HIS ACCOUNT, AS I EXPLAINED PREVIOUSLY WITH THE INCIDENT WITH GABRIEL, I WAS, OKAY, FINE, I'LL TAKE THAT AS THE INITIAL ACCOUNT IN MY MIND, BUT I'M NOW GONNA QUESTION THAT AND I'M GONNA TRY AND SEE WHETHER AT THE END WITH ALL MY CHECKS AND BALANCES AND MY DECISION MAKING AND</p>

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	PS	<p>KIND OF THING, AND I DISCUSSED ALL THESE THINGS WITH INSPECTOR O'DONOHUE, AS YOU WOULD EXPECT, ERM AND THEN SAID, RIGHT, OKAY, WHAT WE NOW NEED TO DO, AND I ASKED THE OFFICERS, WE NEED TO, AND I KNOW IT'S NOT PLEASANT, I REMEMBER HAVING THIS KIND OF DISCUSSION WITH THEM, BUT YOU, YOU NEED TO STRIP THIS PERSON AND WE NEED TO FIND OUT WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE ANY INJURIES AND WENT THROUGH THE SAME PROCESS THAT I DESCRIBED EARLIER. ERM, SO THE CLOTHING WAS REMOVED BIT BY BIT, ER IN A STAGE LIKE FASHION, ERM AND THEN THEY CHECKED THE BODY, AND I ASKED FOR THAT TO BE DONE THOROUGHLY. ERM, CLEARLY AT THIS TIME I'M THINKING DRUGS, ERM OBVIOUSLY, NUM, AND, AND THERE'S REASONS FOR THAT, SOME OF WHICH I'VE MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY, THE CONTEXT OF WHERE WE'RE AT, ERM THE LOCATION, KNOWING FULL WELL, YES I HVE DEALT WITH SOMETHING SIMILAR HERE BEFORE, ERM IT'S A LOCATION KNOWN TO ME AND OTHERS AND I THINK WAS EVEN RAISED IN THE CONVERSATION WITH INSPECTOR O'DONOHUE AROUND DRUG TAKING AND THE KIND OF PEOPLE THAT FREQUENT THIS AREA. ERM, SO WE WERE LOOKING FOR INDICATIONS ON JACK'S BODY THAT THERE WAS SIGNS OF DRUG USE, ULTIMATELY, WE ALL KNOW I THINK WHAT THEY WOULD BE; WHAT DID JACK'S BODY LOOK LIKE, WAS HE WELL NOURISHED, WAS HE AN OBVIOUS DRUG USER; AGAIN THIS, THIS TYPE OF ASSESSMENT THAT I TALKED ABOUT EARLIER, DID IT APPEAR THAT THIS MAY BE THE TYPE OF PERSON IN TERMS OF STATURE AND APPEARANCE THAT MAY TAKE DRUGS, MY VIEW ON THAT WAS YES, ERM OBVIOUSLY CEMENTED BY THE FACT THAT THE PARAPHERNALIA THAT WAS ON HIM, ER I HAD NO REASON OR, OR EVEN GAVE IT A SECOND THOUGHT THAT THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN PLACED ON HIM FOR WHAT REASON, NO. ERM AND MY VIEW WAS FOCUMULATING AT THAT TIME, CERTAINLY NOT CONCLUSIVE, THAT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT WE FOUND, I CAN'T REMEMBER, I THINK; I'M JUST TRYING, I'M JUST TRYING TO REMEMBER EXACTLY WHETHER THERE WAS; I DON'T THINK THERE WAS ANY TRACK MARKS IDENTIFIED AT THAT STAGE, ERM ON JACK'S BODY. ER BUT THEN, THAT, THAT, YOU KNOW, THIS IS ER, WHAT IS ALBEIT IT'S A, A SKIN LEVEL SEARCH, YOU KNOW, THESE ARE NOT OFFICERS WHO ARE; THEY, THEY LOOKED AT THE ARMS, I REMEMBER THAT, ER QUITE CLEARLY, CHECKED OVER THE REST OF HIS BODY, NO OBVIOUS SIGNS I DON'T THINK OF THE DRUG TAKING THAT ER...</p>

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	BW	Yeah. And I understand that, you know there seem, there seems like in, in of themselves at the time.
	PS	AGAIN IT'S, IT'S GREAT FOR US TO BE ABLE TO LOOK BACK NOW...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... ER, AND UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GONE ON, BUT I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE MYSELF OUT THE BUBBLE IN WHICH WE'RE IN IN ORDER...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... TO DEAL WITH THE TWO INCIDENTS.
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	ER, INDEPENDENTLY...
	SW	I think, I think, I think if you drew, you know analogy of a, a death today, and I've been through this with Pete in terms of what has he done through each of those scenes, if you get a death today there's nothing different that you would do in terms...
	BW	Hmm.
	SW	...of that scene, in terms of that initial triage, that...
	BW	Hmm.
	SW	...initial assessment based on the information that you've got of it. So the, the chemsex probably...
	BW	Yeah.
	SW	...wouldn't, wouldn't come in to it...
	BW	Yeah.
	SW	...even now.
	BW	Okay.
	SW	I would say...
	BW	Yeah.
	SW	...it's a, it's another factor, as it could be anything.
00:59:40	BW	Yeah. Erm, just as well to, if we took the scene (INAUDIBLE), had you had any input or any, erm training in stage scenes at the time, had you ever had any sort of input from a training perspective about?
	PS	AS I EXPLAINED EARLIER I, MY, MY EXPERIENCE IN POLICING...
	BW	Yeah.

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	PS	... IS LARGELY PROACTIVE...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... YOU KNOW, ERM UNDERCOVER TYPE STUFF, SO.
	BW	Yeah.
	SW	That's said you, you got, there's, there's something like, well how often do you get regular training around a specific.
	BW	Yeah. Hmm.
	SW	We, I haven't had any training around scene preservation for like fifteen, twenty years or something like that.
	BW	Yeah. And, and I don't think we really know.
	SW	I know, I know how to manage a scene though.
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	YEAH.
	SW	Erm, because actually we grow up, we grow up with it.
	BW	Yeah.
	SW	And, and like Pete said about inner and outer cordons and, you know, we, we all understand, and Pete's really demonstrated I think today, he's actually above and beyond understanding about how to manage a scene effectively.
	PS	YEAH. I MEAN TRAINING WISE YOU'RE, YOU'RE RIGHT BUT A LOT OF IT'S COMMON SENSE. ERM, YOU KNOW EVERYBODY'S DIFFERENT, EVERYONE WILL DEAL WITH THINGS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENTLY. YES THERE ARE POLICIES TO FOLLOW, YES THERE ARE CERTAIN THINGS THAT WE SHOULD, IF YOU LIKE TICK OFF, BUT EVERYONE'S SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT IN THE WAY THAT THEY WILL THINK ABOUT THINGS AND DEAL WITH THINGS. SO I THINK IN TERMS OF, YEAH, TRAINING NO I HAVE NOT HAD STAGE...
	BW	Yeah.
	PS	... SCENE TRAINING, I HAVEN'T HAD ANY OF THAT, BUT QUITE RIGHTLY LIKE I SAID, I HAD TRAINING BACK IN 2001-ISH I THINK IT WAS IN TERMS OF MY INITIAL CID COURSE, WHEN I TRAINED TO BECOME A DETECTIVE.
	SW	You see we do a lot of on, on the job training, a lot of experience...
	PS	YEAH.
	SW	... you know with out, outside of formal training, so yeah.

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	PS	YEAH. IT'S ERM, ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT SPECIFIC TRAINING I WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT I'M MORE THAN COMPETENTLY PREPARED TO BE ABLE TO GO AND DEAL WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
	BW	Okay. Great. Erm, Lizzie in terms of the scene itself and the actions there, er what do you want to cover off?
	LB	Erm, taken so many notes.
	PS	I'VE SAID TOO MUCH.
	BW	No such thing.
	LB	No I guess it's just like you say one year seventeen days...
	PS	YEAH.
	LB	...between the deaths.
	PS	YEAH.
	LB	You change roles.
	PS	UH HUH.
	LB	Being experienced in that.
	PS	YEAH.
	LB	Is there anything, is there anything you did differently between the erm, attending the scene of Gabriel KOVARI and attending the scene of Jack TAYLOR, was there anything different there?
	PS	NOT REALLY, TO BE HONEST WITH YOU. ERM, MAYBE I WAS SLIGHTLY MORE CONFIDENT.
	LB	Uh huh.
	PS	BECAUSE I HAD BEEN IN A ROLE THAT REQUIRED ME TO GO OUT TO SCENES OR TO DEAL WITH DAY TO DAY ISSUES WHICH I WASN'T USED TO DEALING WITH...
	LB	Hmm.
	PS	...UP UNTIL THAT POINT.
	LB	Uh huh.
	PS	SO YOU BUILD AN ELEMENT OF CONFIDENCE IN YOURSELF, IN YOUR OWN ABILITY.
	LB	Uh huh.
	PS	BUT I'VE NEVER QUESTIONED MY ABILITY TO MAKE DECISIONS.
	LB	Yeah.

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	SW	...who, who deal with some extremely difficult things very, very well. So actually they're not, they're not really adding a huge amount of value, if I'm honest; they're adding some value and a different set of odds, so erm, and actually the sergeants on the ground do a similar thing, they deal with this all the time so.
	PS	YEAH.
	SW	Erm, they, they're able to make you know really effective decisions.
	LB	Hmm.
	SW	It's the way it goes, it's yeah, like you said Ben it's like the, the luck of the draw and the bad luck of the draw.
	PS	AND, AND IN THESE TWO CASES THEY WERE ALSO GOOD DECISIONS MADE BY THE DUTY OFFICERS AT THE TIME.
	LB	Hmm.
	PS	WHO IF YOU REMOVE CID FROM THE EQUATION ACTUALLY THE RESULT WOULD HAVE BEEN THE SAME.
	LB	Uh huh.
	PS	SO MY ATTENDANCE WAS PURELY TO CHECK...
	LB	Yeah, spread that out.
	PS	... THEIR DECISION MAKING, BACK IT UP. IF I NEED, BUT, OR EQUALLY TO FIND FAULT.
	LB	Hmm.
	PS	BECAUSE I'M NOT THERE TO BE...
	SW	But as, as you say, as, as you say it's not for here and now but you know there's, there are clearly issues that that's gonna come out, so I would image, and should do, and there's clearly lessons to be learnt, but in terms of this in isolation erm, I don't think that's the case really.
	BW	Hmm.
	LB	Okay. Er I, I don't the area, so where Jack was found...
	PS	YEAH.
	LB	...we, we've driven, I've driven past
	PS	YEAH.
	LB	...and you, you've been there. Erm, what was fa, what's facing that in that area, is there anything facing on to that area?
	PS	ERM SO, IT'S DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN WITHOUT A MAP TO BE HONEST BUT I CAN DRAW YOU A MAP IF YOU WANT. ERM, THERE'S A SCHOOL...