

111. The same principles for fibres also relate to DNA, foot prints and fingerprints.
112. There might have been a good reason given back then for the submission but that reason was not given to me. If Dr Swift did suggest this, it is not in his statement dated 24th September in the section where he outlines what forensic submissions should be made.
113. In any case Dr Swift gave it. The Borough Detective Inspector and the CSM or BFM authorising the submission would decide on that course of action as it remained their investigation.

5. Whether he was told that the handwriting had been confirmed?

114. I was informed that the handwriting had been confirmed and this is recorded in the HAT advice. The whole point of my advice that the note should be shown to a family member was to establish that this was Daniel's handwriting and to assist in confirming or eliminating third party interference. If it were not his handwriting then this case would have in my view fallen into the suspicious category and would have been allocated to an SCD team.
115. I was also mindful that if the handwriting was confirmed this was also going to be important information for the family of Gabriel at a later point in the investigation.

6. Confirmation as to whether he was involved in the decision that the investigation should stay with the Borough after post mortem. Please give reasons.

116. The ordinary course of a referral from a borough to an SCD is that the borough request it. They never did during my period of engagement in this case.
117. Despite the borough not requesting SCD to take the case I can take the matter further but I would need authorisation from a higher rank in SCD to do so and I shall explain that later. SIO's are not allowed to take their own cases or choose which ones they take, simply put an SIO is allocated a case.
118. If I deemed the matter suspicious, I would have based my deliberations on two critical strands the SPM and the showing of the suicide note. There are other actions advised in the HAT advice in regard of CCTV and telephone enquiries which would be

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