TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO PROTECTED DISCLOSURES MADE UNDER
THE PROTECTED DISCLOSURES ACT 2014 AND CERTAIN OTHER
MATTERS FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY DÁIL ÉIREANN AND
SEANAD ÉIREANN ON 16 FEBRUARY 2017

ESTABLISHED BY INSTRUMENT MADE BY THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY UNDER THE TRIBUNALS OF INQUIRY (EVIDENCE) ACT 1921, ON 17 FEBRUARY 2017, AS AMENDED ON 7 DECEMBER 2018

CHAIRMAN OF DIVISION (P): MR. JUSTICE SEAN RYAN,
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE COURT OF APPEAL

HELD IN DUBLIN CASTLE
ON FRIDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER 2019 - DAY 122

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Gwen Malone Stenography Services certify the following to be a verbatim transcript of their stenographic notes in the above-named action.

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13.

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INSPECTOR EAMON CURLEY 16.

16. INSPECTOR EAMON CURLEY
17. GARDA MICHAEL QUINN
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20. GARDA OLIVIA KELLY
21. RETIRED DETECTIVE SERGEANT TOM JUDGE
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T&N McLYNN BASTION COURT

11-13 CONNAUGHT STREET

ATHLONE

CO. WESTMEATH

FOR AGSI, INSPECTOR NI CHOLAS FARRELL, SERGEANT ANDREW HARAN, SERGEANT AI DAN LYONS, SERGEANT SANDRA KEANE: MR.

MR. DESMOND DOCKERY SC MS. PEGGY O'ROURKE SC MS. SINEAD GLEESON BL REDDY CHARLTON SOLICITORS 12 FITZWILLIAM PLACE DUBLIN 2

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1			THE HEARING RESUMED, AS FOLLOWS, ON FRIDAY, 29TH	
2			NOVEMBER 2019:	
3				
4			MR. McGUINNESS: Good morning, Chairman. The witness	
5			today is Superintendent Minnock.	10:30
6			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.	
7				
8			SUPERINTENDENT ALDAN MINNOCK, HAVING BEEN SWORN, WAS	
9			DIRECTLY-EXAMINED BY MR. MCGUINNESS, AS FOLLOWS:	
10				10:30
11			WITNESS: Superintendent Aidan Minnock.	
12			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Good morning,	
13			superintendent. Thank you.	
14	1	Q.	MR. McGUINNESS: Good morning, Superintendent Minnock.	
15		Α.	Good morning.	10:30
16	2	Q.	Can I ask you, when did you join An Garda Síochána?	
17		Α.	I joined in '94.	
18	3	Q.	And after you were attested, where were you stationed?	
19		Α.	I went to Limerick firstly, for a six-month	
20			probationary period.	10:31
21	4	Q.	And then, after that?	
22		Α.	After that, I went to Blessington Garda Station in	
23			County Wicklow.	
24	5	Q.	Yes. Did you obtain the rank of sergeant then?	
25		Α.	I went to headquarters for a period, I was attached to	10:31
26			the organisation development unit, and from that role I	
27			was promoted to the rank of sergeant.	
28	6	Q.	Yes. Then you became inspector I think in October	
29			2010; is that right?	

Т		Α.	October 2010 I was promoted, yes, to the rank of	
2			inspector.	
3	7	Q.	You served in Athy Garda station for some period; is	
4			that right?	
5		Α.	I did, for a brief period, possibly six months or so.	10:31
6	8	Q.	You transferred to Mullingar then in August 2010, is	
7			that correct?	
8		Α.	That's correct.	
9	9	Q.	Then you have moved to Athlone just before Christmas of	
10			2011?	10:31
11		Α.	That's correct.	
12	10	Q.	Just before Christmas 2010, is that right?	
13		Α.	Just before Christmas 2010.	
14	11	Q.	I think you were stationed then in Athlone as an	
15			inspector from effectively the beginning of 2011 until	10:32
16			your transfer in 2017?	
17		Α.	That's correct.	
18	12	Q.	Were you transferred on promotion?	
19		Α.	I was.	
20	13	Q.	To superintendent?	10:32
21		Α.	Transferred on promotion to superintendent to Trim	
22			district.	
23	14	Q.	I think at the time you served as an inspector in	
24			Athlone, there was one other inspector, whom we heard	
25			from yesterday, Inspector Farrell?	10:32
26		Α.	That's correct. Inspector Farrell was in Athlone for	
27			my tenure.	
28	15	Q.	Yes. Now, he had moved there slightly earlier and in	
29			that sense I suppose he would have been regarded as a	

Τ			senior inspector, is that right?	
2		Α.	That's correct.	
3	16	Q.	But you obviously acted as superintendent on occasion	
4			during the period?	
5		Α.	I did, indeed.	10:3
6	17	Q.	What were your portfolios in Athlone when you	
7			transferred there?	
8		Α.	I had over 20 portfolios, I couldn't recall them all.	
9			But a large range of portfolios, which included, I	
10			suppose, in addition portfolios included roles and	10:3
11			responsibilities as to the Garda Code and also I	
12			prosecuted in Athlone District Court on a very frequent	
13			basis, almost weekly basis. In addition to that, I had	
14			a number of approximately 20 plus portfolios assigned	
15			from the divisional officer in Westmeath.	10:3
16	18	Q.	Yes.	
17		Α.	They were broad ranging, from public order to a variety	
18			of portfolios.	
19	19	Q.	I think when you moved to Athlone, the previous	
20			superintendent was in place until Superintendent	10:3
21			McBrien took over in 2012?	
22		Α.	That's correct.	
23	20	Q.	Did your portfolios change at that point in time or did	
24			they remain the same?	
25		Α.	They were consistently changing. But they were mainly	10:3
26			assigned from the divisional office in Westmeath,	

situated in Mullingar.

27

28

29

21 Q.

Yes.

Just in terms of Garda Keogh, Athlone seems to be

a reasonably large district headquarters, isn't that

1			correct?	
2		Α.	That's correct. Absolutely. A very busy district	
3			headquarters station.	
4	22	Q.	Did you have any or many dealings with Garda Keogh from	
5			the period you arrived there onwards?	10:34
6		Α.	No, I had very little dealings with Garda Keogh for the	
7			first time of years. I think my initial one-to-one	
8			interactions were really following him making a	
9			protected disclosure.	
10	23	Q.	Would it follow therefore you didn't have any direct	10:34
11			experience of his work, his performance as a Guard?	
12		Α.	That's correct. I suppose I would be relying on the	
13			input and feedback from the supervisors who had, I	
14			suppose, extensive knowledge of Garda Keogh.	
15	24	Q.	Yes. I note that you did become involved in reporting	10:35
16			on his absence through illness in the middle of 2012,	
17			do you recall that?	
18		Α.	I do.	
19	25	Q.	Perhaps we will just look at Volume 13, at page 3672.	
20			This is a report dated 17th July 2012. You're	10:35
21			reporting to the chief superintendent, who at that time	
22			was Chief Superintendent Curran, isn't that correct?	
23		Α.	That's correct.	
24	26	Q.	You're reporting that:	
25				10:35
26			"On 25th May 2012, Garda Nicholas Keogh reported sick	
27			and unfit for duty. The reason for same was that Garda	
28			Keogh had voluntarily admitted himself for inpatient	
29			somewhere treatment in Dublin.	

1				
2			Garda Keogh successfully completed his treatment and	
3			returned off sick leave on 8th July 2012. Garda Keogh	
4			is presently on annual leave and is expected to return	
5			to full policing duties on completion of same."	10:36
6				
7			And you are forwarding, with a number of attachments,	
8			that report to the chief superintendent. Is that a	
9			normal sort of return to work report?	
10		Α.	Yes, that would be, I suppose particularly in a	10:36
11			situation where there was an occupational health	
12			service referral form being submitted, it would have to	
13			go through the normal channels and be forwarded to the	
14			chief superintendent's office for onward transmission.	
15	27	Q.	Yes. That's item 3 you're referring to there, isn't	10:36
16			that right?	
17		Α.	Yes, that's correct.	
18	28	Q.	That's to be found at page 3674. That's completed by	
19			you then on the same date and it gives, on the first	
20			page, the nature of his work, the attendance record for	10:37
21			the past year, and you're noting there towards the	
22			bottom of that page, if you scroll down that page, the	
23			number of rostered days absent in the past 12 months.	
24			And on to the next page then, you're providing	
25			background details there?	10:37
26		Α.	Yes.	
27	29	Q.	About problems or absence of problems. Presumably you	
28			had received some report from his frontline supervisors	
29			to enable you to fill that out?	

1	Α.	I think, I suppose the supervisors would actually have
2		probably assisted me in completing that.
3	30 O.	All right. In any event, we can see at the bottom of

3 30 Q. All right. In any event, we can see at the bottom of the page, you sign that on the 27th July and it goes up with your report, isn't that correct?

10:38

- A. That's correct. That would have been instigated on foot of the fact that there was in excess of 28 days absence within a period.
- 9 31 Q. Yes. That didn't require you to examine the basis upon
 10 which Garda Keogh was certified to be sick. It was
 11 just reporting on the absence, is that right?
- 12 A. It was reporting on the absence but it was actually
 13 requesting that the Occupational Health Service would
 14 examine the issue.
- 15 32 Q. Yes.
- 16 A. That was the reason for the referral.
- 17 33 Q. Yes.
- A. It was essentially instigating the organisational
 welfare supports that would be available through the
 occupation health service, advising them of the
 situation regarding Garda Keogh.
- 22 If we look at 3671, we see that Chief Superintendent 34 Q. Curran sends that on to the assistant commissioner who, 23 24 was Assistant Commissioner Fanning. Then Assistant 25 Commissioner Fanning -- sorry, Chief Superintendent Curran's report is to be found at 3671. That's the 26 27 30th July. That forwards your report and notes at the 28 bottom that SAMS was updated by local Garda management. 29 Assistant Commissioner Fanning then, if we go to page

Т			3670, addresses a request to the medical officer,	
2			Dr. Collins, to enquire if Garda Keogh could be	
3			facilitated with an appointment?	
4		Α.	Yeah.	
5	35	Q.	I think that led then to Dr. Oghuvbu on the 18th	10:40
6			September to furnish recommendations. If we look at	
7			page 3669?	
8		Α.	Yeah.	
9	36	Q.	In the body of the report he says:	
10				10:40
11			"Having reviewed the available information, I offer	
12			recommendations as follows:	
13				
14			1. It is appropriate for the member to be offered an	
15			appointment for review at this service for guidance on	10:40
16			his medical fitness for policing duties;	
17				
18			2. Local management should explain and discuss the	
19			reasonable for the referral with the member.	
20				10:41
21			3. The member should be requested to obtain and bring	
22			along copies of relevant medical reports (case records	
23			for his treating doctors) for the aforesaid	
24			appointment.	
25				10:41
26			4. Local management should provide an up-to-date unit	
27			report for the attention of this service."	
28				
29			Then it states:	

Т				
2			"An appointment has been arranged for the above member	
3			for the 9/10/12 at 2pm at Garda Occupational Health	
4			Servi ce. "	
5				10:41
6			I think that led to Sergeant Tully providing a report	
7			to you, which has already been referred to, we don't	
8			need to read it, but if we just turn to page 3666.	
9			Sergeant Tully reports on the four matters there that	
10			we have seen already. That came to you then I think as	10:41
11			acting superintendent, isn't that correct?	
12		Α.	Yeah.	
13	37	Q.	You forwarded that up on the 5th October for the	
14			purpose of the appointment with the doctor, isn't that	
15			correct?	10:42
16		Α.	That's correct.	
17	38	Q.	If we go to page 3664. You're reporting there in the	
18			following terms:	
19				
20			"I refer to the above and correspondence from assistant	10:42
21			commissioner Human Resource Management dated 20th	
22			September 2012.	
23				
24			It is noted that a review with the Garda Occupational	
25			Health Service has been arranged for Garda Keogh at 2pm	10:42
26			on 9th October 2012. Garda Keogh has been made aware	
27			of the scheduled review and has indicated his	
28			availability to attend."	
29				

1			Now, had you yourself spoken to Garda Keogh?	
2		Α.	No.	
3	39	Q.	No. Had Sergeant Tully done that?	
4		Α.	Yes.	
5	40	Q.	"Sergeant Tully has prepared an a unit report,	10:42
6			attached, outlining Garda Keogh's work performance,	
7			coping skills and relationship with peers and	
8			supervi sors. "	
9				
10			You then refer to his rehabilitation and then you are	10:43
11			quoting effectively from Sergeant Tully's report at the	
12			bottom of the page and you are sending up enclosed	
13			material there. The chief superintendent sends that on	
14			and following the appointment Dr. Oghuvbu, reported at	
15			page 3661, to the assistant commissioner. Is that a	10:43
16			report that you would have seen or would you have been	
17			made aware of the general content of it?	
18		Α.	No, I don't believe so.	
19	41	Q.	Okay. But in any event, was Garda Keogh back at work	
20			to your knowledge then?	10:43
21		Α.	I would have to check the records.	
22	42	Q.	All right.	
23		Α.	I don't recall.	
24	43	Q.	Okay. We have looked at the SAMS record. But I think	
25			you came to furnish a second report in 2013 in relation	10:44
26			to Garda Keogh, on 22nd March 2013. If we look at page	
27			3657. That is dated the 22nd March, you say:	
28				
29			"I refer to the above and request updated unit report	

1			(previous report of October 2012 attached for ease of	
2			reference) in respect of Garda Keogh. Since Garda	
3			Keogh's return to work in July 2012, his attendance	
4			record has been good. He has reported sick and unfit	
5			for duty on four occasions (one by two days, three days	10:44
6			by one, four days by one, a total of 9 days).	
7				
8			Garda Keogh is presently engaged in full uniform duties	
9			attached to a core unit in Athlone Garda Station. He	
10			has an excellent relationship with both his peers and	10:44
11			supervisors. He carries out any duties assigned to him	
12			in a professional and diligent manner.	
13				
14			As part of his continued rehabilitation, Garda Keogh is	
15			in regular contact with the Garda welfare officer and	10:45
16			attends AA meetings. He is aware of the services	
17			available to him both within the Garda organisation and	
18			from outside agencies. He continues to make good	
19			progress, as advised by the chief medical officer in a	
20			report dated 19th October 2012. It would appear that	10:45
21			no future review is warranted at this time."	
22				
23			That was forwarded up to the chief superintendent.	
24			Now, just in relation to the time that had passed,	
25			approximately six months since October onwards, had you	10:45
26			received confirmation from Garda Keogh's front line	
27			supervisors that he was making the good progress.	
28		Α.	Yes.	
29	44	Q.	And was performing well?	

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 45 Q. Now, presumably you sent up that report as acting
- 3 superintendent at the time?
- 4 A. Yeah.
- 5 46 Q. It doesn't appear that you had any occasion to furnish
- any subsequent reports, is that correct?
- 7 A. That's correct.
- 8 47 Q. All right. If we could perhaps just look quickly at
- 9 the SAMS record for this period, at 3652. If we go
- down towards the bottom of the page, bottom half of the 10:46
- page. Scroll down, Mr. Kavanagh. Thank you. So, if
- 12 we just look at that period then, you wrote that report
- on the 22nd March. It would appear that Garda Keogh
- 14 was absent for a further 18 days in total from March to
- the end of that year, 2013. You had no involvement in

- relation to reporting his absence or making any further
- 17 appointments for review?
- 18 A. No. That would be a matter for the district officer.
- 19 48 Q. If we scroll up the page, just looking at the beginning
- of 2014. If we see the first absence there, the 24th
- 21 January -- sorry, the 5th January 2014. There appears
- to be up to perhaps 15 days absence between the 1st
- January and the period in May when Garda Keogh made his
- 24 protected disclosure. Were you involved in any way
- with his absence or reporting his absence or the causes 10:47
- of his absence?
- 27 A. No.
- 28 49 Q. If I could turn then to the issue relating to his
- 29 protected disclosure. I think you don't appear to have

- been involved on paper in relation to any issue
- concerning the Pulse entry, but do you recall, first of
- all, Garda Keogh's disclosures being publicised in the
- 4 Dáil and any subsequent discussion about that?
- 5 A. I do. I recall hearing it. I am not sure how I heard

10.49

10:49

10 · 49

- 6 it first, but I do recall hearing the Dáil extract,
- possibly on the news, if I'm not mistaken, on the 12th
- 8 May.
- 9 50 Q. Yes.
- 10 A. Or the 9th May, was it?
- 11 51 Q. The 8th May.
- 12 A. The 8th May, yeah, yeah.
- 13 52 Q. Was the disclosure in the Dáil?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 63 9 15 9 10:49
- 16 returned from her leave?
- 17 A. It would have been discussed, yes.
- 18 54 Q. Can you just help us with what was the discussion with
- 19 her?
- 20 A. Well, I suppose we didn't know the nature of the
- 21 protected disclosure other than, I suppose, there was a
- 22 protected disclosure. And I suppose both
- 23 Superintendent McBrien and the rest of the management
- team were keen to support Garda Keogh in whatever way
- we could.
- 26 55 Q. Yes.
- 27 A. So that would have been the nature of it. There wasn't
- 28 much information at that point in relation to it.
- 29 56 Q. Yes. Were you delegated to or directed to make contact

1			with Garda Keogh?	
2		Α.	No.	
3	57	Q.	Okay. You did ring him, though, on the 12th May, isn't	
4			that correct?	
5		Α.	I did. I rang him on the 12th May, just to, I suppose,	10:50
6			offer my support to him.	
7	58	Q.	Yes. You refer to this on page 11 of your statement,	
8			which is page 689. But you make notes, which are to be	
9			found at page 779. Perhaps we will look at your notes.	
10			Now, you've told the notes are in Volume 4, page	10:50
11			779. You've told the Tribunal, as you recorded in your	
12			statement, that you had very little personal contact	
13			with Garda Keogh prior to him becoming a whistleblower.	
14			So was this phone call out of the ordinary? Had you	
15			ever spoken to him on a personal level before?	10:51
16		Α.	I would have certainly in passing in the station,	
17			obviously. I would acknowledge of everyone in meeting	
18			them around the station. And I never had cause to talk	
19			to Garda Keogh, I suppose, privately in relation to any	
20			matter prior to this.	10:51
21	59	Q.	Yes.	
22		Α.	But obviously this was something quite unusual that I	
23			felt necessitated in my role and position to talk to	
24			Garda Keogh, to just tell him that we were there to	
25			support him in his protected disclosures.	10:51
26	60	Q.	Yes. Perhaps could you talk us through the notes?	
27		Α.	Yeah. So it was 12th May 2014. It was:	
28				
29			"6:15pm: I rang Garda Nick Keogh. Offered support or	

1			any help I could give him, personally or on behalf of	
2			the organisation. Nick said he was okay at the minute	
3			but said 'I appreciate that 'he said 'I know what I'm	
4			at and I'm focused on that'. He said 'it's running	
5			it's course as planned'. I again reassured him he	10:52
6			could contact me at any stage for a coffee or just for	
7			a chat and I would give him any help I could, either	
8			personally or organisationally. He said he was happy	
9			enough at this stage and he would bring first thing	
10			across the line and then see after that.	10:52
11				
12			Nick appeared in great form, very happy with his course	
13			of action and how things were progressing. Appeared	
14			glad and appreciative of my call."	
15	61	Q.	Just in terms of the quotes there?	10:52
16		Α.	Yes.	
17	62	Q.	You have him saying "I appreciate that" and was that in	
18			relation to your offer of help and support?	
19		Α.	Yeah.	
20	63	Q.	You then quote him saying:	10:53
21				
22			"I know what I'm at and I'm focused on that."	
23				
24			Had you asked him what he was or how did that come out,	
25			was that just volunteered by him?	10:53
26		Α.	He just volunteered that. What he was at was making a	
27			protected disclosure.	
28	64	Q.	Was there any discussion of that?	
29		Α.	No, I took the full content of the conversation noted	

- 1 there.
- 2 65 Okay. He seems then to have volunteered "it's running Q.
- 3 its course as planned". Did you expand on that or ask
- him anything about that? 4
- 5 No. Α.
 - 10:53
- 6 66 0. You appear to have had another conversation with him on 7 the same afternoon.
- That's correct. 8 Α.
- Perhaps about half an hour later? 9 67 Q.
- That's correct. 10 Α.
- 11 68 Q. He rang you, is that right?
- That's correct. 12 Α.
- 13 69 You presumably must have missed the call and you Q.
- returned it? 14
- 15 Yeah. Α.
 - 10:53

- 16 Is that right? 70 Q.
- 17 That's correct. Α.
- 18 71 It appears to be prompted by an item on the radio, is Q.
- 19 that correct?
- 20 That's correct. It was an article, an item on the Matt 10:54 Α.
- Cooper show in relation to Section 12, invoking -- it 21
- 22 relates actually to the Section 12, invoking of a
- 23 Section 12 in relation to a Roma baby in Athlone.
- 24 72 Yes. Q.
- 25 which received significant media publicity around that Α.
- time. 26
- 27 73 Q. Just explain the contents of the note there.
- If you roll it down so we can see it, Peter. 28 CHAI RMAN:
- 29 He rang me and I returned the call. Α.

1			"I was listening to solicitor Paul Connellan on the	
2			Matt Cooper show re the Section 12 in Athlone."	
3	74	Q.	Was that you were listing to it or he was listening to	
4			it?	
5		Α.	No, he was.	10:55
6	75	Q.	He was, all right.	
7		Α.	I was in work.	
8				
9			"He said he just wanted to reassure me that he had just	
10			had a few issues and wasn't doing a big trawl through	10:55
11			local stuff and said I had nothing to worry about.	
12			Said it was like [blank] and wasn't doing a trawl	
13			through Pulse. I told him I appreciated that	
14			information and he could ring me any time."	
15	76	Q.	Did it appear to you that he was sort of anxious to	10:55
16			reassure you and trusted you?	
17		Α.	Yes.	
18	77	Q.	The reference to a "few issues", he didn't expand on	
19			that?	
20		Α.	No. He just said	10:55
21	78	Q.	But did you take that to mean his protected	
22			disclosures?	
23		Α.	Yes.	
24	79	Q.	Now, the next entry you have is for the 28th May.	
25			Before I come to that, we know that the entry on Pulse	10:56
26			had been created at that point in time?	
27		Α.	That's correct.	
28	80	Q.	It had come to Inspector Farrell's attention, he had	
29			reported it up the line. Did he discuss that with you,	

1			the creation of the entry?	
2		Α.	I was certainly aware of the entry. There would have	
3			been some discussion but I had very little engagement	
4			or interaction with that, because the file didn't cross	
5			my desk.	10:56
6	81	Q.	Yes. I appreciate, obviously, you didn't therefore	
7			have any sort of formal responsibility for it, but did	
8			you have a view about the creation of the entry,	
9			putting on Pulse that type of report?	
10		Α.	Yeah. I certainly thought it was inappropriate.	10:56
11	82	Q.	Why did you think that?	
12		Α.	Because I felt that that matter related to	
13			particularly the last part of that entry, related to	
14			corruption by Gardaí in Athlone and that was best	
15			handled within the protected disclosure and the Galway	10:57
16			investigation. That's who I felt it should have been	
17			addressed with, rather than the public forum of a Pulse	
18			intelligence entry.	
19	83	Q.	Did you become aware, although not involved directly in	
20			it, of the dialogue, if I can call it that, that was	10:57
21			going on between Superintendent McBrien and Chief	
22			Superintendent Curran with Garda Keogh and asking him	
23			to, as it were, explain his actions? Did you think	
24			that was appropriate?	
25		Α.	Yes.	10:57
26	84	Q.	You yourself, were you consulted as to whether you	
27			thought it was a CHIS matter or did you have any few on	
28			that, yourself?	
29		Α.	Well, I would have thought it was a CHIS matter. I	

- think any information that comes to light where there
- is an informant is a CHIS matter as per policy.
- 3 85 Q. Yes. I mean, had you yourself examined the Pulse
- 4 entry?
- 5 A. I did, I looked at the Pulse entry.
- 6 86 Q. Did you see that it was said to have come from a source

10:58

10:58

- 7 that was totally reliable?
- 8 A. Yes, I did.
- 9 87 Q. Or always reliable?
- 10 A. I noticed that.
- 11 88 Q. Is that a significant feature of it from your point of
- 12 view?
- 13 A. Absolutely. It means that the person is tried and
- 14 trusted, proved reliable in the past, is a known
- source. And if it's a known source, it puts it
- certainly into the realms of a CHIS referral.
- 17 89 Q. Okay. You yourself didn't speak with Garda Keogh about
- this at any stage, is that right?
- 19 A. No. Because it was being handled, I suppose, by
- other -- I suppose Inspector Farrell and other officers 10:59
- and I was happy with that.
- 22 90 Q. Okay. We know now obviously that Garda Keogh had also
- done a Pulse check on Garda A at 5:30 in the morning of
- 24 the 18th?
- 25 A. Yes.
- 26 91 Q. Presumably you weren't aware of that at the time?
- 27 A. No.
- 28 92 Q. When did you become aware of that?
- 29 A. I can't say when I became aware of it, but it was some

Τ			time I can't exactly remember when, but I do know	
2			that after Garda A had	
3	93	Q.	Garda A. We are talking about a different Garda?	
4		Α.	Sorry.	
5	94	Q.	Garda A?	10:59
6		Α.	Relayed that information to Superintendent McBrien,	
7			that at that point I became aware.	
8	95	Q.	Yes. There were a number of reports that went up to	
9			Superintendent McBrien which related to Garda A's	
10			concern?	11:00
11		Α.	Yes.	
12	96	Q.	That went to Superintendent McBrien, but did you become	
13			aware of it at that stage?	
14		Α.	Yes, I would have been aware of it at that stage.	
15	97	Q.	Were you consulted by Superintendent McBrien or did you	11:00
16			discuss it with her at all?	
17		Α.	I probably discussed it at some juncture, but not in	
18			any formal way. There was no I wasn't actioned or	
19			asked to do anything in respect of it. I think she was	
20			happy with	11:00
21	98	Q.	Okay. Did you have a view about whether it was	
22			appropriate to ask him why he had been checking this	
23			different Garda A on the Pulse?	
24		Α.	Absolutely, it was appropriate.	
25	99	Q.	In relation to the third issue, the Olivia O'Neill	11:0
26			issue, did you have any involvement in that?	
27		Α.	No. I actually was abroad for a month on a leadership	
28			development programme in the United States during that	
29			month that both I would have to check my diary entry	

Τ			just for the dates I was away, but I was away for that	
2			entire month and returned in early I think it was	
3			the 4th July and I was away for the month of June,	
4			abroad, and returned to work I think on the 4th July.	
5	100	Q.	Yes. Were you consulted or did you discuss any of the	11:01
6			steps that were taken or were going to be taken in	
7			relation to Olivia O'Neill?	
8		Α.	Well, when I came back to work following that month,	
9			there had been a murder in Athlone and there was	
10			also the weekend I arrived back, the Triathlon was	11:01
11			on, I think Garda Keogh has actually referred to that	
12			as a particularly busy weekend. So I certainly came	
13			back to be briefed on a lot of matters, but Olivia	
14			O'Neill wasn't one of them.	
15	101	Q.	Yes. Now, in relation to issue number 4, I think you	11:02
16			became aware in early July of the e-mail that Garda	
17			Lyons had submitted to Sergeant Curley, isn't that	
18			correct?	
19		Α.	That's correct.	
20	102	Q.	You record in your statement at page 9 of it, we don't	11:02
21			have to look at it:	
22				
23			"Detective Sergeant Curley and I discussed the report	
24			submitted by Garda Lyons."	
25				11:02
26			Is that correct?	
27		Α.	That's correct.	
28	103	Q.	Were you made aware that Sergeant Curley had apparently	
29			spoken to Garda Lyons before he had submitted the	

- 1 report?
- 2 A. Sorry?
- 3 104 Q. Were you aware that Garda Lyons and Sergeant Curley had

11:03

11:03

11:04

11 . 04

- 4 apparently discussed the issue before Garda Lyons
- 5 submitted the report?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 105 Q. Can you tell us about your discussion of the issue with
- 8 Sergeant Curley?
- 9 A. Yeah. I suppose, my conversation with Sergeant Curley
- surrounded the fact that, I suppose, I was aware of, I
- suppose, the broad nature of the report, or certainly
- he had brought it to my attention and that essentially
- he had been tasked, I suppose, either himself or to one
- of his people under his area of responsibility, the
- 15 crime detective and drugs unit in Athlone, to obtain a
- statement from Mr. Liam McHugh.
- 17 106 Q. Yes.
- 18 A. And that it was his view that he wasn't, I suppose, the
- appropriate person to do that, due to some knowledge he
- 20 had or, I suppose, that he knew Mr. Liam McHugh.
- 21 107 Q. Well, was this sort of a knowledge based upon personal
- 22 experience of some sort?
- 23 A. Well it's actually to do with --
- 24 108 Q. Where they grew up?
- 25 A. Yeah..
- 26 109 Q. CHAIRMAN: They had grown-up together, I think he said.
- 27 Don't think anybody disputes that, well to date they
- haven't.
- 29 A. That's it, they're from the same locality.

- 1 CHAIRMAN: He brought that to my attention.
- 2 110 Q. MR. McGUINNESS: According to your understanding, who
- 3 had tasked Sergeant Curley with that job?
- 4 A. Superintendent McBrien.
- 5 111 Q. Superintendent McBrien. Did you discuss the matter

11 · 04

11:05

- 6 with Superintendent McBrien?
- 7 A. I don't -- no, I don't believe I did.
- 8 112 Q. Yes.
- 9 A. I am not sure if Superintendent McBrien was present on
- that particular day, but I have no recollection of
- discussing it with Superintendent McBrien but I did
- feel the most appropriate course of action, regardless
- of any discussion I was going to have with
- 14 Superintendent McBrien, was to document my position in
- relation to what was being tasked by Detective Sergeant 11:05
- 16 Curley, to document that and advise the superintendent
- of my view in relation to the matter.
- 18 113 Q. Okay. I think you say in your statement that you asked
- that he return the file to me, that's Sergeant Curley,
- and that's you writing on the file to Superintendent
- 21 McBrien. When you say the file, what are you talking
- 22 about? Was there a file as such?
- A. Well, there was a report from Garda Lyons, which I
- 24 didn't have.
- 25 114 Q. Had you not seen the report?
- 26 A. I don't believe I had at that stage.
- 27 115 Q. Okay. So did you receive a copy of the report?
- 28 A. I got a copy of the report prior to preparing my minute
- to the superintendent.

1	116	Q.	Yes.	
2		Α.	That was a very small file, I appreciate, but that was	
3			the file at that juncture.	
4	117	Q.	Yes. When you saw the report, I mean it's relatively	
5			brief, one could say, did you think it might be	11:06
6			appropriate to ask Garda Lyons for any more details or	
7			to expand on any issues that arose?	
8		Α.	No. I think my view on the matter was, certainly	
9			perhaps at some juncture Sergeant Lyons could have been	
10			asked to expand, but I didn't feel it was appropriate	11:06
11			for me or anyone from Athlone Garda Station to delve	
12			into the matter or investigate the matter.	
13	118	Q.	Well, we will come to that, but you did write and	
14			perhaps we will look at page 808, where there is a copy	
15			of your letter in that regard. It's dated the 8th	11:06
16			July. If we scroll down. It's addressed to the	
17			superintendent. And you say:	
18				
19			"With reference to the above, I believe the association	
20			of Garda members, both with Liam McHugh and the members	11:07
21			involved in the investigation, Garda Lyons, Garda A &	
22			Keogh, make it inappropriate for Gardaí from Athlone to	
23			interview Liam McHugh when colleagues are under	
24			i nvesti gati on.	
25				11:07

I understand Detective Inspector Coppinger is the external appointed officer to investigate this matter and I feel he or his investigation team are the most appropriate persons to interview Mr. McHugh.

11:07

26

27

28

29

Т				
2			I will obtain a mobile number for Liam McHugh, which	
3			will assist the investigation team to arrange a meeting	
4			with Mr. McHugh."	
5				11:07
6			Now, can I just ask you about different elements of	
7			that? In the first line you are referring to the	
8			"association of Garda members both with Liam McHugh and	
9			the members involved in the investigation".	
10		Α.	Yeah.	11:08
11	119	Q.	Who are the members you're referring to there in the	
12			first line? Are there any particular members?	
13		Α.	Yes. Detective Sergeant Curley.	
14	120	Q.	Okay. And is it only Detective Sergeant Curley you had	
15			in mind there?	11:08
16		Α.	It's only Detective Sergeant Curley I had in mind but I	
17			couldn't be sure there weren't other members.	
18	121	Q.	Yes.	
19		Α.	Because there's a lot of Garda members obviously living	
20			in the locality familiar with people in the locality.	11:08
21	122	Q.	Yes.	
22		Α.	And I was capturing other members who may also be	
23			associated.	
24	123	Q.	Yes. Okay. So that's certainly Sergeant Curley and	
25			possibly other members?	11:08
26		Α.	Yes.	
27	124	Q.	Both with Liam McHugh. And then "The members involved	
28			with the investigation", now what investigation are you	
29			referring to there in that line?	

- 1 A. The protected disclosures investigation.
- 2 125 Q. The Ó Cualáin investigation?
- A. Yes. Yeah, I think I referred to it later in the minute.
- 5 126 Q. Yes. It's just you seem to have lumped those three

 named guards into that investigation. Was that your

 intention? Were you assuming or did you have some sort
- 8 of knowledge that those three guards were involved in
- 9 the Ó Cualáin investigation?
- 10 A. I was aware that -- yes, I was aware that the
 11 allegations that Garda Keogh had made related to Garda
 12 A, who, I suppose, was a colleague of Garda Lyons and I
 13 suppose I couldn't be sure what other members were part

11:10

15 127 Q. Yes.

14

16 A. But certainly...

of it.

- 17 128 Q. Obviously Sergeant Curley, I take it, was one of the senior sergeants in Athlone?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 129 Q. You and he had come to the view that it was
 11:10
 21 inappropriate to go to Mr. McHugh?
- A. Well, I think, yeah, well, I had formed -- I suppose that was my independent view in relation to the position.
- 25 130 Q. Yes.
- 26 A. Yes.
- 27 131 Q. I understand that. But Garda Keogh seems to have 28 assured you in one of the phone calls that you have 29 noted and that we have looked at, that you weren't --

- 1 you had nothing to worry about from him?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 132 Q. Did you take it from that, that you weren't going to be

11 · 11

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- 4 involved in the Ó Cualáin investigation in any way?
- 5 A. I couldn't take that from that.
- 6 133 Q. Yes. But obviously you're not associating yourself
- 7 with being --
- 8 A. Yeah, well I was aware from -- my impression was that a
- 9 lot of the allegations were prior to 2010 and prior it
- my arrival in Athlone, but I couldn't be sure what was
- 11 the nature --
- 12 134 Q. All right.
- 13 A. I didn't know the nature of the allegations.
- 14 135 Q. All right. Well, what I am circling around to is this
- issue: Sergeant Curley wasn't appropriate, Garda Keogh 11:11
- had told you you had nothing to worry about, did you
- 17 not think it perhaps a step to be taken that you should
- interview Mr. McHugh?
- 19 A. Absolutely not.
- 20 136 Q. And why do you say that so clearly, if I could ask you, 11:11
- 21 superintendent?
- 22 A. Yeah, because I felt firstly the allegation related to
- 23 wrongdoing in Athlone.
- 24 137 Q. Yes.
- 25 A. So it would be internal Garda policy that you would
- 26 never investigate someone under your own structure or
- chain of command. So it would be against Garda policy
- for me to go and investigation Gardaí in Athlone.
- 29 That's the first reason.

- 1 138 Q. All right.
- 2 A. I also felt that, I suppose, the inferences was that it
- was members in Athlone. Whether the matter was already
- 4 investigation by the Ó Cualáin investigation, I wasn't
- 5 to know that.
- 6 139 Q. Yes.
- 7 A. It could be a matter that came to light during the
- 8 course of their investigation and it could actually be
- 9 a piece that linked in allegations that were already
- made by Garda Keogh. So it could be a missing piece in 11:12
- 11 their investigation. It could also be a situation, I
- felt, that Liam McHugh could need the reassurance from

11:13

- an externally appointed person and he will be more
- 14 comfortable making allegations.
- 15 140 Q. Well, did you know Mr. McHugh?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 141 Q. Did you know him to see?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 142 Q. In terms of your previous answer to me there, you seem
- to be clearly of the view that the investigation of
- this would be an investigation into wrongdoing by
- 22 Gardaí arising from Garda Lyons' report?
- A. Well there was a number of possibilities based on Garda
- 24 Lyons' report.
- 25 143 Q. Yes.
- 26 A. I think about six or seven different scenarios, that
- the report alluded to.
- 28 144 Q. Yes.
- 29 A. Which version of that was the truth, I didn't know at

that juncture. 2 145 Yes. Q. 3 That was something the investigation was going to Α. establish. 4 5 146 Yes. Q. 11:13 6 If Mr. Liam McHugh was willing to make a statement. Α. 7 147 All right. So did you see it as open-ended in terms of Q. 8 what was to be investigated? Absolutely, there was lots of possibilities. 9 Α. So you're not seeing this simply as an investigation or 11:13 10 148 Ο. 11 a possible investigation into Garda Keogh, is that 12 right? Actually, I think, my statement, if can I bring it up, 13 Α. 14 is very clear in relation to where my focus was in 15 relation to this matter and my rationale in relation to 11:14 16 sending it to Galway. 17 Yes. Well, perhaps we will look at page 687, is that 149 Q. 18 the portion you're referring to? The middle of page 19 687. You see there, line 446, you're referring to --20 that's the line in Garda Keogh's statement made to the Tribunal investigators, line 446. You say: 21 22 23 "I note Garda Keogh's reference to the Liam McHugh 24 matter." 25 11:14 26 Is that where you were referring to? Yeah -- no. If we go to line 456. 27 Α.

1

28

29

150

Q.

CHAI RMAN:

Okay, if we go on to page 688 then?

I'm sorry?

1			MR. McGUI NNESS: Page 688.	
2			CHAIRMAN: Thank you.	
3	151	Q.	MR. McGUINNESS: This is the portion of your statement	
4			that you're referring to, is that right?	
5		Α.	Yeah. I suppose what I am saying is:	11:15
6				
7			"I cannot accept that Garda management were only	
8			concerned about whether Garda Keogh went to Liam McHugh	
9			or not. In order to advance the substantive matter, a	
10			statement is required from Liam McHugh to establish if	11:15
11			Gardaí actually stole money from him and spent it. A	
12			statement would allow for the investigation of the	
13			facts contained within. At various levels Garda	
14			management considered who was best placed to take this	
15			statement and obtain a statement. It was my considered	11:15
16			opinion that (then) Assistant Commissioner Ó Cualáin	
17			investigation was best placed to investigate the	
18			matter, which clearly indicates my focus was on the	
19			substantive matter."	
20				11:15
21			And by that I mean, the actual allegation that Gardaí	
22			stole money from Mr. Liam McHugh and spent it.	
23	152	Q.	Yes. Your minute went to Superintendent McBrien and	
24			did you discuss that with her?	
25		Α.	Yes.	11:16
26	153	Q.	She has given her own evidence, but she did write the	
27			next day to Detective Superintendent Mulcahy, isn't	
28			that correct?	
29		Α.	Yeah.	

Т	154	Q.	You become aware or that?	
2		Α.	Yeah.	
3	155	Q.	The way you describe it is that she sent the file on,	
4			is that correct?	
5		Α.	Yes. I think the file had expanded within that period.	11:16
6	156	Q.	Yes. So is it correct that Superintendent Mulcahy	
7			received whatever the entire file was relating to	
8			McHugh via Superintendent McBrien's	
9		Α.	Well, I presume so. I didn't send the file, it was	
10			Superintendent McBrien.	11:17
11	157	Q.	Well, her letter of the 9th July is Volume 14, page	
12			3977. If we go down the page.	
13				
14			"On 2nd June 2014, Garda Aidan Lyons made a report	
15			regarding information he received from Mr. Liam McHugh	11:17
16			concerning Garda Nicholas Keogh. An e-mail outlining	
17			this is attached.	
18				
19			I have requested that a statement regarding this	
20			allegation be taken from Mr. McHugh. Detective	11:17
21			Sergeant Curley, who knows Mr. McHugh personally since	
22			childhood, has stated that he would not be the most	
23			suitable person to take this statement. Garda Tom	
24			Higgins, Athlone, met with Liam McHugh and invited him	
25			to make statement in relation to this incident.	11:18
26			Mr. McHugh refused to make a statement but undertook to	
27			think about it and maybe make himself available to	
28			provide such statement in the future."	

- Can I just stop there. Had you been aware that Garda
- 2 Higgins had approached Mr. McHugh?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 158 Q. So, at the time of your discussion with Sergeant
- 5 Curley, there was no mention of Garda Higgins going out 11:18

11 · 18

11:18

11:19

11 · 19

- 6 or having gone out, is that right?
- 7 A. No, he hadn't gone out.
- 8 159 Q. He hadn't gone out?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 160 Q. But was there any discussion or mention by Sergeant
- 11 Curley of an intention to send Garda Higgins out?
- 12 A. The discussion surrounding that, he been instructed to
- take a statement by the superintendent and I think he
- had received a reminder in respect of that matter
- subsequent, during the period I was abroad.
- 16 161 Q. Sergeant Curley?
- 17 A. Sergeant Curley had.
- 18 162 Q. Yes.
- 19 A. So it was a very clear instruction, to take a statement
- from Mr. Liam McHugh. I suppose Detective Sergeant
- 21 Curley was willing to comply with that requirement but
- he some concerns.
- 23 163 Q. Yes.
- 24 A. Which he brought to my attention on the 8th July. I
- formed my own personal independent view in respect of
- that matter and I wrote to the superintendent
- 27 expressing that in my minute.
- 28 164 Q. Yes. But I just want to be clear in my own mind what
- 29 your evidence is on this point. Did Sergeant Curley

1			mention Garda Higgins during the discussion with you?	
2		Α.	No, I don't believe so. I can't recall any mention of	
3			Garda Higgins.	
4	165	Q.	Did you become aware between the 8th, when you wrote	
5			your letter, and then the 9th, when you discussed the	11:19
6			matter with Superintendent McBrien, that Garda Higgins	
7			had gone out?	
8		Α.	No. I think my conversation with Superintendent	
9			McBrien would have been post the 9th July. But I can't	
10			give a specific timeframe on that. It basically said	11:20
11			that she agreed with my view in respect of the matter	
12			and had sent the matter forward to Detective	
13			Superintendent Mulcahy.	
14	166	Q.	Superintendent McBrien goes on:	
15				11:20
16			"I have considered and agreed with Inspector Minnock	
17			and Detective Sergeant Curley's view that in the light	
18			of your investigation it might be more appropriate and	
19			impartial if someone from outside this district	
20			approached Mr. McHugh to ascertain if he is willing to	11:20
21			make a statement. In the circumstances, would it be	
22			possible for Detective Inspector Coppinger to arrange	
23			to interview Liam McHugh in this regard? Inspector	
24			Mi nnock Athlone"	
25				11:20
26			Then there is a number given	
27				
28			"will assist to arrange such meeting.	
29				

Τ			Garda Keogh is aware that I know about this allegation.	
2			He informed me last night that he is meeting his	
3			confidential recipient on Monday and he will be making	
4			him aware of it.	
5				11:21
6			I would be grateful for your assistance in this	
7			regard. "	
8				
9			Now, it doesn't appear explicitly that Superintendent	
10			McBrien sent on your letter to her to Superintendent	11:21
11			Mulcahy, but she seems to have been very clearly	
12			agreeing with your view?	
13		Α.	Yeah, it appears to me as well from that minute that	
14			she compiled a composite minute of all the	
15			correspondence and placed it into that minute and	11:21
16			forwarded it to Detective Superintendent Mulcahy.	
17			That's what it appears to me.	
18	167	Q.	Now, I think you make it clear in your statement that	
19			you were never contacted by anyone on the Ó Cualáin	
20			team in relation to meeting Mr. McHugh.	11:21
21		Α.	That's correct.	
22	168	Q.	Or arranging an appointment in any way with Mr. McHugh,	
23			isn't that right?	
24		Α.	That's correct.	
25	169	Q.	But did Superintendent McBrien make you aware of any	11:21
26			response that she had received in relation to this	
27			suggestion?	
28		Α.	I think at some stage later we had a brief conversation	
29			to say that the file had returned. But, at that stage	

1			it had been clarified by Garda Keogh that he had no	
2			knowledge of any interaction with Liam McHugh.	
3	170	Q.	Well, did Superintendent McBrien inform you of that,	
4			that she had interviewed him and put the allegation to	
5			Garda Keogh?	11:22
6		Α.	At some point she did.	
7	171	Q.	Well, did you consider that ended the matter?	
8		Α.	Em, I suppose it did, but the reality was the file	
9			wasn't with me at any stage.	
10	172	Q.	All right.	11:22
11		Α.	I merely had got concerns the detective sergeant	
12			brought to me and I felt it appropriate to document my	
13			opinion in respect of that and document it to the	
14			superintendent. That was my sole involvement in the	
15			file.	11:23
16	173	Q.	Yes. You do respond to an element of Garda Keogh's	
17			statement in which he effectively makes a complaint	
18			that there was no investigation ever carried out in	
19			relation to the alleged theft of monies. You say at	
20			page 688 of your statement:	11:23
21				
22			"I believe Garda Keogh is correct in stating that no	
23			investigation took place in relation to the alleged	
24			theft of monies."	
25				11:23
26			Was that a matter of concern to you, that no	
27			investigation had taken place, or were you just	
28			confirming that as a fact?	
29		Α.	I just confirming that as a fact. The reality was, it	

1			wasn't a concern to me because the matter had been	
2			fully satisfied from the point of view that Garda Keogh	
3			had denied he had any interaction with Mr. Liam McHugh	
4			and Mr. McHugh had also said that he had no knowledge	
5			of the situation of what was being alluded to. He also	11:24
6			had said he wasn't willing to make a statement in	
7			respect of the matter. So there was nothing to start	
8			an investigation. The matter was fully addressed in	
9			every avenue and concluded. So it wasn't a matter of	
10			concern to me.	11:24
11	174	Q.	Just going back to your notes. You made a note of the	
12			conversation that you had with him on the 28th May?	
13		Α.	What page, sorry?	
14	175	Q.	On page 779, Volume 4. At the bottom of page 779.	
15		Α.	Yes.	11:25
16	176	Q.	You record there:	
17				
18			"Spoke to Garda Keogh. Had spoken to him in public	
19			office to let him know I wished to speak with him. I	
20			met him in the backyard and had a conversation with	11:25
21			him. I asked him if he had experienced any negative	
22			feelings or comments."	
23				
24			That probably should be	
25				11:25
26			" since he came forward and he said he hasn't. I	
27			told him if there was any change or he had any issue,	
28			he could come to me and I would address the matter.	
29			Garda Keogh mentioned that in relation to the media it	

Т			was not rikery the [brank] issue and not associated.	
2			stated I understood that and again reassured Garda	
3			Keogh that he could come to me with any concerns he	
4			had. Garda Keogh approved satisfied and conversation	
5			fi ni shed. "	11:26
6				
7			Was there any matter that prompted that sort of attempt	
8			to reassure him?	
9		Α.	Yeah. No, I suppose my phone call of the 12/5 was by	
10			way of phone call.	11:26
11	177	Q.	Yes.	
12		Α.	And I suppose when you're, I suppose, giving someone, I	
13			suppose, some reassurance or want to talk to them in	
14			relation to those matters, it would have been more	
15			appropriate if Garda Keogh to talk to him on that	11:26
16			day. So I followed up my phone call from the 12th by	
17			way of personal interaction when he was in the station,	
18			when we were both working together. That was the	
19			reason I followed up on that.	
20	178	Q.	All right. Now, just linking that with a number of	11:26
21			Garda Keogh's concerns which he has given evidence	
22			about, in your minute to Superintendent McBrien you are	
23			talking about the inappropriateness of somebody	
24			interviewing Mr. McHugh, but at that point in time the	
25			Ó Cualáin investigation were interviewing Gardaí in	11:27
26			Athlone. Firstly, did Garda Keogh express any concern	
27			to you about that at the time?	
28		Α.	No. Nor during the process.	
29	179	0.	Did you have any view about that one way or another.	

- from any other guard in Athlone of your own...
- 2 Nobody ever brought it to my attention, any concerns Α. 3 they had in relation to the investigation being carried out in Athlone. I suppose it was my personal view that 4 5 it was certainly very convenient that the investigation 11:27 6 team were coming to us rather than us having to travel 7 The convenience was also enhanced by the fact to them. 8 that when they were asking you questions or queries, I
- know one example of my own, I required to get a court file and I could go to the court office, get the file

11 · 28

11:28

11:28

- and make my statement based on the facts contained
 within the court file. I also had access to Pulse or
- other records that I needed to make statements in
- 14 respect of their investigation. So I personally felt
- it was very convenient and certainly facilitated

 matters for me. personally anyway. I appreciate othe
- 16 matters for me, personally anyway. I appreciate other 17 had different concerns but they may be on the same unit
- as Garda Keogh and hearing his concerns. I appreciate
- they may have a different perspective on it. But from
- my personal point of view, it certainly facilitated...

 21 180 Q. Are these the entirety then of the notes of any
- interactions that you had with Garda Keogh?
- 23 A. Yes. Everything that I disclosed?
- 24 181 Q. Yes?
- 25 A. Yeah.
- 26 182 Q. We will be coming back to issues later, you understand
- that, we're only dealing with issues 1 to 4?
- 28 A. I do.
- 29 183 Q. There is a note which potentially relates to an issue 4

- 1 matter, I think which you made in your journal, of a
- 2 conversation that you had with Garda Greene at a much
- 3 later date, isn't that correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 184 Q. I think if we look at page 801 of your notes, 801 of

11:29

- 6 Volume 3. There is a record of a phone call there on
- 7 the 17/7/2018. My understanding is that that first
- 8 note is incomplete, is that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct. That's correct. I think it's
- 10 available on the hand --
- 11 185 Q. Yes. You didn't prepare these typed versions yourself;
- is that correct?
- 13 A. No, they were actually typed in an office in
- 14 headquarters.
- 15 186 Q. Yes. But you brought it to our attention that there is 11:29
- 16 another few lines which should be --
- 17 A. I did, and I actually have it included in my statement,
- which is --
- 19 187 Q. Yes.
- 20 A. If I just refer to it. I suppose my made my statement
- 21 having gone through my notes and then submitted my
- 22 notes to be typed.
- 23 188 Q. Yes.
- 24 CHAIRMAN: So if we go to your statement, we will find
- 25 a fuller version.
- 26 A. No.
- 27 189 Q. CHAIRMAN: No? Sorry, okay.
- 28 A. I made my statement, which is, I suppose, maybe a
- composite extract of what's there. I refer to it.

- 1 MR. McGUINNESS: Yes, what portion of your statement do
- 2 you wish to refer to?
- 3 190 Q. CHAIRMAN: Superintendent, can you, from your written
- 4 notes, your handwritten notes, can you fill in for us

11:31

11:31

11:31

- 5 what needs to be added to this?
- 6 A. If I have my original diary, I can.
- 7 CHAIRMAN: Thanks very much. Okay.
- 8 MR. McGUINNESS: we have circulated the handwritten
- 9 version of it. It's at page 15823.
- MR. MURPHY: Chairman, with your permission, we have
- the original document here, if that's helpful.
- 12 CHAIRMAN: Very good. Yes, absolutely. 15823, is that
- 13 correct?
- MR. McGUI NNESS: Yes.
- 15 CHAIRMAN: So we have the superintendent here with the
- original document and he is going to tell us the part
- 17 that's missing from the -- he is going to tell us what
- the note says. Would you like to read us the note.
- 19 A. And I suppose this extract here also has it, which is
- the handwritten, it's just not as clear.
- 21 191 Q. CHAIRMAN: Absolutely.
- 22 A. So, if you scroll down to the very bottom of that. The
- entry is on the 17/7.
- 24 192 Q. MR. McGUINNESS: Just to put it in context, this is a
- 25 phone call not from Garda Keogh or with Garda Keogh?
- 26 A. Exactly.
- 27 193 Q. It's is a phone call from Garda Greene?
- 28 A. Yeah, I think the entry clarifies it at the very
- 29 outset. It says:

1				
2			"Call from Garda Greene."	
3	194	Q.	Yes. And it's at a time when Garda Keogh has I think	
4			given evidence of perhaps a change in relationship with	
5			Garda Greene?	11:32
6		Α.	That's correct.	
7	195	Q.	So it is to be taken in that context also?	
8		Α.	Yes.	
9	196	Q.	You have heard that evidence?	
10		Α.	I have.	11:32
11	197	Q.	If you just read out the omitted part, which is the	
12			handwritten last four lines there?	
13		Α.	Okay. At the very bottom of the entry it says:	
14				
15			"Nick said he wasn't happy with Lyons and Curley and	11:32
16			what they'd said after they got disclosure. He seem to	
17			suggest he was going after them now."	
18	198	Q.	Now, obviously it doesn't relate to the disclosure made	
19			by the Tribunal, but it probably relates to either the	
20			Freedom of Information disclosure or the disclosure	11:32
21			made in the course of the Finn investigation?	
22		Α.	Yeah, I couldn't be sure.	
23	199	Q.	You don't know what disclosure is being referred to as	
24			a matter of certainty?	
25		Α.	I don't.	11:32
26	200	Q.	Again, this is a hearsay version of Garda Keogh's	
27			expressions, if being accurately relayed through Garda	
28			Greene?	
29		Α.	That's correct.	

1	201	Q.	Right.	
2		Α.	Just to clarify, I suppose in my statement on page 708	
3			I just say that:	
4				
5			"Garda Keogh stated he wasn't happy with"	11:33
6				
7			I have in brackets:	
8				
9			" sergeant Aidan (Lyons) or (Inspector Eamon) Curley	
10			after he got disclosure and he was after them now."	11:33
11				
12			I made a contemporaneous note in my Garda journal.	
13				
14			CHAIRMAN: Thank you.	
15	202	Q.	MR. McGUINNESS: You have included that in your	11:33
16			original statement?	
17		Α.	I have, and in my original disclosure.	
18	203	Q.	Thank you, Superintendent Minnock. We will be	
19			recalling you at a later date. Other parties may wish	
20			to cross-examine you now.	11:34
21				
22			END OF EXAMINATION	
23				
24			CHAIRMAN: Now, yes, Mr. O'Brien.	
25				11:34
26			SUPERINTENDENT ALDAN MINNOCK WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY	_
27			MR. O'BRIEN, AS FOLLOWS:	
28				
29			MR. O'BRIEN: Good morning, Chairman. Good morning,	

1			superintendent.	
2		Α.	Good morning.	
3	204	Q.	I am going to ask you some questions on behalf of Garda	
4			Keogh. Just going back first of all, I think you	
5			described your relationship with Garda Keogh in your	11:34
6			statement at page 685 as that you had a good	
7			relationship with him, isn't that right?	
8		Α.	That's correct.	
9	205	Q.	I just want to ask you a question just to ascertain the	
10			position on the ground, as it were, prior to 2014. We	11:34
11			know that you were stationed in Athlone since 2010 and	
12			I will frame this question in the same way as I asked	
13			Inspector Farrell yesterday: Were you aware that there	
14			were rumours as to certain matters circulating either	
15			in the community or in the station at that time?	11:34
16		Α.	No.	
17	206	Q.	Okay. Just to move on to discuss the issue concerning	
18			Liam McHugh. We know that this arose as a result of an	
19			e-mail that was sent by Detective Sergeant Curley	
20			sorry, by Garda Lyons sorry, it's on foot of a	11:35
21			report by Garda Lyons, it's sent by e-mail from	
22			Detective Sergeant Curley to Inspector Farrell. When	
23			you returned from the United States in July, did you	
24			and Inspector Farrell discuss this issue?	
25		Α.	No.	11:35
26	207	Q.	So the first time you became aware of it was from your	
27			conversation with Detective Sergeant Curley, is that	
28			correct?	

29 A. That's correct.

- 1 208 Q. Do you recall that conversation with Detective Sergeant 2 Curley?
- 3 A. I do.
- 4 209 Q. Did I understand you a moment ago to say that at the
 5 time you didn't have a copy of the e-mail containing the report?
- A. Well, when the initial conversation happened I didn't
 have a copy, that I'm aware of, certainly not on my
 desk, because I asked for the file at that juncture,
 prior to preparing my minute, which was essentially the report from Sergeant Lyons.
- 12 210 Q. I see. So the information as it was relayed to you was 13 from Detective Sergeant Curley. It was his explanation 14 to you as to what the report contained, is that right?
- 15 A. Well, I suppose Sergeant Curley was merely, I suppose, 11:36

 16 explaining the concerns surrounding him, the

 17 appropriateness of him making or taking the statement

 18 from Mr. Liam McHugh.
- 19 211 Q. I see. I suppose what I am trying to ascertain first
 20 of all is, what was your understanding of the content
 21 of the report or what was he saying to you about Liam
 22 McHugh and essentially what the allegation was?

11:36

A. He just basically said that there was an allegation.

He didn't -- I suppose, it certainly is quite complex,

so I don't think he tried to explain all of that.

Rather, the conversation surrounded the appropriateness

of him actually taking the statement from Liam McHugh

or tasking someone from his unit or section to take the

statement from Liam McHugh. I suppose he was seeking

- 1 either was I on the same page as him or was -- did I 2 have a different view or what was my independent view on the matter. And I had my own view on the matter. 3 4 But did you understand it at that stage, when 212 Q. 5 you're speaking to Detective Sergeant Curley, that it's 11:37 6 an allegation of wrongdoing relating to Gardaí in Athlone? 7 I did. 8 Α. Okay. Did you see that as -- I presume you did see it 9 213 Q. as a serious issue? 10 11:37 11 Absolutely. Α. 12 214 Did you take any note of your conversation with 0. 13 Detective Sergeant Curley? 14 Α. I documented it on the minute on the 8th July 2014, I 15 suppose the nature of what I felt surrounding the 11:37 16 outcome of that conversation with Detective Sergeant 17 Curley. 18 215 That's the minute that we have seen a few moments ago? Q. 19 That's correct. Α. That was opened by Mr. McGuinness. 20 216 But in terms Q. 11:38 perhaps of a diary entry, did you make any journal note 21 22 or a diary entry of it, just given its seriousness? Certainly not. I wouldn't feel the need. 23 I suppose Α. 24 every matter we deal with in An Garda Síochána is a
- 28 217 Q. I see.

25

26

27

29 A. So I didn't.

serious matter.

think it was well documented.

the matter expressing your specific views on it, I

If you are going to put a minute on

- 1 218 Q. I think the situation then evolved and you asked for a
- 2 copy of the file so that you could write to
- 3 Superintendent McBrien, isn't that right?
- 4 A. That's correct, yeah.
- 5 219 Q. And that's how the letter, or the minute, as you say of 11:38

- 6 the 8th --
- 7 220 Q. CHAIRMAN: Sorry, I thought you asked for the file?
- 8 A. I asked for the file as it stood.
- 9 CHAIRMAN: Yes, Mr. O'Brien said you asked for a copy
- of the file. I thought you asked for the file.
- MR. O'BRIEN: Sorry.
- 12 CHAIRMAN: I thought it was a file, it wasn't as if
- there were copies around. That's what my understanding
- is so far.
- 15 221 Q. MR. O'BRIEN: You asked for the file, just to clarify, 11:39
- superintendent?
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 222 Q. And you were provided with that?
- 19 A. Yeah.
- 20 223 Q. At that stage did you have any conversation with
- 21 Inspector Farrell about this issue?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 224 Q. Did you know that Inspector Farrell had sent the issue
- up the line, as it were, to Chief Superintendent
- 25 Curran? 11:39
- A. No. I can't say I was aware of that. I probably would
- 27 have suspected that may have happened but... That
- happened in my absence, so I can't say that I was aware
- of that.

1	225	Q.	When you discussed the matter with Superintendent	
2			McBrien, was it brought to your attention that in fact	
3			the issue had been sent up the line to Chief	
4			Superintendent Curran?	
5		Α.	I was aware that the matter I think my conversation	11:39
6			with Superintendent McBrien surrounding the escalation	
7			of the matter to the Galway investigation team. I	
8			don't believe I I don't recollect any conversations	
9			around escalation of the matter to the chief	
10			superintendent.	11:40
11	226	Q.	I think you said to us a few moments ago, or you said	
12			to the Chairman a few moments ago that your focus was	
13			on the substantive matter?	
14		Α.	That's correct.	
15	227	Q.	Is that right?	11:40
16		Α.	That's correct.	
17	228	Q.	would it be fair to say, however, that the focus of the	
18			Garda management was on Garda Keogh's involvement in	
19			this issue?	
20		Α.	I can't accept that at all. The reality of the matter	11:40
21			is that the superintendent, who is the manager,	
22			escalated the matter to the Galway investigation team.	
23			So I totally disagree with that.	
24	229	Q.	We know that the matter sorry, that Superintendent	
25			McBrien did write to Detective Superintendent Mulcahy	11:40
26			and that he wrote back, and his letter is at page 1191.	
27			His view, as we can see if that can be brought up,	
28			please. You can see in the second last paragraph	
29			there, he felt:	

1				
2			"I feel it may be prudent for an independent	
3			investigation to be conducted to progress these	
4			matters."	
5				11:41
6			So he was of the view that this should be investigated	
7			independently, is that right?	
8		Α.	Sorry, I just can't see the screen.	
9			MR. KELLY: I don't think it has been brought up on	
10			the screen.	11:41
11		Α.	I can't see the screen.	
12			MR. KELLY: Sorry, the witness can't see the screen.	
13			He's getting a hard copy.	
14		Α.	Thank you. Apologies.	
15	230	Q.	MR. O'BRIEN: Now, you can see there from the second	11:41
16			last paragraph, it says:	
17				
18			"I feel that it may be prudent for an independent	
19			investigation to be conducted to progress these	
20			matters."	11:41
21				
22			That is Superintendent Mulcahy.	
23		Α.	Yes.	
24	231	Q.	That was your view as well, was it?	
25		Α.	Yes.	11:41
26	232	Q.	Were you surprised then when that didn't occur?	
27		Α.	Em, not when all the matters were bottomed out.	
28	233	Q.	I mean	
29		Α.	A investigation commences with a statement. With no	

- 1 statement, there is no investigation.
- 2 234 Q. Well, you said a few moments ago that it wasn't a
- 3 concern to you as the matter was fully satisfied,
- 4 because Garda Keogh, I am paraphrasing here, said he
- 5 had no knowledge. That's a position he maintained from 11:42

- 6 the outset, isn't that right; that he had no knowledge
- 8 A. From his interaction --
- 9 235 Q. With Liam McHugh?
- 10 A. With Superintendent McBrien.
- 11 236 Q. Yes. But he maintained that he had no knowledge of
- this incident ever occurring, isn't that correct?
- 13 A. And the date of that?
- 14 237 Q. No, at the time. When you were dealing with this issue
- 15 at the time, did you understand Garda Keogh's position
- in relation to Mr. McHugh, that he had no interaction
- 17 with him at all?
- 18 A. No. That precedes my minute of the 8th July.
- 19 238 Q. Okay. You said a moment ago that the issue wasn't a
- concern to you at the end because the matter was fully
- 21 satisfied because Garda Keogh said he had no knowledge
- and Mr. McHugh said he had no knowledge, you said in
- your evidence?
- 24 A. That's correct.
- 25 239 Q. But didn't that leave open, I suppose, a third perhaps
- live issue, and that's the content of what's contained
- in Garda Lyons' report. How did Garda Lyons -- why the
- substance of the report wasn't investigated in relation
- to Garda Lyons?

- A. What you are asking me is, did I question the credibility of Sergeant Lyons?
- 3 240 Q. Yes.
- 4 A. No.
- 5 241 Q. Why was that?
- 6 A. Did I question the credibility of Garda Keogh? No.

11:44

11:44

11:44

11 · 44

- 7 There's one person left.
- 8 242 Q. Do you know why the matter wasn't properly
- 9 investigated, as Garda Keogh has maintained?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 243 Q. And why is that?
- 12 A. Because there was no statement. Every matter was
- 13 bottomed out, that I am aware of.
- 14 244 Q. Is it your view that a statement should not have been
- 15 taken from Garda Lyons?
- 16 A. Garda Lyons had provided a report. So at that stage
- 17 there was -- I wouldn't have seen any need for the
- 18 taking of a statement.
- 19 245 Q. At that stage, can I just ask you, were you aware that
- internally Garda Keogh was dealing with, as we have
- 21 described it, the Pulse entry from the 18th May? So he
- was dealing with queries from the senior management in
- relation to that. Were you aware of that?
- A. I wouldn't have been directly aware of it, but I would
- 25 have known there was some queries surrounding that.
- 26 But where those queries -- what Garda Keogh was
- answering or not answering certainly would have passed
- 28 my desk.
- 29 246 Q. I see. Were you aware, secondly, that he was dealing

1			with queries relating to Olivia O'Neill?	
2		Α.	Not really. I wasn't overly familiar with the Olivia	
3			O'Neill investigating file at any stage.	
4	247	Q.	Okay. And obviously you were aware that he oh	
5			sorry, were you aware that he was dealing with	11:45
6			questions in relation to the Liam McHugh issue?	
7		Α.	I was aware that he was going to have to, subsequent to	
8			my minute of the 8th July, answer questions in relation	
9			to the Liam McHugh matter.	
10	248	Q.	When you consider these three issues running side by	11:45
11			side, these three investigations, would you accept that	
12			taken together, as Garda Keogh has said, that this is	
13			evidence of targeting of Garda Keogh?	
14		Α.	Absolutely not. I fully refute that. All of those	
15			matters came to light not manufactured by Garda	11:46
16			management but came to Garda management's attention,	
17			and all of those matters had to be bottomed out, which	
18			was done so by Garda management. I fully refute that.	
19			MR. O'BRIEN: I don't have any further questions,	
20			Chairman.	11:46
21				
22			END OF EXAMINATION	
23				
24			CHAIRMAN: Thanks very much. Now, who is next?	
25			Mr. Kane?	11:46
26			MR. KANE: Judge, I have two short questions for the	
27			witness, please.	
28			CHAIRMAN: Very good. Is it right that you should go	
29			next and then I go to the Gardaí? Are you happy with	

1			that.	
2			MR. KANE: very happy.	
3			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Mr. Kane, just remind	
4			us who you are for.	
5			MR. KANE: Yes. Insofar as it concerns these, I am for	11:46
6			Garda Fergal Greene.	
7			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.	
8				
9			SUPERINTENDENT ALDAN MINNOCK WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY	_
10			MR. KANE, AS FOLLOWS:	11:46
11				
12	249	Q.	MR. KANE: Superintendent Minnock, I want to ask you	
13			questions about two statements that are made in your	
14			statement. The first is on page 701, please. You	
15			should see towards the top of the page, in the second	11:47
16			paragraph, it says:	
17				
18			"I asked Sergeant Haran if I should approach Garda	
19			Keogh. Sergeant Haran reckoned it would not be the	
20			best move as Garda Keogh did not seek any more or other	11:47
21			interventions from Local management at that time."	
22				
23			Do you see that?	
24		Α.	The 19th May?	
25			CHAIRMAN: Do we know when that is, Mr. Kane? Surely	11:47
26			we need to go backwards.	
27			MR. KANE: well, it's not dated in the statement but if	
28			you trace back the previous sentence	
29			CHAIRMAN: That's what I was hoping. If you look back	

1			at the previous page, we need to find something.	
2			MR. KANE: It appears to be 2015. The last date in the	
3			statement is 5th January 2015.	
4			CHAIRMAN: Yes.	
5		Α.	Yeah.	11:47
6	250	Q.	MR. KANE: So, did you inform Garda Greene of that	
7			information.	
8		Α.	No.	
9	251	Q.	Can I ask you, please, to turn to page 707. At the	
10			very bottom of the page, you're referring, I think, to	11:48
11			an in person conversation between yourself and Garda	
12			Keogh. And at the very bottom of the page, it says:	
13				
14			"He" and I think that is Garda Keogh:	
15				11:48
16			"said that the chief superintendent was already in	
17			touch with him and he asked for it to top and that any	
18			further direct contact would be seen as harassment. He	
19			said he already complained about bullying and	
20			harassment from management and he doesn't want any more	11:48
21			contact from them. I asked would he like me to remain	
22			in contact with him and he said it would be better if I	
23			di dn' t. "	
24				
25			Did you pass on that information to Garda Greene?	11:49
26		Α.	No. Just to clarify, I suppose, I didn't pass on any	
27			of my conversations with Garda Keogh to Garda Greene.	
28	252	0	Vary wall Thank you suparintandant	

1	END OF EXAMINATION	
2		
3	CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Mr. Murphy.	
4	MR. MURPHY: Yes, Chairman.	
5	MR. O'CONNOR: I beg your pardon, Chairman, Stephen	11:49
6	O'Connor.	
7	CHAIRMAN: I am sorry, Mr. O'Connor. Should you go	
8	next, Mr. O'Connor? Who are you for?	
9	MR. O'CONNOR: I appear for retired Assistant	
10	Commissioner Fintan Fanning, I am instructed by Sean	11:49
11	Costello Solicitors.	
12	CHAIRMAN: Yes. And do you think you should go next?	
13	MR. O' CONNOR: Towards the close of Superintendent	
14	Minnock's evidence to Mr. McGuinness, a document was	
15	opened in which adverse references were made to	11:49
16	Assistant Commissioner Fanning.	
17	CHAIRMAN: This is the note, the handwritten note of	
18	the conversation that this witness had with Fergal	
19	Greene, Garda Greene, is that right?	
20	MR. O'CONNOR: Precisely, Chairman.	11:50
21	CHAIRMAN: That's right.	
22	MR. O'CONNOR: From July 2018.	
23	CHAIRMAN: It did, yes. That's correct.	
24	MR. O'CONNOR: The effect of that is that in a	
25	collateral way that has now been aired in public this	11:50
26	morning.	
27	CHAIRMAN: Are you objecting to that, Mr. O'Connor?	
28	MR. O'CONNOR: No, I don't think we could object to the	
29	document being opened but it does have the effect	

1	perhaps that Assistant Commissioner Fanning's name,	
2	good name has now been engaged and without the	
3	relevance of the material that I am referring to, to	
4	the Terms of Reference of the Tribunal is certainly	
5	tenuous, albeit that Garda Keogh was in fact	11:50
6	cross-examined by the Commissioner's legal team in	
7	respect of the same conversation.	
8	CHAIRMAN: What do you suggest I should do or how	
9	should we deal with the matter?	
10	MR. O'CONNOR: I would like to ask, on that basis,	11:50
11	Superintendent Minnock just two or three questions.	
12	CHAIRMAN: Yes. Do you think that you should go before	
13	Mr. Murphy, because if you do, I would be reasonably	
14	sympathetic to that, subject to hearing what Mr. Murphy	
15	has to say? Would you prefer that or would you prefer	11:51
16	to hold your fire until such time as you have heard	
17	Mr. Murphy?	
18	MR. MURPHY: Chairman, I have no objection if my Friend	
19	goes first.	
20	CHAIRMAN: Yes. Tell me, you might be better off to	11:51
21	wait until Mr. Murphy has asked whatever he is going	
22	to, so that if something arises in it, you're in a	
23	better position. I will do whatever you want me to do.	
24	MR. O'CONNOR: I am happy to wait until Mr. Murphy has	
25	finished examining the witness, just in case something	11:51
26	does arise.	
27	CHAIRMAN: I think as a matter of practical politics,	
28	so to speak, a matter of practical justice, it's	
29	probably better. That seems better, Mr. Murphy.	

Т			MR. MURPHY: Yes, Chairman.	
2			CHAIRMAN: If something arises, there may be something	
3			else for Mr. O'Connor. And I take his point as to the	
4			questionable or whether it's of tangental relevance to	
5			the Terms of Reference. I take his point about that	11:52
6			and I'm obviously not making any ruling on that. So	
7			you take your own source, Mr. O'Connor. Okay, thank	
8			you very much. Thank you for that intervention,	
9			Mr. O'Connor.	
10			MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you, Chairman.	11:52
11				
12			SUPERINTENDENT ALDAN MINNOCK WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY	_
13			MR. MURPHY, AS FOLLOWS	
14				
15	253	Q.	MR. MURPHY: Superintendent Minnock, thank you. You	11:52
16			have been asked questions in relation to the Liam	
17			McHugh issue. I wonder if you could please be shown	
18			page 695. This, I think, is an extract from your	
19			statement. Could I refer you please to the middle of	
20			the page and I wonder if it could scrolled down,	11:52
21			please, just to the centre. Thank you. And the	
22			paragraph beginning "on page 9 and 10", do you see	
23			that?	
24		Α.	Yes.	
25	254	Q.	Can I just ask you to confirm, what is said there, I	11:52
26			think you say that Garda Keogh mentions the issue	
27			surrounding Liam McHugh and you say that you have	
28			addressed your involvement in the matter and then you	
29			go on to sav:	

1				
2			"I do not accept that the focus of the matter was the	
3			alleged coercion of Garda Keogh towards Liam McHugh,	
4			inducing him to make a complaint against other Gardaí.	
5			The other substantive matter surrounds the alleged	11:53
6			theft from Liam McHugh and this assertion was a concern	
7			to me. "	
8				
9			Can I ask you, does that confirm what you meant earlier	
10			when you said the substantive matter?	11:53
11		Α.	Absolutely. That was a serious and significant	
12			allegation that was in that report.	
13	255	Q.	Yes. I wonder could you then please be shown document	
14			number 15823, please. This is the handwritten note	
15			which Mr. McGuinness asked you about. I think have you	11:53
16			the original diary with you in the box, is that	
17			correct?	
18			CHAIRMAN: This is the matter Mr. O'Connor referred to.	
19			MR. MURPHY: That's the very same matter, yes.	
20		Α.	Yes.	11:53
21	256	Q.	MR. MURPHY: Again, just because the handwriting is	
22			slightly opaque, could I ask you just to assist us by	
23			indicating what that entry say, from the top, please.	
24			I think this is call from Garda Greene?	
25		Α.	That's correct.	11:54
26				
27			"Fergal Greene, Garda, 17/7/2018"	
28				
29			Is when the entry was made	

1				
2			"Call from Garda Greene telling me he got phone call	
3			from Garda Nick Keogh. He said that Garda was drunk	
4			and he was ranting on a bit. He said he had been	
5			talking to Assistant Commissioner Fanning and he said	11:54
6			he was going to look after all of them. He said he'd	
7			been in touch with them all and was going to meet up.	
8			He asked Fergal if he wanted to come on board and that	
9			he'd look after him too.	
10				11:54
11			Nick said that Fanning was after"	
12	257	Q.	You needn't name the next person. And then "was	
13			surpri sed"?	
14		Α.	"And was surprised that Nick knew about any issue and	
15			it confirmed to him that Keogh had been talking to	11:54
16			Fanni ng.	
17				
18			Nick said he wasn't happy with Lyons and Curley and	
19			what they'd said after he'd got disclosure. He seemed	
20			to suggest he was going after them now."	11:54
21	258	Q.	I think that last passage is the one that	
22			Mr. McGuinness asked you about?	
23		Α.	Yes.	
24	259	Q.	This was information relayed to you by Garda Greene,	
25			based on he said he had spoken to Garda Keogh about it?	11:55
26		Α.	That's correct.	
27	260	Q.	You made a note of this in your diary?	
28		Α.	That's correct.	
29	261	0.	Were you surprised by this information?	

1		Α.	Yes.	
2	262	Q.	In terms of the questions you have been asked	
3			concerning your approach and relationship to the Liam	
4			McHugh issue, can I ask you, in terms of all the steps	
5			that you took, did you witness any of your colleagues	11:55
6			targeting Garda Keogh in relation to that complaint?	
7		Α.	No. I certainly didn't.	
8	263	Q.	And was it your intention or was it your objective at	
9			any stage of your involvement in this process to target	
10			or discredit or to hurt Garda Keogh?	11:55
11		Α.	Absolutely not.	
12	264	Q.	MR. MURPHY: Thank you.	
13				
14			END OF EXAMINATION	
15				11:55
16			CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. O'Connor. Everyone happy if	
17			Mr. O'Connor goes next? Ms. O'Rourke, are you happy?	
18			MS. O'ROURKE: I have no questions.	
19			CHAIRMAN: Thanks very much.	
20			MR. CONLON: No questions.	11:56
21			CHAIRMAN: Then we will come back to Mr. McGuinness.	
22			Okay, Mr. O'Connor.	
23				
24			SUPERINTENDENT ALDAN MINNOCK WAS THEN CROSS-EXAMINED BY	-
25			MR. O' CONNOR, AS FOLLOWS:	11:56
26				
27	265	Q.	MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you, Chairman. Superintendent	
28			Minnock, I appear for retired Assistant Commissioner	
29			Fintan Fanning. I think you accepted in your	

1			direct-evidence that what you are recording here as a	
2			note is hearsay. It's information which has been	
3			passed from allegedly passed from Garda Keogh to	
4			Garda Greene and then on to you, isn't that correct?	
5		Α.	That's correct.	11:56
6	266	Q.	It's second or thirdhand information?	
7		Α.	It is secondhand information, yes.	
8	267	Q.	Yes. In fact, Assistant Commissioner Fanning will say	
9			that he only ever met with Garda Keogh on two	
10			occasions. I presume that you're not in a position to	11:56
11			dispute or deny that?	
12		Α.	No.	
13	268	Q.	He will say that he met Garda Keogh first, I think, on	
14			an unannounced visit to Athlone Garda Station in	
15			October of 2015 and briefly spoke with Garda Keogh on	11:56
16			that occasion. He will also say that he also met Garda	
17			Keogh on one further occasion, in August of 2019, at	
18			Mullingar Garda station on a completely unrelated issue	
19			and you are not in a position, I take it, to take any	
20			issue with any of that?	11:57
21		Α.	No.	
22	269	Q.	You might be aware that Garda Keogh was in fact	
23			cross-examined by the counsel for the Commissioner in	
24			respect of this entry, were you aware of that, in the	
25			course of the Tribunal?	11:57
26		Α.	I wasn't.	
27	270	Q.	It might be helpful to bring up the transcript for Day	
28			112, page 88. Yes, question number 347. Perhaps for	
29			the benefit of the witness. Chairman. I will just read	

1	out these passages. Mr. Murphy was cross-examining
2	Garda Keogh at this stage and he said:
3	
4	"MR. MURPHY: Superintendent Minnock will say that on
5	the 17th July of 2018 he received a call from Garda
6	Greene who said he had been speaking to you and he said
7	that you had been drunk and had been ranting on a bit.
8	But also he said that you had been talking you told
9	him that you were talking to Assistant Commissioner
10	Fanning and that he was going to look after all of
11	them. Is that what you said to Garda Greene?"
12	
13	Garda Keogh answered:
14	
15	"A. I don't know what I said to Garda Greene, but
16	that's definitely not true, that part is a hundred
17	percent not true."
18	
19	He was then asked:
20	
21	"Q. Garda Greene, Inspector Minnock told him that
22	he said that you had asked Garda Greene if he wanted to
23	come on board and he'd look after him too. Did that
24	conversation happen?"
25	
26	The answer to that question is:
27	
28	"A. I can't speak in relation to what I may have told
29	Garda Greene. As briefly I touched on yesterday,

1	Judge, a lot of the stuff I was aware Garda Greene
2	was spending a lot of time in the superintendent's
3	office. So at that point I did use the word yesterday
4	misinformation and that is a common police tactic."
5	
6	Then the Tribunal intervened and Garda Keogh clarified:
7	
8	"A. Misinformation. Judge, the part in relation to
9	I can't I'm not denying that I would have said that
10	to Garda Greene. But what I will say is, that part of
11	me talking to Assistant Commissioner Fanning, I may
12	have said that to Garda Greene but that did not
13	happen. "
14	
15	Then the Chairman asked:
16	
17	"CHAIRMAN: Okay. So you may have said it to him?
18	A. Yes.
19	Q. CHAIRMAN: But if you did, it wasn't correct?
20	A. Yes, Judge."
21	
22	The next question:
23	
24	"Q. CHAIRMAN: Or said in drink or whatever it was?"
25	
26	Then Garda Keogh said:
27	
28	"A. Yeah, it could also have been it could have
29	also been deliberate misinformation as well. Because I

1			was aware that he was running back with everything. So	
2			at that stage"	
3				
4			So my question to you is, I presume you're not in a	
5			position to deny Garda Keogh's explanation that this	11:59
6			was in fact deliberate misinformation on this part with	
7			regard to Assistant Commissioner Fanning, you're not in	
8			a position to dispute that or deny that?	
9		Α.	No.	
10	271	Q.	Assistant Commissioner Fanning will deny in full that	11:59
11			any such conversation between himself and Garda Keogh	
12			ever took place. Do you have any comment to make on	
13			that?	
14		Α.	No.	
15			MR. O'CONNOR: Thank you, Superintendent Minnock.	12:00
16				
17			END OF EXAMINATION	
18				
19			CHAIRMAN: Now, Mr. McGuinness, anything arising?	
20			MR. McGUINNESS: Nothing arising.	12:00
21			CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. All right, thank you	
22			very much indeed, superintendent.	
23			WITNESS: Thank you, Chairman.	
24			CHAIRMAN: We won't want you now on issues 1 to 4 but	
25			obviously there will be other issues arising at a later	12:00
26			stage and so on. So, thank you very much for today.	
27			Now, Mr. McGuinness, that seems to conclude the	
28			business of today.	
29			MR McGUINNESS: Ves it does Chairman You will note	

1	that we had adjourned the taking of Garda Treacy's	
2	evidence until Monday morning.	
3	CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand, and that was a reasonable	
4	request for reasonable convenience. Obviously, if it	
5	hadn't been the case, then we would have proceeded with	12:00
6	other evidence. There are other reasons why these	
7	things happen. So I think everybody pretty well	
8	understands that scheduling is a somewhat imprecise	
9	activity.	
10	MR. McGUINNESS: Just to say, Chairman, it is proposed	12:00
11	to continue taking evidence on Monday morning at 10:30,	
12	commencing with Chief Superintendent Murray.	
13	CHAIRMAN: Yes.	
14	MR. McGUINNESS: But it is intended to interpose Garda	
15	Treacy after midday.	12:01
16	CHAIRMAN: So somewhere around 12:30, for her	
17	convenience we will take Garda Treacy, Stephanie	
18	Treacy, isn't that right?	
19	MR. McGUINNESS: Then we will be resuming Chief	
20	Superintendent Murray's evidence after that, just so	12:0
21	everyone is on notice of that.	
22	CHAIRMAN: Okay, everybody understands that. we're all	
23	right on that, Mr. Kelly, you're aware of it.	
24	MR. MURPHY: Yes, Chairman. Mr. McGuinness informed	
25	me, Chairman, of that position.	12:0
26	CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you very much. Very good.	
27		
28	THE HEARING THEN ADJOURNED UNTIL MONDAY, 2ND DECEMBER	
29	2019, AT 10: 30AM	

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