

Witness Name: Carmen Thompson

Exhibits:

Dated: 11.03.26

THE SOUTHPORT INQUIRY

SECOND WITNESS STATEMENT OF CARMEN THOMPSON

I, Carmen Thompson, will say as follows: -

INTRODUCTION

1. I am a Police Sergeant 10216 of Greater Manchester Police.
2. This witness statement is made to assist the Southport Inquiry (the "Inquiry") with the matters set out in the Rule 9 Request dated the 5th March 2026.

BACKGROUND

3. I have previously set out my qualifications and experience for the Inquiry but for ease of reference can confirm that I joined Lancashire Constabulary in October 2016 as part of the early action intake which was an initiative designed to place more officers in the community to prevent criminality. In 2018, I successfully applied to the Prevent programme and started with Prevent on 3rd December 2018. I left Prevent on promotion to Sergeant in July 2021, where I took up a role in the change and continuous development team. I remained in that role until June 2023 when I went into Force Crime Management Unit as a Sergeant subsequently transferring to GMP in March 2025. I am currently a Sergeant in Prevent at GMP.

MY ROLE IN THE PREVENT PROGRAMME

4. At the time of my involvement with AR, I was based in the prevent programme as a Counter Terrorism Case Officer (CTCO), which is equivalent to the role/rank of Police Constable, based at Padiham Police Station.

5. As previously stated in my evidence to the Inquiry and in my statement, I can confirm that I was present at the Strategy Meeting regarding AR on the 17th December 2019. At no stage did Joanne Hodson provide me with a hard copy bundle of AR's internet browsing history, nor did I ever have sight of such a bundle. At no stage throughout my involvement with AR did I become aware of any information regarding AR's browsing history beyond that contained within the prevent referrals.
6. Aside from my recollection this can be taken from the contemporaneous material, particularly my entries in my Day Book, which support my recollection:
 - a. In my Day Book for the meeting [CTPNW000157], I have detailed contemporaneous notes of the meeting (they are in total 12 pages). At page 15 [CTPNW000157/15]. I detail the further steps that are anticipated including the organisation of further meetings. At the foot of that page I have recorded "Sgt 253 Early Action Acorns IT are looking into internet searches". I would not have written that if that was not what was stated in the meeting on the basis that the searches were not available at that time. If the search history had been provided, I would have recorded that in line with my ordinary practice in terms of record keeping. In addition, as stated in my evidence it would have been a feature of my ongoing decision making if I had it.
 - b. Following that meeting, as I set out in my statement [paragraph 38] this was further discussed at the strategy meeting on the 6th January 2020, on the basis that Merseyside Police and Acorn School would be carrying out further inquiries into the internet search history with the anticipation that I would be updated accordingly. My Day Book entry of that meeting [CTPNW000157 at 24 or CTPNW000023 at 24] includes the notes "...internet history from school investigated by Merseyside".
 - c. That must be considered alongside the Action Report [HOM000009] which expands on those notes in the Day Book with my understanding of what was occurring and was to occur. It contains the following **"The devices are being examined, the school internet history is also being looked at by Merseyside Police, they will update accordingly with any concerns found."** As we know I was unfortunately not updated with any concerns.
7. I have accepted as part of my evidence to the inquiry the steps I could and perhaps should have taken in relation to obtaining the internet history with the benefit of hindsight. I have through my involvement with the Inquiry learned of some of the details of it. Had I been aware of it at the time, I have already set out how this would have affected my approach.
8. The above mirrors my recollection of events. That being said, I feel compelled to make the observation that there would have been no reason, and certainly no

advantage to me, in making the above entries at the time if they did not reflect the reality of what had occurred and my understanding of what had occurred.

Statement of Truth

I believe that the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signature

Signed

Dated 11/03/26

