

All the officers (apart from DC Walker who exercised his right in law to remain silent, having established that there were no fresh allegations which had not already been put to him in his previous interview by Chief Inspector **P146** answered all the questions. However all the officers strongly denied the allegations made against them. For full details see tape transcripts.

8. Conclusions (Discuss evidence for and against allegations)

These observations are in addition to those expressed in the report of Chief Inspector **P146**

There would appear to be, as in the Donnelly/Nelson complaint, at least three possible explanations for the allegations subject of the complaint.

1. The allegations are true and some or all of the named officers are guilty of the matters alleged.
 2. The allegations are malicious and fabricated, with the intention of discrediting the reputation of the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the respective officers, with the knowledge and co-operation of Mrs Nelson.
 3. The allegations are malicious and fabricated by the witnesses (perhaps orchestrated by others) for the above or other reasons with the innocent co-operation and assistance of Mrs Nelson and Mr Lynch, who have accepted the hearsay evidence they have heard.
- Of interest is the delay in registering these complaints and the co-operation of the witnesses with the subsequent enquiries.
 - Although some of the witnesses had allegedly expressed their concerns during consultations with their solicitor whilst in detention, there is no statement of 'early complaint', even though each of them on release were specifically asked if they had any complaints regarding their detention (Mr **C138** even signed documentation to that effect)
 - It would be reasonable to assume that experienced solicitors would have registered any complaint as quickly as possible, if for no other reason than to prevent further inappropriate or unlawful behaviour. This was not done in relation to any of the four main witnesses.
 - None of the four men complained about the grounds for their detention or actual arrest.
 - If the officers adopted a course of action, as detailed in the allegations that make up the complaint, as an interview strategy it failed miserably. Two of the men (B. Toman and A. Simmons) refused to answer any questions whilst C. Toman and **C138** answered questions but denied the allegations.