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**Gold Group**

**Phone Hacking**

**Friday 17th September at 1500hrs**

**Room 556 (ACSO Office) – Victoria block, NSY**

**1. Persons present and apologies**

AC Yates (Chair)	JY
Cmdr Steve Kavanagh	SK
Cmdr Martin Hewitt	MH
DCS Philip Williams	PW
DCS Clive Timmons	CT
Naz Saleh	NS
Sara Cheesley	SC
DCI Mark Morgan	MM
D/Supt Kevin Southworth	KS

**2. Actions from previous meeting**

All previous actions completed bar one as follows:

**Action: KS to establish if/when HASC is next scheduled to sit.**

**3. Terms of reference for Gold Group**

Agreed as per previous

**4. Updates on various strands**

Parliamentary committees

JY and NS met with representatives of the Parliamentary Privilege and Standards Committee today. The initial Term of Reference for them is to establish whether the alleged phone hacking constitutes contempt of Parliament. It was also established that if a JR is "in process" then sub judice would apply and the PP&S Committee would not be able to convene.

SCD Investigation

MH briefed that there are no substantive links between their inquiries and the SO investigation. JY reiterated that the SCD enquiries must run independently of the SO enquiries but maintain oversight of each other.

Management of additional requests - DLS/FOIA

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FOIA SPOC is KS

Operation Varec

- Sharon Marshall - spoken with. No specifics offered.
- Sean Hoare - spoken with. No specifics offered.
- Ross Hall - has taken legal advice. Interview under caution set for next Tuesday
- Paul McMullan - has refused to speak with police. Letter to be sent asking him to reconsider this. Awaits update.
- Brendan Montague - to be spoken with as a potential witness
- Andy Coulson - has made himself available.

**Action: NS/KS to confirm that a response has been sent to AC's solicitors following their initial contact.**

- Potential new victims - all agreed that consistency of approach is needed. MM is devising a strategy for new victims. Proposed course is to write to each prospective victim and ask them to approach their SP to see if there is any information to support their claim of being victimised.

**Action : GG to approve letter before it is sent.**

The issue of the potential for a JR brought by Chris Bryant MP and others was raised at this stage and NS stated that we will await the outcome of a meeting with Counsel on Monday re same

Original investigation - Operation Caryatid issues.

**Action: PW to provide details to JY of notifications to potential victims**

## **5. Crown Prosecution Service**

MM briefed in that initial CPS liaison was underway and they will await details from us. Ongoing work with Counsel re definition of 'hacking'

## **6. DLS issues**

MPs letters discussed. Need for response revisited by JY. DLS to lead.

## **7. Media**

Lines in place

## **8. Stakeholder management**

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KS will review recent responses required including Tom Watson MP letter and Joanne McCartney Mayor's Questions.

**9. AOB**

Nil

**10. Next meeting**

W/C the 27th September; date/time tbc