

Carmen Dowd
Head of Special Crime Divison



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Our Reference:

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Code A

18 December 2006

Dear Detective Superintendent Williams

OPERATION ROCHESTER

Further to my telephone conversation this morning with Detective Inspector Grocott I enclose, as arranged, a letter to Code A and a copy for your file.

I note your invitation to attend at a meeting which you are organising for tomorrow afternoon and at which a substantial number of "stakeholders" will be present.

I do not consider that it would be appropriate, in all the circumstances, for the CPS to attend at this meeting.

As you know I am of view that the concerns of the families are paramount. I am very conscious that they may regard any discussion of the cases, on whatever basis, by the CPS with your "stakeholders" as being rather insensitive, particularly if it predates any private discussions with the families.

I note you no longer wish to meet with Counsel in London and I will not pursue the provisional arrangements which were being made following Detective Inspector Grocott's telephone conversation last Friday evening.

I should add that the various notes relating to my conclusions were sent to you on an "in confidence" basis so as to assist you in understanding the issues and are not for any disclosure by the police without my prior consent.

Yours sincerely

Code A

Paul Close
Special Crime Division
Enc.