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1		1	It became apparent to me that the manner in
2	(Monday, 6 May 2024)	2	which Mr McGrail had led that investigation
3	(10.00)	3	was unnecessarily institutionally
4	MR SANTOS: Our chief witness today is	4	confrontational in respect of the MoD.
5	the Chief Minister, the Honourable Fabian	5	While I believe that the policing objectives
6	Picardo, KC.	6	were meritorious in the pursuit of the
7	FABIAN PICARDO, KC, sworn	7	investigation in question, and I gave the RGP
8	Questioned by MR SANTOS	8	my fulsome public support in that respect,
9	Q. Good morning, Mr Picardo.	9	that objective could and should have been
10	A. Good morning, Mr Santos.	10	more quickly, effectively and easily achieved
11	Q. Can I please ask you to turn to the bundle	11	via a more collaborative and conventional
12	in front of you that is marked "Witness	12	route. I was clear in my view that while the
13	Statements"? That should have the four	13	MoD had not handled the matter well either,
14	statements that you have provided to this	14	Mr McGrail had led the RGP into a
15	inquiry inside. Can I please ask you to go	15	dangerous difficult and damaging situation
16	through each one and check that it is a copy	16	for Gibraltar in terms of its relationship with
17	of your statement and that your signature is	17	the MoD which would and subsequently did
18	on the final page, please?	18	require a lot of my time and effort to
19	A. I confirm that is the case and I adopt	19	mitigate". Can you please elaborate on how
20	these as my evidence.	20	you say that Mr McGrail led the investigation
21	Q. Thank you very much. Just to make it	21	in an unnecessarily institutionally
22	clear, do you confirm that the contents of	22	confrontational way, please?
23	those statements are true to the best of your	23	A. Well, I think it's evident from what you
24	knowledge, information and belief?	24	will have seen in the evidence already before
25	A. To the best of my knowledge,	25	
23	A. To the best of my knowledge,	23	this inquiry that there were ways in which Mr
	Page 1		Page 3
		1	
1	information and belief, they are the truth, the	1	McGrail as the lead officer in that
2	whole truth and nothing but the truth.	2	investigation could have procured attendance
2 3	whole truth and nothing but the truth. Q. Thank you. There is also, if we go to	2 3	investigation could have procured attendance of witnesses from the MoD to New Mole
2 3 4	whole truth and nothing but the truth. Q. Thank you. There is also, if we go to B1109 - it may be at the back of that file; it	2 3 4	investigation could have procured attendance of witnesses from the MoD to New Mole House, could have procured if not seizure the
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1 (Pages 1 to 4)

London WC2A 1JE

1 British sovereignty over Gibraltar, and the 1 Q. This is 7 February. 2 United Kingdom's in my view main and key 2 A. This is the runway incident or -3 interest in Gibraltar is as a military base. Of 3 Q. Prior[?] to the runway incident. 4 course, it respects the wishes of the people of 4 A. Exactly, so the remarks I made to you a 5 5 Gibraltar; of course it would not abandon the moment ago about the tower, on the runway 6 6 people of Gibraltar, but Gibraltar as an asset, incident, my feeling was completely 7 7 as a military asset, is a hugely important different. I felt that action was required in 8 8 plank of how British sovereignty over that moment. I didn't quite expect that we 9 9 Gibraltar is secured and maintained and we would be running a car in front of an aircraft, 10 10 should not pretend to each other it is not the but I was very clear from what I had been 11 case. If you undo the United Kingdom's 11 told, and I had only been told one side of this 12 ability to operate its base in a way which is in 12 equation, that the RGP had to have our 13 keeping with what we might all consider to 13 support in defence of the jurisdiction of 14 14 be the reasonable manner of operation, and Gibraltar because there appeared to be a 15 15 you have Gibraltar's police, in effect, misunderstanding, a key misunderstanding, 16 unnecessarily raiding the tower, then you 16 going to the route of jurisdiction in the MoD 17 17 have a confrontation which could have been to suggest that they somehow had exclusive 18 18 and should have been avoided and was not in jurisdiction over those areas which were part 19 19 the interests of anyone in Gibraltar. of the MoD estate, and indeed, on some 20 20 Q. Can we go to C757, please? You should occasions it has been thought by elements of 21 have those documents in hard copy in front 21 the MoD that the laws that applied on the 22 of you. They will also appear on the screen 22 MoD estate are not the laws of Gibraltar but 23 23 but I am happy for you to work from the hard the laws of the United Kingdom, and that is 24 copy. It should be towards the front. 24 not the case of course. So, I was very clear 25 25 A. Well, if I have the hard copy I can see the that the RGP deserved our support in this Page 5 Page 7 1 whole thing. 1 respect. You do recall, of course - I am 2 2 sorry to extend myself - that the allegation Q. Yes, I understand. 3 3 A. Yes, I now have it. that was put to us at the time was that the 4 4 Q. Do you have that? Ministry of Defence were putting I think an 5 5 A. Yes. admitted paedophile on an aircraft in order to 6 6 Q. It is a WhatsApp exchange between ensure that he could avoid the jurisdiction of 7 Commissioner of Police Yome and his senior 7 Gibraltar's courts. That's what we were 8 8 management team on 7 February, so this is dealing with in the heat of that moment. 9 9 prior to the runway - what we call the Q. Would you accept that that instruction to 10 10 runway incident rather than the subsequent go for the jugular might have encouraged the 11 11 arrests. RGP to act as it did in the runway incident? 12 A. Mm-hmm. 12 A. I didn't know that that was my word. We 13 13 Q. Commissioner of Police Yome says, "Ian, are not even talking about - I don't think 14 14 I've tried calling CBF. It goes into answer you're talking about four years ago there. I 15 machine. Told HE", presumably His 15 think you're talking about -16 Excellency, "and CM", Chief Minister. "HE 16 Q. Seven years ago. 17 wants a pragmatic approach and to speak to 17 A. Seven years ago. I don't know that that 18 18 CBF. I've texted CBF waiting for him to call was my word. It might have been. 19 19 me. CM wants us to go for the jugular." So, Q. If we go to C1 -20 20 your approach seems to be in contrast with A. Certainly, Mr Santos, after that I have 21 21 the Governor's. Were those your instructions said in writing that they should be more 22 or your proposals to Commissioner of Police 22 temperate in the approach that they took, and 23 23 Yome? so it shouldn't be fair to extrapolate from 24 A. Can you just remind me of what date this 24 something I said about the runway incident 25 25 how I felt about the tower incident. refers to? Page 6 Page 8

1 Q. I am about to take you to C142, which is 1 we didn't have to double down on those 2 I think maybe what you are referring to. This 2 issues. Also, we would hope that the MoD 3 is an email that you send on the evening of 3 would be more temperate in the way that 4 4 the runway incident, following the runway they approached things and it takes two to 5 incident. 5 tango. 6 6 A. What is this reference, sorry? Q. If we go to A146 now, please -7 7 Q. C142. And you say, "Gents, I just want A. I am afraid I don't have that here. 8 to say as a Gibraltarian how proud I am of 8 Q. This is Mr McGrail's statement, fifth 9 the work you've properly done today 9 statement to this inquiry, paragraph 13(d). If 10 asserting our jurisdiction properly and 10 we can go down to (d), this is an account by 11 reasonably for all the right reasons within the 11 Mr McGrail of a meeting on 10 February 12 law. It's what future generations would have 12 2017 at the Wessex Lounge in Gibraltar 13 expected us to do. It is a pity the MoD have 13 Airport. I will just let you read that to 14 not been more elegant in the way they 14 yourself. 15 approach this. We have taught them a 15 A. The whole of paragraph 13 or 14 also? 16 number of lessons today. You've done 16 Q. 13(d), just (d). 17 Gibraltar proud. There are a number of 17 A. Just (d)? 18 obvious questions arising as to how some 18 Q. Yes, those three paragraphs there. 19 people behave today. Whether people lied to 19 20 you or were lying to themselves is going to 20 Q. Do you recall meeting Commissioner of 21 be a relevant question in coming days. We 21 Police - I am sorry, Mr McGrail, at the 22 must not exacerbate matters but we cannot 22 Wessex Lounge? 23 allow people to get away with having misled 23 A. I have a fleeting recollection that I asked 24 the RGP or having instructed you. The law 24 to see the officers involved before I flew to 25 is the law for all of us and an armed force 25 **London but I cannot remember the meeting** Page 9 Page 11 1 uniform does not suspend application of the 1 in great detail. Obviously, it was more 2 law to an individual, whatever rank. That is 2 meaningful to Mr McGrail than it was to me 3 3 what the UK taught us and we are not going and I perfectly understand that, of course, 4 4 to allow them to talk us out of it when it and that may be an accurate version of what I 5 5 applies to some, but those are issues for said. I certainly recognised the words, "a 6 tomorrow. You have enjoyed my full 6 gripping John Grisham novel", because it's 7 support today at every stage of the way. 7 something that I say on occasion. So, it's the 8 8 Excellent work. Please pass my sentiments, sort of language I would have used. 9 9 if not my email, to those who have been on Q. Did you describe the three senior military 10 the frontline today." Is it fair to say that at 10 officials as fucking idiots? 11 11 that stage you were expressing wholehearted A. Very likely and I felt that way then and I 12 support for the runway or what we refer to as 12 would be very unsurprised if I didn't feel that 13 the runway incident and the RGP's handling 13 way again if I once again reviewed the things 14 14 that they were saying and doing at the time. 15 15 A. Yes, although perhaps I would not have It's not a position from which I resile. 16 run it that way myself if I was the one who 16 Q. Do you agree that that sort of language 17 was involved in it, but that's how they had 17 and sentiment could have been interpreted by 18 18 run it and I was supporting them having done the RGP as support for their arrest of those 19 19 officials? 20 20 Q. And then you say, "we must not A. They didn't need my support to arrest 21 exacerbate matters". What did you intend by 21 anyone, but I'm a little surprised. If I can 22 22 take you to the sentence that says - I'm 23 23 A. Well, we had taught the MoD the lessons surprised, by the way, to see Mr McGrail say 24 that we all felt at the time, because we were 24 that my using that language is uncouth, but 25 25 at loggerheads, that they had to be taught, but anyway - but it almost an order. It was close Page 10 Page 12

1 to an order that they should be intercepted. I 1 O. Sorry, "have sworn an oath to". Yes, 2 mean, it's quite something given that here the 2 apologies. Is it fair to say that you do not 3 whole premise of this inquiry is that I should 3 appear to be expressing any concern or regret 4 not interfere with things as being Chief 4 over the RGP's actions in that email? 5 5 A. No, that's right but again I had partisan Minister that Mr McGrail is now relying on 6 6 information at the time. I also recall that it something I said in praying that in aid as if it 7 7 were an order, which I am not capable or was fundamentally important that one of the 8 8 empowered to give. RGP in this instance had acted in keeping 9 9 Q. The arrests of the three MoD officials with their powers and this was a dispute as to 10 10 then took place on 1 March 2017. Did you powers and jurisdiction. I had to be very 11 learn of the arrests that day? 11 clear what side I was on. If I can call it the 12 A. Forgive me, Mr Santos, but from 12 politics of this, the politics of Gibraltar and 13 memory, it's difficult to recall the exact 13 the MoD is not featuring here. This is about 14 chronology. I think I found out on the very 14 jurisdiction. It is about the Constitution. It's 15 day, if not as it was happening because of 15 about continued positioning on the part of 16 course this was really now putting the cat 16 some members of the MoD that they did not 17 17 amongst the pigeons. have to comply with certain legal 18 Q. Were you provided with details as to how 18 requirements in Gibraltar, which I found 19 those arrests had taken place? 19 extraordinarily disappointing, but of course 20 20 A. I believe I was. I believe I had that detail we have been brought to this past by the 21 from either the Commissioner of Police at the 21 manner in which the investigation had been 22 time with whom I enjoyed an excellent 22 led by the RGP and the manner in which the 23 23 relationship or the Attorney General or CBF MoD had responded to that investigation. 24 or the Governor, or all of the above. 24 Again, these two weren't really tangoing 25 25 Q. Can we look at C207, please? together. They were tangoing at each other. Page 13 Page 15 1 A. Yes. 1 Q. Do you accept that this would probably 2 2 Q. This is an email that you sent on 3 March have been interpreted by the RGP as 3 3 2017, so two days after the arrest. It is an wholehearted support for their actions on 1 4 4 email to the Commissioner of Police and the March? 5 5 Attorney General and you say: "Eddie, A. It's very difficult to answer that question 6 6 Michael, I've now read this and Michael's in the positive, as you lead me to do for two 7 response. My impression and clear 7 reasons. First of all, the RGP is a large 8 8 understanding is that the MoD have now organisation. It's more than one individual 9 9 fully understood the position and the and interpretation by an organisation is not 10 nonsense and the bravado have been 10 something that is something I can give you 11 11 displayed by fools such as those you refer to an opinion on, and the second part of your 12 below in fact illustrates why and how we 12 question, that they would have interpreted as 13 13 have found ourselves in this unnecessarily support: well, as support for what they were 14 14 unpleasant situation. If it requires another doing jurisdictionally and constitutionally, 15 15 turn of the screw, which I will not hesitate to but not necessarily for the manner in which it 16 16 support you in, it will once again have been was being done, but they could have taken it 17 brought about by those who fail to recognise 17 that way and the person who was the 18 18 the need to show proper and genuine addressee here is Eddie Yome. He was the 19 19 contrition and respect for the RGP and for person to whom I was communicating and I 20 20 our Constitution. Failing to respect our will say that I assumed that Eddie Yome 21 21 Constitution is not to fail to respect just could have interpreted in that way but not the 22 22 Gibraltar; it is to fail to respect the UK wider organisation. 23 23 Parliament and the same monarch that these Q. You say there, "If it requires another turn 24 clowns in uniform have sworn an oath to do." 24 of the screw, which I will not hesitate to 25 A. "An oath to". 25 support you in". What were you Page 14 Page 16

contemplating by "another turn of the 1 carry out their functions operationally but 1 2 screw"? 2 now it appears that I am being blamed for 3 3 A. Well, whatever Eddie felt that needed to having given them permission for carrying 4 be done and, you know, this is fundamental 4 them out in a particular manner in respect of 5 to Gibraltar's constitutional order and what I 5 this issue. So, it seems to me a little bit 6 6 express in this email is of course that the duplicitous that in one instance I am told you 7 7 Gibraltar Constitution is an Act of the UK mustn't interfere, you must stay at arm's 8 8 Parliament. It's an Order in Counsel. It's a length and yet in this instance, my attitude 9 9 piece of British - that is to say UK - law as has been prayed in aid for the manner in 10 10 much as all of our laws are British laws, but which the police acted as if I was able to 11 this is an Act of UK Parliament and United 11 interfere and at least direct the spirit of how 12 **Kingdom Armed Forces officers in Gibraltar** 12 things should be done. 13 have to respect the Gibraltar Constitution and 13 Q. It's fair to say that after 1 March 2007[?] 14 14 you continued to support the RGP in respect so does everybody else, and the territorial 15 15 of their actions, for example advising ambit of the Gibraltar jurisdiction - of the 16 Gibraltar Constitution - does not end at the 16 Commissioner Yome on the areas in the 17 17 gates of a Ministry of Defence establishment. RAF's legal approach? 18 18 It flows in and covers all of that area. This is A. (no reply) 19 19 fundamental. It's a misunderstanding which Q. In fact, why don't I show you -20 20 A. I am sorry, Mr Santos. I was taken by the occurs far too frequently perhaps even today, 21 although I think after this incident, less so. I 21 fact that the email that I am replying to there 22 have one incident where I was told before 22 related to a statement from one of the MoD 23 23 Gibraltar had passed laws to recognise equal officers which had been prepared by Charles 24 marriage, that Ministry of Defence officials 24 Gomez. 25 25 were planning to carry out a same sex Q. Yes. Page 17 Page 19 1 marriage on the MoD estate on the basis that 1 A. We argue any brief at the Bar. 2 2 this was legal in the United Kingdom and Q. If you could just stick to answering the 3 3 that they were just telling us as a matter of questions. 4 4 courtesy. Now, I said, "Look, in my view, A. Yes, of course. 5 5 Q. C820, please. This is another message such marriages should be permitted but they 6 6 are not presently permitted by Gibraltar law, from Mr Yome to the senior management 7 7 and until Gibraltar's Parliament passes laws group and he says, "My reply to CBF with a 8 8 to enable that, you are not able to carry out little help from a friend. I'd welcome your 9 9 such weddings on the MoD estate. That is views straightaway." This is a draft email to 10 the level to which the misunderstanding has 10 CBF Walliker and it sets out concerns and 11 11 arisen on some occasions. disappointment about an email that had been 12 Q. Is it fair to say, though, that there is 12 received previously which was exacerbating 13 13 nothing in this email which shows matters. If we just go back two pages -14 14 disapproval on your part or regret or concern sorry, three pages - to 817, here we have 15 15 about the manner of the arrests? Commissioner Yome forwarding your 16 16 A. No, but these are my people. These are message or an email that you had sent to him 17 my people. The people that I represent - I 17 saying, "Every single operative sentence in 18 18 the email from the CBF contains an error of represent the police officers in the Royal 19 19 Gibraltar Police - were doing a job which legal understanding." It is fair to say, is it 20 20 they believed they are doing in the best not, that you continued to support the RGP in 21 21 interests of the people of Gibraltar and I relation to this dispute? 22 believe that jurisdictionally they are doing in 22 A. Then, to this day and always. I mean, 23 23 the best interests of the people of Gibraltar. I this is fundamental, as I expressed already. 24 am not able - and this is a core issue in these 24 Nobody should ever expect me to resile from 25 25 proceedings isn't it - to interfere on how they supporting that which goes to the core of the Page 18 Page 20

1 existence of Gibraltar's jurisdiction in parts 1 go into bat for them despite all aspects 2 2 of the MoD estate, in other words that the having clearly been mishandled by the RGP 3 3 law of Gibraltar applies in the whole of and parts of the MoD also." 4 Gibraltar and that anybody who fails to 4 5 5 Q. How do you square that statement with understand that is going to necessarily have 6 6 to have that explained to them. You are all the written statements that we have seen 7 7 demonstrating complete support, never going to find me being prepared to 8 8 resile from that, but I wasn't in charge of this wholehearted support, for the RGP? 9 9 operation or how it was being carried out. A. Well, very simply because one was about 10 10 Q. Did you at any point before 2020 ever jurisdiction and about defence of the 11 express disapproval or regret or concern 11 jurisdiction; the other, the statement I'm 12 about the arrests and the manner that they 12 making now, is about the manner in which 13 were made to the RGP? 13 things had been carried out. Now, you can 14 14 A. I expressed a lot of concern about those defend Gibraltar's jurisdiction as forcibly as I 15 issues. I think I discussed it at length with 15 believe it should always be defended, but you 16 the Attorney General whose time was taken 16 could have done it in a different manner, 17 17 considerably by having to assist us in even with a recalcitrant MoD and indeed 18 18 resolving those issues, with the Governor, what we had in the interim three years was an 19 19 with the Minister for Europe, with the Armed opportunity principally through Michael and 20 20 Forces Minister in the United Kingdom. Did his conversations with Tony Radakin and 21 I discuss it with Eddie Yome? Probably 21 what we were being told the MoD had been 22 informally. He was my point of contact at 22 told at the time, etc., etc., to dissect and carry 23 23 the time, and probably in Spanish, you know, out if you might call a political autopsy of 24 in terms that we would understand. Like I 24 what had happened on the ground in those 25 25 said, (Spanish phrase) that sort of thing, months, and these were dramatic events. I Page 21 Page 23 1 which would mean, "My goodness, look at 1 mean, the lead item on Gibraltar's media for 2 2 days and causing huge ructions with the what's happened as a result of the airport 3 3 issue", but did I set that down in writing? Ministry of Defence of the United Kingdom 4 4 No, I carried on doing what I was having to in particular, which I consider to be 5 5 do at that time - this was before Covid. We fundamental to Gibraltar. So, I think it is 6 6 perfectly reasonable for me, three years later, were already dealing with Brexit. Remind 7 7 to have reflected on how those things had me of the year. This was -8 8 Q. 2017. been done and to have felt that they had been 9 9 A. 2017, so this was as we were negotiating done inappropriately, which is what I feel 10 the beginning of the negotiations of the 10 today, despite the fact that in the heat of the 11 11 withdrawal agreement, which was hugely action, I will of course always defend the 12 intense and which also, of course, this could 12 Royal Gibraltar Police or any other 13 13 institution in Gibraltar defending Gibraltar's have created ructions for. 14 14 Q. If we go to B1439, please, this is your jurisdiction as they were properly and legally 15 15 message of 14 May to Mr Pyle. doing. 16 16 THE CHAIRMAN: 14 May 2020? Q. You refer to going into bat for them. 17 MR SANTOS: 14 May 2020, yes. I should 17 A. Yes. 18 18 specify, we are going forward three years, 14 Q. Who went into bat and what did the 19 19 May 2020 and this is a message we will batting entail? 20 20 come back to later, but it is one where you A. Well, you've seen that I was asked to 21 21 set out a number of reasons for you redraft messages. Michael Llamas was asked 22 22 beginning to lose confidence and your huge to become involved in negotiations to resolve 23 23 concerns about the senior management of the issues at the time and then to try and curate -24 RGP, and one of the matters you refer to at 24 I think we'd call it a protocol now between 25 25 the RGP and the MoD or the Gibraltar (iv) is "the runway incident where we had to Page 22 Page 24

Defence Police - I think it's with the MoD -1 moment remorseful of the consequences for 2 to try and avoid these issues ever having to 2 Gibraltar that his leadership of the operation 3 3 happen again in this way, and by the way, I had resulted in." Mr McGrail obviously was 4 am as clear in my mind today as I was then 4 not commissioner at the time. Do you accept 5 5 that the Commission of Police Yome that as critical as I am of the manner in which 6 6 the Royal Gibraltar Police did some of these specifically sanctioned the arrests? 7 7 things, supportive of them though I am A. Well, Mr Santos, that is not something 8 8 jurisdictionally, I am as critical of individuals that is within my knowledge and is not 9 9 in the Ministry of Defence of the way that something that I can give evidence of. 10 10 they handled this matter. I think it was a Q. You are unaware as to whether 11 particularly low moment in the relationship 11 Commissioner Yome sanctioned the arrests? 12 and in the behaviour of some of the 12 A. I am unaware as to whether he 13 individuals involved. 13 specifically sanctioned the arrests, but I 14 Q. In your message you say, taking it from 14 would be unsurprised if he had. I don't know 15 about five lines down, "In terms of the past 15 whether he sanctioned the high fiving outside of the tower when they were executing 16 few months alone". 16 17 17 A. Mm-hmm. search warrants. 18 18 Q. You would accept, of course, that the Q. Yes. I was asking about the arrests but -19 19 runway incident was by no means in the past A. Yes. 20 20 few months. It was by that point three years Q. Can you specify what part of Mr 21 previous. 21 McGrail's behaviour was to blame for 22 A. Yes, and I think I've listed them in that 22 leading the RGP into that dangerous, difficult 23 23 and damaging situation with the MoD? way, haven't I? 24 Q. Yes, yes, just because you say that, "In 24 A. Well, his was the leadership on the 25 25 terms of the past few months alone", and ground, and to such an extent that he sought Page 25 Page 27 1 then you say, one, two, three, four -1 to pray in aid my statements to him at the 2 A. I cannot recall, Mr Santos, exactly when 2 Wessex Lounge as if to give him licence to 3 3 we resolved the protocol between the RGP act in that way. 4 4 and the Ministry of Defence, but it took Q. But there is no written record, is there, of 5 5 Michael some considerable time. I would you expressing concern to Mr McGrail or 6 6 even to Mr Yome about Mr McGrail's venture to suggest it took months if not more 7 7 actions at the time? than a year. 8 8 Q. Three years? A. No, there isn't and there wouldn't be. At 9 9 A. It might have done, but certainly this was that stage, Mr McGrail was not my point of 10 very much a live issue in my mind. This is 10 contact in the Royal Gibraltar Police. As I've 11 11 about Ian McGrail and that's why it's relevant told you already, I would have had 12 because Ian McGrail had featured then as 12 discussions about this matter with a number 13 13 you've seen from his own statement. He and of individuals. I've listed them and one of 14 14 I were in contact about these matters. This them would have been the then 15 15 was an Ian McGrail issue. Commissioner of Police with whom I had a 16 16 Q. Can we go back to your statement, very good relationship but that was not Mr 17 paragraph 25, because I do want to focus on 17 McGrail. 18 the point that you have just made. You say, 18 Q. Yes, but my question was as to Mr 19 19 McGrail and Mr Yome, there is no written "Very considerable damage was done to the 20 relationship with the MoD by Mr McGrail's 20 record of a communication with Mr Yome -21 handling of and conduct during this incident. 21 A. About [this issue?] 22 22 Despite this and despite the political and Q. Expressing concern, regrets? 23 23 diplomatic efforts required to resolve it, I felt A. No, but things don't just happen by 24 that Mr McGrail was not displeased with the 24 written record. We are assisted today by 25 manner of his actions and not for one 25 what is in writing because our memories are Page 26 Page 28

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1 human, but it doesn't mean that because I 1 you work out at the time, or subsequently 2 didn't put it in writing at the time, I didn't 2 when preparing this witness statement, or at 3 3 express that to Eddie at different times or some point in between, that the collision had 4 indeed that the Attorney General might not 4 taken place clearly in Spanish territorial 5 have expressed my views and his views to 5 waters? 6 the Commissioner of Police at the time. I 6 A. Couldn't be otherwise, once you're 7 7 don't know what communications Mr Llamas dealing with six nautical miles. 8 8 had with Mr McGrail when he was trying to Q. Well, "six nautical miles east", you say 9 9 resolve issues with Sir Tony Radakin. there --10 10 Q. Let's now move on to the incident at sea, A. Yeah. 11 if we may. Can we please go to B87? 11 Q. -- so, six nautical miles east, it certainly 12 12 could not be in Gibraltar waters but it could 13 Q. B87 please. Do you have that? 13 (depending on where east from) be in, for 14 14 example from the runway it could be in A. I do. 15 (10.35)15 international waters. 16 Q. There is a message at 09.49... Of course, 16 A. I do not think that that would be the 17 17 we have your evidence about the earlier attitude that Spain would take to six nautical 18 messages between you and Mr McGrail 18 miles off Gibraltar, even if they were to 19 19 where he first notifies you about the incident, accept our position under the United Nations 20 20 and then there is an exchange between you. Convention on the Law of the Sea, because At 9.49 Mr McGrail messages you and says, 21 21 once you are out six miles there, remember 22 "CM, the information suggests that the 22 that the Gibraltar territorial sea is like a 23 23 collision took place outside BGTW funnel there: it's not straight out, it goes out 24 approximately six nautical miles east off the 24 like a funnel. Right? So, if you are going six 25 25 runway Santa B rbara beach." And then he nautical miles out from the runway it appears Page 29 Page 31 1 says, "When a death arises from police 1 to me to be impossible that you are in 2 contact it's best practice to engage with 2 BGTW; it appears to me almost impossible 3 3 independent investigating team, and I am to suggest that you are not in Spanish 4 4 studying how to achieve this." You respond, territorial waters and that you are in 5 5 "OK, we need to liaise with AG on this and international waters, by whatever plan you 6 6 ensure we're transparent on this." "Yes, are using to plot your position. So for me, 7 agreed. Any necessary additional 7 once I was told six nautical miles off 8 8 expenditure will be approved." And he says, Gibraltar, it's in Spanish territorial waters. 9 9 "Many thanks." Sorry, just before I ask you a Q. Then A294, this is Mr Llamas's evidence 10 question I also want to show you A197, 10 at paragraph 83, he says, "At 11.40 hrs I sent 11 11 which is your first witness statement at a WhatsApp message to Mr McGrail 12 paragraph 63 where you say, "In my above 12 erroneously believing that I was sending it to 13 13 WhatsApp of 0741 hrs, I had asked Mr the Chief Minister. That message does not 14 14 McGrail specifically about the location of the appear in my WhatsApp chat with the Chief 15 15 events, asking if it 'was firmly within BGTW Minister, but does appear in my chat with Mr 16 16 or questionable' and I set out specifically that McGrail as an original (not a forwarded) 17 we should be transparent about what had 17 transmission. The message read as follows:". 18 happened." Then, just skipping over a 18 A. Could you just wait for a moment Mr 19 19 sentence, "Importantly, by 0949hrs on the Santos, because I've got A294 but I do not 20 20 day of the incident, some two and a half have A295 --21 hours after first communication with me, I 21 Q. Ah. 22 was told by Mr McGrail that the incident had 22 A. -- and you have --23 occurred approximately six nautical miles 23 Q. Thank you. 24 east of Gibraltar, north of the easterly runway 24 A. -- just gone on to that. 25 25 i.e. clearly in Spanish territorial waters." Did Q. Yes. Page 30 Page 32

1 1 but I just wanted to ask whether you had A. Yeah, okay. 2 2 Q. That is probably my fault for not -spoken to, or had any recollection of 3 3 A. No, it's alright. speaking to, Mr Pyle. 4 Q. -- setting that out --4 A. So, just to put this in context. At that 5 5 A. Don't worry, I can follow. (?) time I would have been seeing Nick Pyle as 6 6 Q. -- in my script, but A295 contains the Governor. I would have been meeting with 7 7 message. All I want to focus on there is the him at least once a week. We had a very 8 8 penultimate sentence of that message which fluid relationship in that period, more that we 9 9 says, "PR will not say where incident would have throughout the rest of the time 10 10 occurred but it is virtually certain it was that he was here, because my interface is 11 outside BGTW eastern side opposite 11 usually the Governor not the Deputy 12 runway." Now those words, "virtually 12 Governor, but at that time he was Governor. 13 certain", which Mr Llamas states in his 13 In the Covid context things were already 14 message -- he ended up sending that message 14 starting to happen, although I believe this is 15 to the Commissioner of Police. Did that 15 before the lockdowns etc. So, I would have 16 message ever find its way to you? That 16 been in touch with him, and I cannot tell you 17 17 WhatsApp message. that I did not discuss those things with him. 18 18 A. Mr Santos, I've given access to my In fact, I would be very surprised if I had not 19 19 counsel so that they could check all my spoken to him. You have seen a lot of 20 20 WhatsApp messages. If it is in my disclosure WhatsApp exchanges between me and Mr 21 it was there; if it wasn't... 21 Pyle; those would have been less than there 22 Q. It is not. It is not in your disclosure, so I 22 were telephone conversations with Mr Pyle. 23 23 just wanted to check the position. But if you Our habit was to speak, not just to 24 have no recollection independent of your 24 WhatsApp. And indeed, to meet: he would 25 25 messages then we will move on, I just often come to my office, or I would go to his. Page 33 Page 35 1 wanted to --1 So, it is unimaginable to me that on an 2 2 A. I mean, I was operating from 9.49 in that incident of this sort I would not have been in 3 3 -- on -- in the morning on the basis that it touch with him orally to discuss this issue. 4 4 happened in Spanish waters. Q. Assuming that that conversation took 5 5 Q. Did you speak to Mr Pyle about the place, would you have felt at liberty to share 6 location of the collision on either 8 or 9 6 that sort of information with him? 7 7 A. Of course I would. And no, not just at 8 8 A. Going back, now, four years, without the liberty. I mean, I would have felt obliged, I 9 9 assistance of documentation would be very would have thought it was proper, it was 10 difficult. Can you direct me to any part of 10 necessary. Remember, at this stage we are 11 11 my statement where I have dealt with that deep in negotiations with the European 12 period in time and my conversations with Mr 12 Union and with Spanish colleagues. You 13 13 Pyle? know, this was a hugely difficult issue. I 14 14 Q. If we go back to A197, this is your seem to recall that there were meetings that 15 15 section on Kram, so it starts from 56 and week, and I cannot recall from memory 16 16 goes through a few pages. Actually, it ends whether I was here or at those meetings, and 17 further along in... Well, you do not have to 17 whether those meetings required me to fly or 18 18 look beyond 68. There is nothing in your whether I was driving to them. 19 19 evidence that suggests that there was any Q. But you do not have a recollection of 20 20 conversation between you and Mr Pyle about disclosing that information to Mr Pyle or 21 21 the location of the collision. I just wanted to discussing it with him; you are just working 22 make doubly clear that there was no 22 on assumptions -- working assumptions on 23 23 communication between you and Mr Pyle. the basis of your... 24 We know for example that Mr Pyle met the 24 A. I think it would require superhuman 25 Attorney General on the evening of 8 March, 25 memory for me to be able to tell you with Page 34 Page 36

1 any degree of accuracy, and I do not want to 1 recall, that Mr McGrail had provided you 2 say anything which is not with a degree of 2 with an update on location since 8 March, the 3 3 accuracy, to point to particular conversation 9.49 message? 4 with Mr Pyle, but I very much expect that I 4 A. If you haven't been able to locate another 5 would be speaking to him at different times. 5 in writing, it would be impossible for me to 6 Q. Can we now go to B100, please. Just 6 point to one which was oral, but it may have 7 towards the bottom of the page there is a 7 happened. 8 8 message, this is the maritime incident Q. Then on the following page you respond, 9 9 WhatsApp group. In fact, if we could just go saying (three from the bottom), "Thank you 10 10 back one page, briefly: B99. You will see on Ian. Location does not worry me so much, 11 screen, at the very least, that it is a log of a 11 helps us in a way. Will discuss directly with 12 12 WhatsApp group which involves you, Dr you." You explained this, in response to a 13 Britto, Mr Carreras, Mr Grech and Mr 13 question by the Inquiry in your evidence, 14 McGrail. I believe -- well, actually it is 14 second statement, paragraph 20. This is at 15 evident from the second message there that 15 A230. 16 you created the group, "Maritime"... 16 A. Yeah. 17 17 A. That's not a message. That's not a Q. And you say, "The reason I said that the 18 message, that's generated by WhatsApp, but -18 location could help us was twofold: (i) First 19 19 in demonstrating to the general public in 20 20 Q. Well, the second entry. Gibraltar that, in some instances, police co-21 A. Yeah. 21 operation involves cross border activity and 22 Q. That you created the group. Can you tell 22 that our own police may stray into Spanish 23 23 me why Mr Pyle was not involved in this waters in the same was as Spanish police group? 24 24 often stray into British Gibraltar Territorial 25 25 A. Well, because this group needs to deal Waters. (ii) Secondly, I thought that -Page 37 Page 39 1 with what I might call the Gibraltar issues. 1 although it was to cause huge diplomatic 2 2 issues in the negotiations on foot with Spain This is, as you can see, GPA, it's Police 3 3 Complaints, it's the Chief Secretary and the at the time - it would be helpful in showing 4 4 **Commissioner of Police with the Chief** our Spanish counterparts that our police 5 5 Minister: those were all the issues that were officers were seeking out illicit activity." 6 6 obviously going to come our way. Does that remain your position? 7 Q. Well, you also envisaged potential 7 A. Making the best of a bad lot. You have 8 8 questions of sovereignty etc. got to find positives, when you're dealing 9 9 A. But not in that context. with issues like this, in order to be able to 10 10 O. Yes. advance things. How else could I try and 11 11 deal with this issue in a way that assisted the A. Not in the context of having to deal with 12 those individuals and the issues that were 12 Royal Gibraltar Police, and assisted Gibraltar 13 13 going to come their way. I mean, in fact in the context of the difficult moment we 14 14 those are still live. As you know, the recent were in in the negotiations? 15 15 Q. If we go now to C4740. This is your judgment of the Court of Appeal has made 16 16 those issues still live. letter on 5 June, and... My apologies, we are 17 Q. If we look at the second page, at 12 17 actually on the previous page. If we pick this 18 18 up on the previous page, 4739. Do you have March 2020, towards the bottom. There is a 19 19 message from the Commissioner of Police: 20 20 "All, an update for your info". And then, the A. Yeah. 21 21 Q. I am looking at the final paragraph, and final sentence on that page says, "In terms of 22 the investigation proper, the evidence points 22 this is where you deal with, first of all, the 23 23 at the pursuit and collision occurring outside search warrants. But in the final line you say, 24 BGTW, not the best news we want to hear." 24 "In fact, it is now clearly established that at no time did the CoP"... Sorry, I think... 25 25 Was that the first time, as far as you can Page 38 Page 40

1	A. Is it the next paragraph?	1	could have repercussions for the public
2	Q. Sorry, it is in the next paragraph.	2	purse, for Gibraltar's international reputation,
3	A. The one that says, (inaudible), yes.	3	in respect of the negotiations, etc. And so
4	Q. "Additionally", yes. "Additionally, I	4	therefore, in consultation with the Governor
5	cannot accept the CoP's statement in relation	5	as the law requires, I exercised the power set
6	to his briefings to me about the incident at	6	out in section 15(1)(a) of the Police Act.
7	sea. This was an incident with extremely	7	Q. Focusing now on the legal claims, if we
8	serious external political consequences, and	8	can go first of all to B1355. This is the
9	very material potential financial	9	timeline that Mr McGrail prepared on
10	consequences to the Government. I have	10	Operation Kram, as it was referred to, in
11	since our original discussion already had to	11	response to your section 15 request. And
12	answer questions in the Parliament on this	12	there is an entry in red font towards the
13	matter, and there has been an additional	13	bottom of the page, the second red entry, and
14	media reporting related to it both before and	14	it records a meeting on 22 April 2020 at
15	arising from my answer, including on the	15	midday between Mr McGrail, the Attorney
16	Spanish national broadcaster RTVE. It has	16	General and the DPP. And it says, "Meeting
17	been established practice for at least 50 years	17	to discuss Operation Kram and (?)
18	that Commissioners of Police keep the Chief	18	correspondence being received from the
19	Minister of the day fully, timeously and	19	lawyers representing the families indicating
20	spontaneously informed in detail about	20	that they would be making civil claims for
21	incidents of that kind. Had CoP properly	21	damages. I enquired about legal
22	done so in this case it would not have been	22	representation, and again the need to agree a
23	necessary for me to exercise the Chief	23	Gibraltar strategy. Given all the strands the
24	Minister's powers under section 15 of the	24	matter had, 1: Coroner's Inquiry, 2:
25	Police Act for the first ever time. As I	25	Professional Standards investigation, 3: the
		-	,
	Page 41		Page 43
1	confirmed to the Parliament, His Excellency	1	Spanish dimension in terms of courts and
2	the Governor has complained of the very	2	politics. AG undertook to keep the matter
3	same thing." Just to clarify here, in this	3	alive with the CM, pending any development
4	paragraph you are saying that the	4	on the political front. A Spanish judge has
5	Commissioner had not kept you properly	5	still not been appointed because of the Covid
6	informed. Was that only in relation to the	6	19 lockdown measures in Spain. DPP said
7	legal claims, which we will come to, or was	7	the civil claim hadn't been filed yet, so there
8	it also as to the location of the incident?	8	was no need to engage counsel as yet. AG
9	A. Well, I didn't know any more. I knew	9	wanted to have sight of the final investigation
10	that he hadn't told me about the fact that	10	report from the UK before giving further
11	they'd received claims, and I had had to find	11	thought to the strategy." The Attorney
12	out about that (I believe, from memory,	12	General's evidence to the Inquiry is that he
13	because I think it's etched in my memory)	13	kept the issue of the legal claims alive with
14	from El Faro de Ceuta, in a morning report I	14	you as much as he could. Do you agree that
15	receive on all references to Gibraltar in the	15	the Attorney General did so?
16	world's media. And, I was very concerned	16	A. I don't know that I can agree with that.
17	that I was not getting the full picture about	17	He may have mentioned it, but remember
18	any of this. There were other issues that, as	18	that at this stage we are in lockdown: I am
19	you know, were arising in respect of this	19	hardly seeing the Attorney General. I am
20	matter. The thing that had been fitted at the	20	seeing, sometimes, the Commissioner of
21	front of that fast launch that the RGP had had	21	Police more than I am seeing the Attorney
22	made available to them by the Government.	22	General because of lockdown issues, from
23	So, it appeared to me that there were a lot of	23	memory. But certainly, when I read in about
24	issues that I was not confidently able to say I	24	the filing of the legal claims it came to me
25	had been kept fully informed about which	25	like a bolt from the blue, and that's why I
	Page 42		Page 44

1	sent it round that morning and was so	1	I think your evidence is that the Attorney
2	concerned that I'd had to find that out from a	2	General did not inform you of the
3	Spanish newspaper, in effect.	3	correspondence referring to potential civil
4	Q. Did the Attorney General inform you	4	claims.
5	about correspondence indicating that the	5	A. That's exactly the point, because I found
6	individuals would be making civil claims?	6	out about that in El Faro de Ceuta.
7	A. No. You saw how that issue arose in the	7	Q. On the 14th?
8	emails that I forwarded to the Attorney	8	A. Exactly.
9	General, and then the responses I had back. I	9	Q. Yes. And presumably the DPP did not
10	think	10	tell you either, about these claims?
11	Q. The Attorney General forwarded to you?	11	A. No, as I think is established, I have hardly
12	A. Forwarded to me and Mr Yeats, etc.	12	any contact with the DPP.
13	Q. We will come to those.	13	Q. Then, on 14 May, as you say, you become
14	A. Yeah.	14	aware through an article in El Faro de Ceuta
15	Q. We will come to those.	15	about the claims. If we look at your
16	A. So, that's what's happening there after	16	evidence, A198 please. Paragraph 67 of your
17	I've sent this article and said: what on earth is	17	evidence. Actually we can pick it up from
18	happening here? I mean, what is the case,	18	65, where you refer to the article itself. You
19	that the Attorney General should have told	19	say, "On the 14th May an article
20	me what was going on in this police	20	appeared in a regional newspaper in Ceuta,
21	investigation?	21	the home of one of the deceased in the
22	Q. Well	22	collision, which set out that claims were
23	A. Quite contrary to what it is alleged	23	being filed by the survivors and the relatives
24	throughout the rest of the document.	24	/ dependants of the deceased and homicide
25	Q. Actually I do not think it was the police	25	charges brought against the relevant serving
	Page 45		Page 47
1	investigation that was being discussed: what	1	officers of the DCD " and you provide a
1	investigation that was being discussed; what	1	officers of the RGP.", and you provide a
2	was being discussed was correspondence	2	translation of that article. You say, "This
2 3	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two	2 3	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the
2 3 4	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two individuals at the hands of the Royal	2 3 4	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the meeting I had held in my office with Mr
2 3 4 5	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two individuals at the hands of the Royal Gibraltar Police.	2 3 4 5	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the meeting I had held in my office with Mr McGrail in which I had determined that he
2 3 4 5 6	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two individuals at the hands of the Royal Gibraltar Police. Q. Yes, correct. (?)	2 3 4 5 6	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the meeting I had held in my office with Mr McGrail in which I had determined that he had lied to me over the issue of the advice he
2 3 4 5 6 7	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two individuals at the hands of the Royal Gibraltar Police. Q. Yes, correct. (?) A. There's (?) certainly an investigation into	2 3 4 5 6 7	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the meeting I had held in my office with Mr McGrail in which I had determined that he had lied to me over the issue of the advice he had received from the DPP in relation to the
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	was being discussed was correspondence A. Well, there w there was a death of two individuals at the hands of the Royal Gibraltar Police. Q. Yes, correct. (?) A. There's (?) certainly an investigation into that. In fact it is going to have to continue,	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	translation of that article. You say, "This article appeared barely 48 hours after the meeting I had held in my office with Mr McGrail in which I had determined that he had lied to me over the issue of the advice he had received from the DPP in relation to the search warrant executed at the home and
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1 article in full at the time? Do you recall 1 was another one of the many straws that 2 whether you read that article in full at the 2 broke the camel's back in this case. 3 time? 3 Q. Did you do anything to progress the issue 4 A. I believe I would have. 4 of the claims potentially filed in Gibraltar, 5 5 before Superintendent Yeats contacted the Q. If we go to B1209, this is the translation 6 6 that you provide to the Inquiry as part of Attorney General six days later on 20 May? 7 7 exhibit FP1. The penultimate sentence says, A. To progress the claims? 8 8 "The complaint filed in Spain was also filed Q. To address it. But, you see this article --9 9 in Gibraltar. Now, it only remains to know A. What is the -- what is the date of my 10 10 the judicial response that will be given to the section 15(1)(a) notice? 11 request for the practice of investigative 11 Q. I believe it is 21 May. 12 measures that have already been.". And I do 12 A. So, I think that that was where my mind 13 not think that is a very accurate translation, it 13 was going as a result of this. 14 is probably just a Google Translate, but all I 14 Q. Yes, but I am focusing on the claims 15 want to point out is that the article itself 15 themselves. Did you give any instructions, 16 referred to claims filed in Gibraltar. So, were 16 or ask for anything to be done, to address --17 17 you aware on 14 May that the claims had or at least, for example, a court search to see 18 been filed in Gibraltar as well as in Spain? 18 whether the claim had been filed? 19 19 A. I believe I was not. A. I believe I -- I believe I would have done 20 20 Q. You believe you were not? so. I cannot recall with who and how, but if 21 A. I believe I was not. That's the day that I 21 there isn't any written evidence of that then I 22 22 would not have done it in writing, I would find out that these things are happening. 23 23 Q. Sorry, let me be clearer in my question. have done it orally. 24 Were you aware from the article that the 24 Q. If we now go to C3905, please. 25 25 claims were --A. Sorry, which? Page 49 Page 51 1 A. Well yes, that's the point. 1 Q. C3905. This is an email from Mr Pyle to 2 2 a contact at the FCO on 15 May 2020, the 3 3 A. That I became aware from the article. At morning of 15 May. And Mr Pyle says, "We 4 4 least I was put on inquiry -- I mean, believe spoke about this yesterday, and as you know 5 5 me, I more than anyone don't believe the CM has now informed by WhatsApp the 6 6 everything I read in the Spanish press, but I senior, wider group of the filing of a case, as 7 was put on inquiry about it, to check whether 7 per the attached. I've also attached my email 8 8 this had been the case. to you of 9 March for ease of reference. I am 9 9 Q. Yes. I just want to make clear that by 14 meeting the CM later today to discuss this 10 May you were aware (or at least put on 10 and other issues relating to the behaviour of 11 11 inquiry, as you say) that claims may well the RPG, and in particular its leadership. I 12 have been filed in Spain and Gibraltar in 12 will report thereafter. Needless to say, he is 13 13 relation to the incident. Did you raise that extremely worried about many aspects of the 14 14 with Mr McGrail? case, which we agreed is not good news and 15 15 A. I don't think my relationship with Mr will require extremely careful handling." It McGrail at the time was such that I wanted to 16 16 looks from that that you had forwarded the 17 17 link to that article to a WhatsApp group raise anything with him. 18 18 which Mr Pyle describes as "the senior, wider Q. You (inaudible) two days after --19 19 group". We --A. This was 48 hours after --20 20 Q. -- 12 May. A. Yes --21 A. - 12 May, absolutely. 21 Q. -- we have not seen any messages from 22 22 Q. Did you do anything to progress the issue that group; is that group still available to 23 23 before --24 A. This was -- if I may put it this way Mr 24 A. Can I just saw, I don't think it's fair to 25 Santos, if you'll allow me a moment -- this 25 characterise this as a message from Nick Pyle Page 50 Page 52

1 to "a contact" at the Foreign and 1 the claims on 19 May. 2 Commonwealth Office. It is actually sent to 2 A. Can you just remind me of the date of the 3 3 five individuals I think, from what I can see, report in El Faro de Ceuta? 4 at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. 4 Q. 14th, so five days previously. 5 5 A. So yes, of course. Those would not be contacts; those would be 6 6 Q. And by 19 May, had either of you raised in effect the Gibraltar desk, the Gibraltar 7 7 that claim with Mr McGrail? The knowledge office at the Foreign and Commonwealth 8 Office, in my view. So, it's not -- he's not 8 of the claim. Had either of you raised that 9 9 sending it to somebody to inform them -with Mr McGrail? 10 10 Q. No, no, I --A. I don't think there'd been any 11 A. -- this is part of what you might call the 11 communication between me and Mr McGrail 12 Gibraltar infrastructure in King Charles 12 between 12 May and when I sent in my 13 Street. I have looked for that WhatsApp of 13 15(1)(a) letter. And there had been other communications with -- through the Attorney 14 the senior, wider group. Because of the date, 14 15 I believe that that senior, wider group 15 General and Mr Yeats etc, I believe. 16 probably no longer exists, and that has been 16 O. Yes. 17 17 deleted. The amount of WhatsApp traffic A. But not between me and Mr McGrail; he 18 18 that is generated means it's just impossible to hadn't reached out to me at all. 19 19 keep all chats etc. I think it would have Q. Can we now go to C4090, please. This is 20 20 been, at the time (this is before the New an email that you send to the Attorney General in response to an email from Mr 21 Year's Eve Agreement) a WhatsApp group 21 22 established as we were in the process of 22 Yeats to the Attorney General earlier that day. 23 23 negotiation of that particular part of the I think you were already referring to this. I 24 infrastructure of post-Brexit agreements. 24 we look at Mr Yeats's email first of all, Mr 25 25 Remember, you've got Withdrawal Yeats says, "The Commissioner of Police is Page 55 Page 53 1 Agreement, then you've got New Year's Eve 1 in receipt of correspondence with regard to a 2 political declaration, and now you've got the 2 claim for damages following a collision at 3 3 negotiation of what we might call the sea on 8 March this year. I understand the 4 4 agreement or treaty between the United DPP has raised the issue of who should 5 5 represent the RGP. Effectively" ---Kingdom and the European Union. And, that 6 6 would probably have been that group. THE CHAIRMAN: Have you got it on the 7 Q. At B1441, please, is an exchange between 7 8 8 you and Mr Pyle on 19 May. And I am A (?). It's on the screen. Thank you. 9 9 focusing on 19 May, two messages: one at Q. Thank you. Take your time to read it as 10 11.44 and the other at 12.15. And you say, 10 much as you want to, but it is effectively an 11 11 "On the other, what's your instinct on the email to the Attorney General seeking 12 15(1)(a) report? Shall I seek it, given Met 12 authority to appoint counsel and advice on 13 13 report isn't imminent? I am in two minds." who would be best placed, because the DPP 14 14 And Mr Pyle responds, "I'm sure or hope had indicated that he did not feel that the 15 15 CoP has done his own internal investigation OCPL could, as a result of conflict issues. 16 16 and therefore has an internal report. You And that gets forwarded by the Attorney 17 could (a) ask on the basis of the claim being 17 General to you, and then your response that 18 filed as the peg, or (b) wait until say Friday 18 you send to the Attorney General but ask him 19 19 to see what Joey comes up with. Slight to pass on to the DPP and Superintendent 20 20 preference to leave this to the GPA, but Yeats. You say, "I think it is entirely 21 21 worry they will not be timely enough. Using inappropriate for this matter not to have been 22 15(1)(a) would speed things up, and on 22 raised with me in the first instance by the 23 balance I'd go for that." It looks from that 23 Commissioner. This matter raises issues of 24 message that both you and Mr Pyle had 24 fundamental human rights, the right to life, 25 25 discussed, and were aware of, the filing of potential payment of huge amounts of Page 54 Page 56

1 damages, potential extradition and liberty of 1 have occurred to you at the time of collision, 2 2 serving police officers being at stake, the or shortly after the collision? 3 3 issues of strangled operating procedures A. They would from the first moment have 4 which may be in place and the management 4 arisen in my mind, and I was expressing 5 thereof. All of that is in addition to the huge 5 them here in the context of the filing of those 6 potential political exposure that arises for 6 self-same claims about those fundamental 7 7 Gibraltar as a result thereof, and the 8 8 concomitant and dangerous issues of Q. So was your issue purely that you had 9 9 sovereignty and the United Nations learnt about these claims from the media 10 10 Convention on the Law of the Sea. Indeed, it rather than the Commissioner of Police? 11 is difficult to think of an issue as fundamental 11 A. No, no, my issues were multifaceted and 12 as this affecting the RGP, certainly in the 12 I cannot accept that they should be suggested 13 time I have been in office. There is no 13 to be just one. It was of course fundamental 14 consideration in the email below of claims or 14 that I had heard this from public sources in 15 offences going beyond the officers crewing 15 another jurisdiction and not from the 16 the vessel, which is also in my view an issue 16 Commissioner. It was fundamental that we 17 that may need further consideration. As you 17 get right something which had resulted in the 18 know, it comes against the backdrop of the death of two individuals at sea, whoever 18 19 very unflattering report from the HMICFRS. 19 those individuals might be. It was 20 I am therefore surprised and greatly 20 fundamental that we get to the bottom of why 21 disappointed that these issues have not been 21 on earth our Royal Gibraltar Police officers 22 the subject of a detailed submission to me by 22 were operating outside the jurisdiction of 23 the Commissioner in respect of the events in 23 Gibraltar. It was fundamental that the Chief 24 question and the events which now arise. I 24 Minister and the Governor should have all 25 shall therefore be writing directly to the 25 information timeously about this. It was Page 57 Page 59 1 Commissioner on on this and all other 1 going to be a key issue going forward that the 2 2 aspects of this matter. In the interim, I do not Parliament in Gibraltar was going to have to 3 3 authorise the incurring of any expenditure in make an appropriation in respect of the costs 4 4 briefing out of this matter at this stage." And that were going to arise, both in respect of 5 5 as I say, you ask for it to be passed on. Were legal fees and payments that might 6 6 you surprised by Mr Yeats's email and its eventually have to be made if liability was 7 7 reference to the claims? found. All of these things are playing on my 8 8 A. I was very surprised. I -- I'm very clear mind at the time. And, you know, look at this 9 9 in my mind that if 12 May hadn't happened, very formal message I've sent to Michael 10 what would have happened is that the 10 Llamas, who I know well and with whom I 11 11 Commissioner would have written to me correspond very fluidly: I was very, very, very worried about this. I was, and remain, 12 about these issues, and hopefully more 12 13 13 very worried about this. This was in my timeously. 14 14 Q. So you were surprised by the fact that the view more than just a tragic case; this was an 15 15 Commissioner had not written to you, but incident that led to the loss of two lives. 16 16 obviously you were not surprised by the fact Whoever those individuals may be, we have 17 there were claims. 17 to be very conscious of the fact that they 18 18 A. Of course not, I was expecting that. should not have lost their lives that night. 19 19 Especially by then: this is six days after I'd We had police officers who had been put at 20 20 read in the Spanish newspaper that this was risk. And frankly, in my view it was very 21 21 happening. clear that standard operating procedures 22 22 Q. You refer to "issues of fundamental should have prevented an incident like this 23 23 human rights, the right to life, potential from happening in these circumstances, and I 24 payment of huge amounts of damages". It is 24 have always been very clear in the views I 25 25 fair to say that those issues would already had expressed to Commissioners of Police Page 58 Page 60

1 that the Royal Gibraltar Police should	1 that Mr McGrail sent to you as a result of
2 operate within Gibraltar's jurisdiction and	2 your email that we have just looked at and
3 should only go outside it in certain very	3 you say, "Dear Governor, please see below
4 defined circumstances which I think I have	4 which I have just received from the CoP.
5 set out in my evidence and I don't need to go	5 Given the seriousness of the matter I would
6 into it today but I had many things playing in	a appreciate the opportunity to discuss with
7 my mind at that time.	7 you my intended response. I consider this is
8 (11.10)	8 a trigger, the only appropriate response to
9 Q. Were you annoyed at the Attorney	9 which will be the exercise of my powers
10 General for not informing you about the	10 under section 15(1)(a)." Why did you feel
11 claims until 20 May?	11 the need to forward this to Mr Pyle?
12 A. Well, I wasn't aware that the Attorney	12 A. Because you have already shown me that
13 General should have informed me about the	13 I was corresponding with Mr Pyle on these
14 claims before then until I've seen the timeline	issues and he and I had a very fluid
in these proceedings but what I would say is	discussion about this issue and I thought it
16 that the intensity of the work that we were	was appropriate that he should have this
doing at that time, both in relation to Covid	email so that he and I could continue to
and negotiations, suggests to me that nobody	discuss this matter with all of the information
should have relied on the Attorney General	open and transparent before each of us.
as an interlocutor to me on these issues; in	Q. Were you adding fuel to his concerns, his
21 particular, given my section 14	21 existing concerns about the incident at sea?
responsibilities in respect of funding for the	22 A. The Governor was not a stove to which
23 Royal Gibraltar Police and this, as Mr Yeats	one adds fuel. The Governor has
identifies, in this guise it is essentially an	24 responsibilities under the constitution in
25 issue of funding.	25 respect of policing and in respect of external
D (4	D (2
Page 61	Page 63
1 Q. Is it fair to say that by this point, after 12	1 relations and it is fundamentally important
2 May, Mr McGrail simply could do nothing	2 that the relationship between Governor and
3 right in your eyes?	3 Chief Minister is as open and as positive as it
4 A. To a very great extent, it is true that after	• •
5 12 May I found it very difficult to believe	5 functions in the 12 plus years I have had the
6 anything that Mr McGrail did or said or to	6 distinction and honour of being Chief
7 even consider that the things that he did he	7 Minister and will continue to do so. It would
8 was doing in good faith. My loss of	8 have been remarkable, given the
9 confidence in him after 12 May and finding	9 circumstances that we were dealing with, that
out that after that meeting in my office that	10 I had not shared this with the Governor and I
what he had said was untrue was huge. I	11 would have been rightly open to criticism for
12 cannot underestimate for you just how	12 failure to have done so.
13 catastrophic the loss of confidence was. I	13 Q. Why did you consider that the only
considered that the relationship between a	appropriate response to that email was to
15 Commissioner of Police and a Chief Minister	exercise your powers under section 15?
is a little like the relationship between an	A. For the reasons that I think I had already
insurer and an insured. It has to be a	17 indicated in the messages you took me to
relationship of utmost good faith, uber bone	before, because I had already said before that
19 fides, and I had lost confidence in Mr	19 I was not confident that I was getting all of
20 McGrail's relationship with me as a result of	
what happened on 12 May.	21 culmination of my view in respect of this
Q. If we go to C4117 please, this is an email	22 particular matter.
exchange between you and Mr Pyle on 20	Q. If we go back to B1441, this is the two
24 May 2020 and you send him you have	24 messages that are exchanged between you
25 effectively forwarded to him the response	and the governor and just focusing on the
Page 62	Page 64

governor's message, his second sentence, 1 why did you not seek the section 15 report 2 2 "You could (a) ask on the basis of the claim earlier than that? 3 being filed as the peg," was this a case of 3 A. So can you just remind me --- and you 4 using the claims being filed as a "peg" for the 4 may not be able to but I have referenced it 5 section 15 report? 5 there, that I made a ministerial statement on 6 A. He uses the word "peg," I use the word 6 the day before. A ministerial statement is not 7 7 "trigger." I mean, it really is the moment that something that I make lightly. It would have 8 8 we felt I had to act and you will know that been something important but there were a 9 9 section 15 requires me to act with the consent number around that time because of Covid, 10 10 or information of the governors. so it's very likely that it was a Covid related 11 Q. I only ask you that because that message 11 matter. So a ministerial statement is being 12 predates Commissioner Yeats' email and he 12 drafted. I don't know whether people realise 13 is referring to the claim being filed as the 13 this but this is not the United States of 14 "peg" on 19 May. 14 America, nobody drafts my ministerial 15 15 A. Yes. statements, I have to draft them myself and 16 Q. So the following day the Yeats email 16 this section 15 letter which I can see extends 17 17 comes in? to nine pages was not drafted by anybody 18 18 A. Yes, but, Mr Santos, remember that you other than myself, so this is a period through 19 19 have also rightly taken me to the fact that we which information is coming to me and I am 20 20 became aware through this public source on exchanging views with the governor which is 21 14 May ----21 what the statute requires I should do in terms 22 Q. Yes, the 14th. 22 of information until we decide whether or not 23 23 A. --- that claims have been filed, all the I should press this button, so we press it at 24 more so reason to be very concerned about 24 the time that we consider it is necessary to 25 25 this and wanting the section 15 report. press it. Could we have pressed it earlier? Page 65 Page 67 1 Q. On 21 May you send the section 15 1 Perhaps we could have but that is to suggest 2 request to Mr McGrail, this is at B1249, and -2 that this is the only thing I was dealing with 3 3 at the time and it was not and unfortunately it 4 4 is necessary to make time for everything and A. I have given up trying to understand your 5 5 numbering. to prioritise things as may be necessary. 6 Q. I am not in control of that. 6 Q. By this point on 21 May you had already 7 A. So B1249. I have got it, I am sorry. 7 met Mr Pyle, you had already met Dr Britto, 8 8 Q. It is all right. My understanding is that and informed him of your loss of confidence 9 9 they are prepared in accordance with the and Mr Pyle's loss of confidence in Mr 10 10 order of references in my note but it may be McGrail, and the GPA was going through its 11 11 that things have changed since then, but section 34 process, why did you still feel the 12 apologies for the confusion. 12 need to seek this report if you already 13 13 A. That's all right, it's a matter for you. understood that the GPA would be calling on 14 14 Q. At B1249 there is a --- your section 15 him to retire? 15 15 request, and you set out in that request all the A. First of all, that process was not a fait 16 16 concerns that have given rise to it, this is on accompli as unfortunately later transpired. 17 the third page of that document, "Reasons for 17 Second, the world does not stand still when 18 18 exercise of section 15 powers," reports in the the commissioner is replaced. This section 19 19 Spanish and Gibraltar media, questions in the 15 notice would have to be complied with by 20 20 Spanish congress, answer provided in the next commissioner if it had not been 21 21 complied with by this commissioner. The congress, diplomatic note for Val (?) and 22 22 email communications culminating in an lack of information in the context of this 23 23 email of 20 May. Apart from that email of report had to be taken up with Ian McGrail 24 20 May, you were aware of all the other 24 but it would have been something in respect 25 25 concerns that you raised for some time, so of which the rest of the Royal Gibraltar Page 66 Page 68

1 Police should also answer, at least the senior 1 A. Yes. 2 management team. So that is why we had to 2 Q. Mr McGrail says, "The CM's comments 3 3 [referring to the section 15 request] were continue through this process. 4 Q. Were you intending to put further 4 completely at variance with the WhatsApp 5 pressure on him by doing so? 5 discussions which we had had in a special 6 6 A. This is not about pressure. Imagine the group that he had himself initiated the day 7 7 after the accident. The report was requested pressure that I was under in respect of these 8 8 within seven days of the date of the letter (i.e. matters. If you are sending me into 9 9 negotiations with Spain, I think literally in by 28 May). I duly submitted a 30-page 10 10 the morning or the morning after the two report on 27 May 2020. I have to this date 11 Spanish citizens have been killed in Spanish 11 received no acknowledgement of receipt, or 12 waters by the Royal Gibraltar Police on the 12 any comments or feedback on the report." 13 east side of Gibraltar, so, you know, pressure 13 Do you agree with Mr McGrail that your 14 14 request was at variance with your earlier is something that we all had to deal with in 15 15 the roles that we are designated to discharge. communications to him? 16 16 A. Of course not. My earlier It was not my intention to do this thing, the 17 17 section 15 notice, in order to put pressure communications with him were setting out 18 18 but, you believe me, Mr Santos, drafting a my support for the officers on the front line. 19 19 nine page section 15 notice and ensuring it This, some three months later, was saying, 20 20 was in keeping with the statute and set out all "I'm not getting the information I need in 21 the requirements of the information I had to 21 order to properly discharge my functions in 22 give the RGP, to elicit all the information I 22 respect of this matter." There was no conflict 23 23 needed from the RGP also put a lot of between the two. They both dealt with 24 24 completely different aspects of the matter. pressure on me. 25 25 Q. Can we now look at the end of this which Q. Had you previously expressed any Page 69 Page 71 1 is on 1257, the end of your notice, you 1 dissatisfaction or concern to Mr McGrail as 2 require --- well, you say, "I shall look 2 to his sharing of information, other than the 3 3 forward to hearing from you and I would email of course, the 20 May email? 4 4 expect to have formal confirmation of receipt A. I had set that out in the 20 May email. 5 5 of this requirement within the next 24 hours Q. Other than that? 6 6 and within seven days of the date of this A. I don't think I was expected to be chasing 7 letter, a detailed response." Why did you 7 the Commissioner of Police for information I 8 8 require a report within seven days? did not know existed. In other words, how 9 9 A. In order to be able to make the was I supposed to discharge all of my 10 assessments I needed to make. Indeed at that 10 functions and also badger him for 11 11 time, you will recall the date is one day information on things that may or may not be 12 ahead of June, so if I needed to make a 12 happening in the context of an investigation? 13 13 different statement to the Parliament about Please recall, these things don't happen in 14 14 the lines in the police budget for that year in vacuo. This happened, I think, on 3 March --15 15 order to appropriate more money for a 16 16 purpose, I would need to know quickly. As it Q. 8 March. 17 17 A. 8 March, we are now at the end of May. turned out, I also opened the door for more 18 18 time to be sought but no more time was For the first time in the history of Gibraltar 19 19 sought so I must have got it relatively right and western civilisation, democratic 20 20 because they responded in that period. governments had locked up their people in 21 21 Q. If we look at A27, this is Mr McGrail's breach of liberal traditions that we have all 22 22 first statement, we may have to pick it up on defended since democracy arrived in 23 23 the string but I can assure you that it is two Gibraltar and certainly in the western world. 24 very short paragraphs, paragraph 70 and 71. 24 It was a very difficult period. The last thing I 25 25 Do you have that? would expect to have to be doing was to be Page 70 Page 72

1 chasing the Commissioner of Police for 1 Ouite simply, as I see it, the RGP needs to 2 information that he had and should be 2 modernise in all senses of the word." Did 3 3 sending me, which I didn't know he had, so you read the report at that point? 4 should I today when I leave here write to the 4 A. I don't know that I did at that point. I 5 5 mean --- and again I am sorry to harp back to current commissioner and say, "Look, is 6 6 there anything you need to tell me that you this, but it is fundamental that we do, we had 7 7 haven't told me"? just locked down Gibraltar. I think at this 8 8 Q. I will take that as a rhetorical question. stage in April we were still very much in 9 9 A. Yes, of course, absolutely. lockdown. I had just taken an emergency 10 10 MR SANTOS: Thank you. I think, given budget to the Parliament, I had just sought a 11 the time, it is 25 past eleven, now would be a 11 loan of half a billion pounds from the United 12 good time for the mid-morning break, sir. 12 Kingdom and a sovereign guarantee in 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, a short break. 13 respect of security for that. There were a lot 14 14 (Short adjournment) of things in my mind at the time. The last 15 FABIAN PICARDO (Continued): 15 thing I needed were problems with the RGP 16 Questioned by MR SANTOS (Continued): 16 and HMIC inspection report. I don't believe 17 17 O. Chief Minister, can we now turn to I answered this email and it is very likely that 18 C3344, which should be an email of 30 April 18 is why you are asking me about it and it is 19 19 2020? very likely I think I had a video conference 20 20 A. Yes, I have it. with Nic Pyle at that time - I think we were 21 Q. This is an email from you to --- we are 21 having video conferences - in which we 22 moving on to the HMIC report. 22 mentioned this email but I didn't at that stage 23 23 A. Right. have time to read it or drill down into it. I 24 Q. This is an email to you from Mr Pyle on 24 think somewhere else in the evidence there is 25 25 evening of 30 April 2020 about two weeks a reference to communication between me Page 73 Page 75 1 before the meeting at number 6 between you 1 and my then Minister for Justice about the 2 and Mr McGrail and moving on now from 2 issue of the report, so I don't think at that 3 3 the incident at sea, so in between those two stage I had had a chance to look at this in 4 4 points in time, and he sends you an email that detail. 5 5 says, "Dear CM," he refers to the report, and Q. If we can go to your statement at 107, this 6 6 he then says in the second paragraph, is your first statement, 107? 7 "Having studied the report I find it to be 7 A. Page 107 or ----8 8 quite damning and it will need careful Q. Sorry, paragraph 107, page A206 which 9 9 handling. In essence, HMIC found the RGP is the 37th page of your statement ----10 to have only met two out of the eight areas 10 A. Yes. 11 11 for improvement identified in 2016. My own Q. You say, "I want to be clear in telling the 12 sense is that HMIC were very disappointed 12 Inquiry that I was not able to find sufficient 13 13 indeed to find so little progress had been time to review the detail of the HMIC 14 14 made since their last inspection. This is a recommendations at this time," and you 15 15 shame and their willingness to help the RGP make the point that you now make about 16 16 in the future may have diminished as a result. lockdown but you say then, "I want to be 17 This is something we must help correct but I 17 clear also in stating that the report did not 18 18 don't think the issue is as bad as the headline make me lose confidence in the integrity or 19 19 suggests and believe that it is an issue of probity of Mr McGrail as Commissioner of 20 20 culture and leadership more than anything Police. I was, however, clearly of the view 21 21 else. Most of the issues should be relatively that, once I reviewed the conclusions, I was 22 easy to fix though it will take a collective 22 persuaded that they did reflect on Mr 23 effort, driven bottom up from within the RGP 23 McGrail's ability to maintain the efficiency 24 as much as from its leadership which needs 24 and effectiveness of the RGP, which are also 25 25 to be both more strategic and directive. key aspects of the criteria of the power of the Page 74 Page 76

1 Authority in section 34(1) of the Police Act. 1 at that stage with many, many, many other 2 2 I was, thereafter, also not confident that Mr pre-occupations on my mind, I was happy to 3 3 McGrail could be the person to address the leave to Nic that which was Nic's because 4 HMIC recommendations, given he had 4 this is a matter for the Governor really. The 5 demonstrably failed to act since 2018 and 5 police are a matter for the Governor and for 6 6 matters had obviously deteriorated and not the Minister for Justice unless the issue 7 7 improved on his watch. He had, for instance, becomes so important that it has to come to 8 8 as far as I am aware, not established the me, so when you look at these issues 9 9 working group he had suggested in his job individually at this time, yes, of course I was 10 10 application was 'imperative'." So you say happy to allow the Governor's view to 11 that once you read the report you found it 11 prevail in this respect but all of these things 12 12 was very damning, did you raise that with then came together like the strands of 13 anyone at the time when you read it? 13 circumstantial evidence and became a cord 14 A. I think I may have raised it with my then 14 that for me was the straw that broke the 15 minister for justice, I think I may have raised 15 camel's back after my huge loss of 16 it with the former minister for justice in 16 confidence in Mr McGrail on 12 May 2020. 17 17 discussion as well and certainly in Q. You referred a couple of times to the 18 18 Minister for Justice, Minister of Justice, what discussions with the governor. 19 19 was your recollection of her views at the Q. Mr Pyle we have seen in his evidence 20 20 says, "Most of the issues should be relatively time? 21 easy to fix although it will take a collective 21 A. I think --- and there is a reference I think 22 effort," and then he says --- I am sorry, I 22 in one of the WhatsApp between me and her, 23 23 I think, where she says, "I think it's should give you the benefit of that but it is at 24 C3344 ----24 manageable," or words to that effect. 25 25 A. Yes, I have it. Q. I think you are referring to --- in fairness Page 77 Page 79 1 Q. He says in the final substantive 1 to you, you are referring to a message from 2 paragraph, "My initial thought is to suggest 2 her to Mr McGrail. 3 3 the Commissioner makes the report public at A. Maybe from her to Mr McGrail. 4 4 the same time he publishes his road map on O. Yes. 5 5 the way forward, so being pre-active rather A. Where she says, "I think it's manageable," 6 6 than reactive," and your evidence on this is at and if she didn't say that to me in a 7 A105, so just going back two paragraphs in 7 WhatsApp, then she said it to me in person. 8 8 your statement, you say, "I replied that same She would have come to my office ---9 9 evening, (at 17:28 hrs) saying that I agreed remember at that time we were doing these 10 10 with the Governor's proposal, adding that I notorious four o'clock press conferences and 11 11 thought we might meet with the on occasion it was Samantha's turn to do 12 Commissioner and gently point him in that 12 them and I do remember her talking to me 13 13 about the report and saying, "Look, I think direction." It does look from those 14 we can manage this," and "I think at this time 14 exchanges as though Mr Pyle and you both 15 15 believe that there was a way forward and that people are not going to be looking at the 16 16 Mr McGrail could continue to lead the RGP detail of this report, there's far too much on 17 as at 30 April and address these issues, were 17 with Covid, et cetera, for people to be 18 18 you effectively agreeing, supporting that concentrating on this issue." 19 19 approach when you agreed with Mr Pyle on Q. I think I am right in saying that we do not 20 20 have the WhatsApp between you and Ms 30 April? 21 21 Sacramento. Do you know whether they still A. Certainly and, you know, this is like the 22 22 strands of evidence, you know, when you exist or ----23 23 bring them all together is when you see that A. They probably do but I don't --- I mean, I 24 you have a cord strong enough that the 24 can literally see her standing in my room 25 25 telling me. I knew I had read a WhatsApp evidence is sustainable and here, on its own, Page 78 Page 80

1 but you are probably right that I had read a 1 A. Yes, I am happy to adopt my evidence 2 2 WhatsApp between her and Mr McGrail and of course it raised concerns although 3 3 because the phrases I am giving you are they were not my principal concerns. I 4 phrases that I remember her saying viva voce 4 mean, you have to understand what my life 5 5 was like at that time. I had a bed in number 6 in my working office. 6 Q. If we now look at Mr McGrail's evidence, 6 Convent Place in case I had to be confined 7 7 paragraph 39, it is page A63, his third there because of Covid, right, so in the 8 8 witness statement, at the bottom of that page, pecking order of crocodiles nearest the 9 9 A63, he says, "Neither I nor any of my canoe, this was definitely a crocodile but it 10 10 Command Team colleagues received any wasn't the one nearest the canoe. 11 feedback on the report from the CM or NP. I 11 Q. When did you first get the opportunity to 12 12 was aware that the CM was very tied up with review the 2020 --- sorry, the --- yes, the 13 the unfolding response to the Covid-19 13 2020 report, when did you get the chance to 14 pandemic but I was informed by the GPA 14 review it in detail? 15 Chair that the CM had eventually given him 15 A. All things in the RGP became my priority 16 direct confirmation that it was okay to make 16 after 12 May, so I think I will have looked at 17 17 the report public and this was done on 7 May it after then. 18 18 Q. Was it on 17 May 2020 when you sent a 2020." 19 19 photograph of page 13 to Mr Baglietto and to A. Not that I have any jurisdiction to decide 20 20 whether things should be made public or not the Attorney General? 21 and not that the GPA requires my permission 21 A. Very likely that was the day and that 22 to do anything. 22 photograph I think deals with issues relating 23 23 Q. But does that accord with your to electronic communication devices which is 24 recollection that you ok'd the publication of 24 why it was particularly poignant. 25 25 the report? Q. If we go to B1573, please, this is area for Page 81 Page 83 1 A. I believe I did that and Joey Britto will 1 improvement 8 and it says ---- this is the 2 give different evidence if I am wrong but I 2 2016 report which the HMIC FRS held that 3 3 believe I did that through the Minister for the RGP had only met 2 out of the 8 4 4 Justice. I don't believe I did it myself but it recommendations from and one of those 5 5 may be possible I did. I mean, at that time, I areas for improvement says, "By July 2016 6 6 remember there were a lot of conversations the Minister for Finance should set out the 7 with Samantha and I may have said 7 funding formula including the associated 8 8 something to her and to Mr Britto about this criteria thresholds and conditions that need to 9 9 subject, given that my unnecessary be met for resources needing to police 10 authorisation was being sought for the 10 Gibraltar." 11 11 publication of something. A. I entirely disregarded that. It is entirely Q. That was on 7 May, the publication was 12 12 misconceived that people who drafted this 13 13 on 7 May 2020, had you read the report in report did not seek to see the Minister for 14 14 full prior to making that decision? Finance before asking how the public 15 15 A. I think I had read the headlines of the appropriation process in Gibraltar works. 16 16 report but not all of the report, as I tell you They seemed to have failed to understand 17 and 7 May is eight days after 30 April, so 17 how Gibraltar's budget operates and I 18 18 things I was saying to you were relevant on therefore had little regard for that 19 19 30 April were just as relevant on 5 and 6 recommendation at all. 20 20 May before publication on the 7th. This was Q. You did not consider it necessary to 21 21 not something I needed on my plate in April comply with that recommendation? 22 and May 2020. 22 A. I think it's a complete misunderstanding 23 23 Q. Did the report raise concerns for you at of how budgeting in Gibraltar works. It's a 24 that point? Are you happy to adopt your 24 little like bringing UK budgeting of schools, 25 evidence as set out? 25 which is what you might loosely called Page 82 Page 84

devolved and the school gets a lot of control, 1 1 you but rather with the Controlling Officer. 2 in particular different types of schools, to the 2 Did you consider referring that to the 3 3 way that education budgeting is done in Controlling Officer? 4 Gibraltar which is down to the department 4 A. So, correct me if I'm wrong, but I think 5 5 and from the department to the schools, so the Controlling Officer in the context of the 6 6 this was a complete misunderstanding of how **Royal Gibraltar Police is the Commissioner** 7 7 budgeting works in Gibraltar and imputing to of Police. So there may be a senior officer in 8 8 Gibraltar the budgeting system of police the RGP, but, you know, these things 9 9 forces into the United Kingdom. The two are emanate from, the budget emanates from the 10 10 night and day and if anybody had bothered to Minister of Finance, which my ministry, 11 come and see me and talk to me about this, 11 through the Financial Secretary and then 12 HMIC inspectors are routinely brought to my 12 goes to the controlling officers in each of the 13 office as a matter of courtesy, to shake my 13 departments. This is a complete 14 14 hand, et cetera, but if they had bothered to misunderstanding of how budgeting works. 15 15 talk to me about this issue I would have So you need to start again in the context of 16 explained to them how Gibraltar's budgeting 16 this recommendation because this 17 17 process works and they could then have recommendation has been made in the 18 18 made a recommendation which might have abstract applying UK budgeting processes to 19 19 been helpful. We can always learn, as I am Gibraltar. 20 20 sure we will learn through this process, we Q. I understand that position, but did you 21 could have learned through that process, if 21 have a conversation with anybody to say, 22 they were applying their criteria to the 22 "This area for improvement is nonsensical 23 23 because it does not work like that here --" manner in which Gibraltar budgets generally 24 for its departments and in particular for the 24 A. Yes, I think I did. 25 police. 25 Q. "-- and by the way this is not up to me, Page 85 Page 87 1 Q. Who would that recommendation more 1 this is up to somebody else and they had 2 appropriately have been made to? 2 better get working on this." 3 3 A. Well, to the controlling officer of the A. No, no. First of all I would have 4 4 Royal Gibraltar Police and indeed after discussed this with the Minister for Justice at 5 5 speaking to me, if they had had the desire to the time. But second, this is not a question of 6 6 it not being up to me because the whole thing do so, or indeed to the opposition shadow 7 minister for public finances as well, they 7 is addressed to the Minister for Finance. But 8 8 might have had a more rounded view of how the whole misconception is about how 9 9 budgeting works in Gibraltar and it could budgeting works. We don't set out a funding 10 have made a different sort of 10 formula with criteria thresholds and 11 recommendation. 11 conditions for resources needed in policing in 12 (11.50)12 Gibraltar. The process is different. The 13 Q. Did you read the 2016 Report? 13 process is like a funding round, a little like it 14 14 A. Sorry? works in the Ministry of Defence. In other 15 15 Q. Do you read the 2016, HMIC Report? words, you have got the controlling officers 16 16 A. I think I did at the time. and ministers and heads of department who 17 17 come to the office the Chief Minister with Q. Did it occur to you to perhaps pass that 18 recommendation on to the relevant 18 the Financial Secretary, with work diligently 19 individual? 19 through each line of the budget and what 20 20 A. Why? they require in each particular year. We are 21 Q. You said that they should have --21 building some tension, we have the ability to 22 22 A. I am the Minister for Finance. bring a supplementary procreation or indeed 23 23 Q. I think your evidence is that actually the to alter the budget when it is being debated, 24 funding formula, the question of the funding 24 hence my point in relation to the deaths at 25 formula, should not have been raised with 25 sea. So the whole of --Page 86 Page 88

Q. Sorry to interrupt you, but we have got 1 already. 2 a lot to go through. 2 Q. And when if ever would it be appropriate 3 3 for a Chief Minister to instruct the police to A. Of course, yes. 4 Q. So you did not consider that that needed, 4 take certain steps within an investigation? 5 5 effectively that that improvement needed to A. Well, not within an investigation but 6 6 be dealt with by you or someone else because section 15 in effect requires me or allows me 7 7 it really did not understand the position in to give an instruction to the RGP to provide 8 8 Gibraltar. information to the government in the terms 9 A. Exactly. I accepted that this was an issue 9 set out therein. 10 10 for the (inaudible) but not in this way. Q. So is your evidence that it is never 11 THE CHAIRMAN: We have got the point. 11 appropriate for a Chief Minister to instruct 12 12 Let us move on. the police to take certain steps within 13 MR SANTOS: I think let us move on, yes. 13 an investigation? 14 14 A. Operationally absolutely not. But that Thank you. Just we will turn now to 15 Operation Delhi. Would you accept that 15 doesn't mean that there isn't co-operation in 16 under the Constitution, apart from exceptions 16 the circumstances I have already indicated. 17 17 such as finance, policing priorities, the O. Do you think there are red lines which 18 annual policing plan, for example, the RGP 18 a Chief Minister should not cross in terms of 19 19 are ultimately answerable to the Governor intervening in criminal investigations? 20 20 and not the Chief Minister? A. Absolutely, and not just in respect of not 21 A. Absolutely, that's why I couldn't give any 21 intervening with criminal investigations. 22 orders in the Wessex Lounge of how things 22 There are many red lines a Chief Minister 23 23 should be done at the tower or on the must never cross. 24 24 Q. Dealings with friends, for example, do runway. 25 25 Q. As Chief Minister in what circumstances those bring about red lines? Page 89 Page 91 1 would you expect the RGP to brief you on 1 A. In the circumstances in which one deals 2 criminal investigations? 2 with friends, there may be certain red lines 3 3 A. When matters affected the jurisdiction that one needs to observe, but in Gibraltar, as 4 4 and those are the circumstances in which I you will know, we very often deal with 5 5 have been briefed in the past by different friends when we are dealing professionally, 6 6 **Commissioners of Police because of potential** not least in this room, I may hasten to add. 7 7 Q. What about in terms of investigations into reputational or other consequences to 8 8 Gibraltar's jurisdiction or the exchequer. companies that the Chief Minister has 9 9 invested in? Would there be red lines there Q. Sorry, just to clarify, when you say 10 jurisdiction, do you mean Gibraltar as 10 as well? 11 11 a jurisdiction --A. Of course there would. 12 A. Yes, of course. 12 Q. Your government introduced the 13 Q. -- rather than jurisdiction in the sense of 13 ministerial code on 15 March 2023. That code was drafted in 2015 and was, I believe, 14 14 power? 15 15 was on the Parliament website for about eight A. Well, in the MOD case --16 16 years before it was laid before Parliament. Is Q. Yes. 17 A. -- it was a hybrid of the two. 17 that correct? 18 18 A. That's right, and I said in Parliament that Q. Yes. 19 19 A. But yes, Gibraltar as a jurisdiction. I considered it applied from the day that it 20 20 was laid, not from the date of its formal Q. In your view when if ever would it be 21 21 appropriate for a Chief Minister to express 22 22 his views on a police investigation to the Q. I think I am right in saying that you said 23 23 police? that the government had adhered to the code 24 A. When they affected the jurisdiction in 24 since 2015. Is that correct? 25 some way and the police had involved him 25 A. That's right, absolutely. Page 90 Page 92

1 Q. Now, we do have the code. I just want to 1 between their public duties and their private 2 2 refer to some provisions. I can paraphrase interests, financial or otherwise." 3 3 them but at the same time I do not want to Then 7.7: 4 4 deprive you of the opportunity of referring to "Ministers must scrupulously avoid any 5 them should you wish to point anything out. 5 danger of an actual or perceived conflict of 6 A. Where are they in the printed bundle? 6 interests between their ministerial position 7 7 Q. I am not sure it will be in the printed and their private financial interests." 8 8 bundle. I am afraid they are not, but it will And then finally, 7.8: 9 9 be on screen. The code states, for example, "Where exceptionally it is decided that 10 10 at 1.3, on page 5 of the code, that it should be a minister can retain an interest, the minister 11 read against the background of the 11 and the department must put processes in 12 12 overarching duty on ministers on comply place to prohibit access to certain papers and 13 13 with the law and to protect the integrity of ensure that the minister is not involved in 14 14 certain decisions and discussions relating to public life. They are expected to observe the 15 15 seven principles of public life set out at that interest." 16 annex A and that is what is known as the 16 Do you believe that you acted in accordance 17 Nolan principles which are --17 with those principles and with the ministerial 18 A. I know them well. 18 code at all times in relation to 36 North and 19 19 Q. -- annexed to the code. Operation Delhi? A. Yes. 20 20 A. Entirely. 21 Q. And we can look at those. They are at 21 Q. As we have seen, paragraph 7.7 says that 22 22 the end of the document, final page. The first ministers must scrupulously avoid any 23 23 of those is selflessness, holders of public danger of any actual or perceived conflict of 24 24 office should act solely in terms of the public interest between their ministerial position and 25 25 interests. Integrity, which paraphrasing their private financial interests. Given your Page 93 Page 95 1 means not taking decisions in order to gain 1 own financial interests in both Hassans and 2 2 financial or other material benefits for 36 North, do you believe that you managed 3 3 themselves, their family or their friends. So to avoid a danger of actual or perceived 4 4 that is the overarching principles, but just conflict? 5 5 focusing on one or two specific provisions. A. I do. But perception is not in my eye, it 6 6 If we go to 6.6, page 14, this is in the section is in the perception of third parties. So I can 7 7 that is entitled "Minister's Party Interests", only tell you that I think I acted in order to 8 8 but it goes a little bit beyond that. It says at avoid any fair and reasonable observer from 9 9 6.6: believing that I had a conflict of interest. 10 "Particular care also needs to be taken over 10 Q. How involved were you in the setting up 11 11 cases in which a minister may have of 36 North and its exchanges with 12 a personal interest or connection, for example 12 Mr Gaggero and government on the NSCIS 13 13 because they concern family, friends or contract? 14 14 employees. If exceptionally a minister A. I was not involved in the setting up of 36 15 15 wishes to raise questions about the handling North. You have said three things not 16 16 of such a case, they should advise a Chief context of one question. 17 Secretary and write to the minister 17 Q. Yes, I might have to break them down 18 18 responsible, as with constituency cases, but actually, if you prefer. 19 19 they should make clear their personal A. Please. 20 20 Q. In the setting up of 36 North you said that connection or interest. The responsible 21 21 minister should ensure that any inquiry is you were not involved. 22 22 handled without special treatment." A. I was not involved. I was informed of it. 23 23 And then 7.1 on the next page says: Q. And then the exchanges between 24 "Ministers must ensure that no conflict arises 24 Mr Gaggero and the government on the 25 25 NSCIS contract. or could reasonably be perceived to arise Page 94 Page 96

1 1 A. It's not possible for me to say whether I A. Well, in some instances I dealt with those 2 2 myself and in others they were dealt with by was involved from the outset or not because I 3 3 other individuals. But usually, if it was didn't know when the outset was. 4 Mr Gaggero himself, it was more often than 4 Q. Sorry, my question to you is --5 not a discussion with me. In fact I think I 5 A. Certainly by spring or early summer 2018 6 6 have exhibited a loose note of a discussion I but --7 7 Q. Sorry, my question to you was whether had with him when he reached out to me for 8 8 you were aware from the outset that Hassans a discussion. 9 9 Q. If we look at B1111, this is the was investing into 36 North. 10 10 investigation you gave to the RGP as part of A. No. Um, I think the chronology is that I 11 the criminal investigation. Page 3. 11 set out in this paragraph. In other words, 12 A. B1? 12 John Perez comes to tell me that he is going 13 Q. B1111, all the ones. 13 to leave Bland's with Tommy Cornelio and 14 14 A. Triple one, got it. Here it is. subsequently, it may have been weeks, I am 15 Q. And you address there in the final 15 told that that venture is going to include 16 paragraph your interactions with Mr Perez 16 an investment from Hassans. But I wasn't 17 17 and Mr Cornelio. This is your statement of from the outset aware that it was going to 18 25 June 2021. 18 involve an investment from Hassans. 19 19 A. Yes. Q. I appreciate the point that you are 20 20 Q. You say: making. My point to you is that you were 21 "By spring or early summer 2018 I knew that 21 aware before it happened that the investment 22 there were negotiations between Bland 22 was going to made. 23 23 Limited and 36 North to take over the A. I don't know whether I was aware before 24 running of a platform after the resignations of 24 it happened or whether it had already 25 Mr Cornelio and Mr Perez from Bland 25 happened when I was made aware of it. But Page 97 Page 99 1 Limited. Mr John Perez had repeatedly 1 I think James came to see me to ask me 2 advised me that he and Mr Cornelio wanted 2 whether I objected or not. 3 3 to establish themselves to provide advanced Q. Your evidence is: "I was asked by 4 4 technological services of the type being Mr Levy to see whether or not I would object 5 5 offered by Bland Limited. I was asked by to this." 6 A. Yes. 6 him whether I would support them branching 7 out in this way. I had replied that I was 7 Q. Which rather suggests that it was done in 8 8 supportive of them setting themselves up on advance. 9 9 their own but that in doing so they should A. Yes, but whether James would have 10 regularise their position with Mr Gaggero. 10 waited to make the investment until I said 11 11 Subsequently I had conversations with both okay is not necessarily an issue on which I 12 Mr Perez and Mr James Levy QC about 12 put my hand in the fire. He may already 13 13 Hassans Limited, of which I am a partner on have made the decision to go ahead and was 14 14 sabbatical, supporting Mr Perez and asking me whether I objected or not. So, you 15 15 Mr Cornelio through an investment in their know, yes, I was asked whether I would 16 16 venture 36 North Limited. I was asked by object or not, and I did not object, but I 17 Mr Levy QC whether or not I would object to 17 cannot give evidence at this tribunal --18 18 this. I had confirmed I would not object to Q. I understand the clarification. 19 19 such investment by the partners of Hassans A. -- about whether or not the investment 20 20 Limited but that this would not affect had been made already. 21 government's attitude to 36 North in any 21 Q. I understand. You were also aware that 22 22 positive or negative manner." Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio planned to leave 23 23 It is fair to say therefore that you were aware Bland in order to establish their own business 24 from the outset that Hassans were investing 24 offering the same or similar services. 25 25 into 36 North. A. Yes, I was, as I say. Page 98 Page 100

25 (Pages 97 to 100)

1 O. And you say that this would not affect 1 O. We will come to that decision. 2 2 government's attitude, that the investment A. If I may just finish, by making the 3 3 would not affect government's attitude to 36 decision that the contract should stay with 4 North in any positive or negative manner. 4 Bland and not go to the entity in which I 5 But it is fair to say that you effectively held 5 tangentially had a financial interest in, 6 6 a stake in the company itself, 36 North. So thereby demonstrating that I acted selflessly 7 7 how did you ensure that government's and with integrity in the best interests of 8 8 attitude was not affected in any positive or Gibraltar and its people and not in my 9 9 self-interest in any way. negative manner? 10 10 A. Well, it's a very open-ended question and Q. If we can go to A1236, please. This is 11 you give me an opportunity to just go on 11 Mr Perez's statement to this inquiry and I 12 12 about everything that happened. I assume want to focus on paragraph 23. 13 you don't want me to do that. 13 A. Yes. 14 14 Q. His evidence in that paragraph --Q. Well, my question is aimed at any 15 15 A. May I say something, Mr Santos? safeguards you put in place or anything you 16 did to ensure that government's attitude was 16 Q. Yes. 17 17 not affected. A. Can I just inform the tribunal that I have 18 18 not been able to read all of the statements. I A. So, if I can take you to the denouement of 19 19 this, I actually made the decision that 36 know they have been shared with all core 20 20 participants and I am a core participant, but I North should not take the contract. But if I 21 can take you to the genesis of it, what was 21 have not been able to read all of the 22 22 statements. So if you can take me to the very clear to me was that there was no need 23 23 for a decision from the government. In other relevant part. 24 words, this was not something which was 24 Q. I am only going to take you to two 25 sentences there. It is the final two sentence 25 going to require me to make a choice or Page 101 Page 103 1 a decision. What I was being informed about 1 of paragraph 23: 2 2 was that Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio had made "On 30 January 2018, I met the [Chief 3 3 a decision for themselves, which they were Minister], The Honourable Fabian Picardo 4 4 communicating to Bland Limited and to KC and told him about our plans; he was 5 5 which Bland Limited appeared to be encouraging and supportive and asked that I 6 6 let him know before we tendered our agreeable from the moment that Mr Gaggero 7 7 was informed, that they would leave and resignations. I also informed --" 8 8 plough their furrow separately and that that A. I am sorry, Mr Santos, I have lost you. 9 9 was agreed by Bland's. Where are you? 10 In other words, the government was not 10 Q. I am sorry. It is the last four lines of 11 11 going to be called upon to make any decision paragraph 23. 12 to migrate a contract from X off from Y. The 12 A. Oh, sorry, further up. Okay. So, "On 30 13 13 party that provided it was going to agree that January", okay. 14 14 a new entity would provide that service going Q. Yes. 15 15 forward because that departure of Perez and "On 30 January 2018, I met the [Chief Minister] ... and told him about our plans; he 16 16 Cornelio from Bland was something that was 17 in train, was going to happen and was going 17 was encouraging and supportive and asked 18 18 that I let him know before we tendered our to be agreed between them. There was no 19 19 call for a decision. If there had been a call resignations. I also informed the Financial 20 20 for a decision, then all of the references that Secretary, Albert Mena." 21 you have referred me to would become very 21 Does that accord with your recollection that 22 relevant. Indeed, when the call for a decision 22 by the end of January 2018 you were aware 23 23 came I believe that I managed all of the of Mr Perez's plans? 24 issues that related to conflict by making the 24 A. It may be. I mean, at that time Mr Perez 25 25 decision. was not just telling me about this aspect of

26 (Pages 101 to 104)

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1	how he wanted to do things. He presented	1	paragraph there:
2	a plan to sell NSCIS internationally and had	2	"Nonetheless, for reasons that became
3	wanted the government to agree to that	3	apparent in the meetings and in
4	because we had this dispute as to ownership,	4	correspondence in the period from the middle
5	we have this dispute as to ownership. And	5	to the end of August 2018, I did not give any
6	therefore, although it was attractive, it would	6	instructions for Mr Cornelio to take over or
7	require the resolution of those issues and I	7	continue running what is referred to in the
8	recall that the discussions, I think, originated	8	question as HMGOG platforms including the
9	with that international branching out and then	9	NSCIS platform. I had an exchange of
10	led to this, "We are going to do this on our	10	emails and WhatsApp messages with
11	own, we think we should do it on our own,	11	Mr Sanchez where I instructed him to seek
12	why should we do it with Bland's?"	12	legal advice on how to transition from Bland
13	Q. Did you ask to be kept up to date on the	13	Limited to 36 North at the time."
14	resignations? He says there	14	So, is it the case that you instructed
15	A. I said, "Yes, let me know how it goes	15	Mr Sanchez to seek legal advice on
16	with James", etc.	16	transitioning from Bland Limited to 36 North
17	Q. That was some time before Hassans	17	at the time?
18	invested in 36 North. Were you aware that	18	A. You are asking me whether what I have
19	they were already instructing Hassans at that	19	said in my sworn statement is true?
20	point?	20	Q. Yes.
21	A. I don't know. Um, he may have told me,	21	A. I believe it is, that's why I have set it out.
22	he may not have told me.	22	But you have taken me through a very quick
23	Q. Did you refer them to Hassans or to	23	tour of what was happening at that time.
24	Mr Levy?	24	Q. I appreciate that.
25	A. Certainly not.	25	A. And I think it is fundamentally important
			
	Page 105		Page 107
1	Q. Then if we can go to B1112, please. This	1	that I reflect that on 21 July 2018 what James
2	is the next paragraph of your witness	2	
	is the next paragraph of your withess		Lagger wee coving to me wee "I coly these
3	statement to the police (Pause) It is the		Gaggero was saying to me was, "Look, these
3 4	statement to the police. (Pause). It is the	3	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with
4	very next paragraph after the one that we	3 4	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few
4 5	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say:	3 4 5	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know,
4 5 6	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with	3 4 5 6	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as
4 5 6 7	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of	3 4 5 6 7	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process
4 5 6 7 8	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland	3 4 5 6 7 8	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern,
4 5 6 7 8 9	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018."	3 4 5 6 7 8 9	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from
4 5 6 7 8 9	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any
4 5 6 7 8 9 10	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying,
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes. Q. Which we do have.	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we should tie down on the transfer to 36 North
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes. Q. Which we do have. "That was a Saturday and I recall	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we should tie down on the transfer to 36 North the issue of ownership of the platform
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes. Q. Which we do have. "That was a Saturday and I recall Mr Gaggero calling me in the morning. It	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we should tie down on the transfer to 36 North the issue of ownership of the platform because, um, I seem to recall that 36 North
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes. Q. Which we do have. "That was a Saturday and I recall Mr Gaggero calling me in the morning. It was unusual for him to call me on a Saturday	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we should tie down on the transfer to 36 North the issue of ownership of the platform because, um, I seem to recall that 36 North doing this also had the advantage (a) of being
4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	very next paragraph after the one that we read. You say: "I subsequently had a conversation with James Gaggero in respect of the departure of Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio from Bland Limited on 21 July 2018." This is the conversation you refer to having a note of. A. Yes. Q. Which we do have. "That was a Saturday and I recall Mr Gaggero calling me in the morning. It was unusual for him to call me on a Saturday when I was with my family. I therefore	3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	guys want to go and I have no difficulty with them going. We have got to sort out a few issues." And I had said to him, you know, that we have got to sort out our issues as well. But this was all an agreed process leading to that exchange. And my concern, and I am taking the risk of speaking from memory without relying on any documentation to support what I am saying, but I think that my concern was that we should tie down on the transfer to 36 North the issue of ownership of the platform because, um, I seem to recall that 36 North doing this also had the advantage (a) of being cheaper on an annual basis and (b) resolving
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1 O. Notwithstanding that it seemed to be 1 accusations have been made against 2 2 agreed, did you not consider perhaps Cornelio." 3 3 withdrawing from the decision from being Peter Caruana of course was acting for Bland 4 involved in that transition as a result of your 4 at the time in relation to this matter. You 5 own investment in 36 North? 5 6 6 "It may require some quiet diplomacy of the A. Um, I didn't think that there was a need 7 7 sort only you are good at. Cornelio, what is for me to recuse myself from an agreed 8 8 he suing on? Wages?" process between two party simply because I 9 9 had a tangential, minor, financial investment And Mr Levy replies: "Work that Gaggero 10 10 in one of them. Because it was minor and it told him to do after he left." You say: 11 did not call for a decision on my part. And I 11 "That may help push the thing over the edge. 12 think it is also fair to ask you to recall in this 12 Albert M [I think that is a reference to the 13 context that to a very great extent I was the 13 Financial Secretary Albert Mena] is helping 14 14 with the management of that." originator of the NSCIS platform, for reasons 15 15 And Mr Levy says: "Shall I send the which I think I explain here, and the growth 16 of it. So I understood what the platform was 16 exchange of letters to your Gmail?" And you 17 17 for, why we needed it, had authorised say: "Yes please." 18 18 It seems at that point that there is very much investment in it, had sought to extend its 19 19 reach. And therefore I didn't think there was a dispute between 36 North and Bland. 20 20 anything wrong in my continuing because at A. I don't accept that from what I have read 21 that time I was not being called upon to make 21 there. I know that there is a dispute between 22 any decision which would put me in 22 Tommy Cornelio and Bland Limited about 23 23 a conflict situation. I was not called upon to some wages, but not about the core issue. 24 decide something that would produce profit 24 Those are two fundamentally different issues. 25 25 or benefit for me or put me in a position Whether Tommy Cornelio was getting on Page 109 Page 111 1 where I would be acting anything less than 1 with James Gaggero or not did not relate to 2 2 whether or not it was agreed that the platform selflessly. 3 3 Q. Can we go to C7022, please? should move from the management of Bland 4 4 A. C7? to the management of 36 North. And indeed 5 5 Q. Zero two two. If you do not have this when I speak to James Gaggero on 21 July, 6 6 which is some weeks after this, some two and one --7 7 a half months after this, James Gaggero is A. The last page. 8 8 O. You have it. very much in the amicable transfer stage. 9 9 A. Yes. Q. Sorry, I think there is some confusion 10 10 Q. "We received your WhatsApp messages because the message that you referred to in --11 11 with Mr Levy from your lawyers on Saturday A. Sorry, this is 2019. 12 evening. In fairness to you, I should make 12 Q. -- the conversation is July 2018. This is 2 13 13 clear that it is your lawyers who have said May 2019. 14 14 that it is as a result of their own oversight A. Oh yes, sorry, you are right, absolutely. 15 15 rather than yours." But by then I've already made the decision. 16 16 And they pointed out in the correspondence Q. You have already made the decision to ... 17 that you had in fact passed these messages to 17 when you say the decision, you mean the 18 18 decision that Mr Cornelio should not have them at the time of giving disclosure. I just 19 19 want to focus on the last WhatsApp exchange access to the platform in 2018. 20 20 on 2 May 2019 between you and Mr Levy. A. No. No, no, no, no. This is May 2019. 21 21 The first one is redacted and then he says: O. Yes. 22 "On another matter Tommy Cornelio has sent 22 A. I made the decision that 36 North should 23 a letter before action drafted by himself. His 23 not have the contract for the management of 24 wife is a lawyer with TSN and Peter Caruana 24 the NSCIS --25 25 Q. In October 2018. has replied in a bit of unintelligible way. No

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A. -- in October 2018. 1 messages, etc. I say: "Yes please." I have 2 2 Q. Yes. looked overnight to see whether I can find 3 3 that email. I cannot find that email on my A. So that issue has been resolved. 4 4 Gmail, but if James sent that to me, then 5 5 Hassans operate a system since the time that A. I was talking about it being amicable 6 6 before then. I was there and we first had email called 7 7 Q. When you say at 21.40 in response to MailMeter. MailMeter prevents anything 8 Mr Levy saying: "Work that Gaggero told 8 from being deleted and so if he sent me those 9 9 him to do after he left", you say: "That may emails then they would be on Hassans's 10 10 help push the thing over the edge." What MailMeter should you wish to see them. 11 were you referring to there? 11 Q. Really my question is more as to why he 12 A. His claim, I suppose, because if he had 12 saw it appropriate to send it to your personal 13 asked him to do things after he left, it seems 13 email address rather than your Chief Minister 14 14 email address. to me it is a pretty clear case for wages to be 15 15 A. Well, I mean, I suppose, to tell you the paid or an amount to be paid in respect of 16 16 truth, it is of no interest to my official work done if you are no longer receiving 17 17 a salary. inboxes (there isn't one unfortunately, there 18 18 Q. Was that any reference to the contract, are a number of them), um, that Tommy 19 19 moving the contract to 36 North? Cornelio is having a spat with James 20 20 A. No, the contract wasn't going anywhere Gaggero over wages. 21 because of the issues, perhaps unfairly, 21 (12.20)22 because of the issues that Mr Gaggero had 22 Q. So, was it him recognising what was a 23 23 raised with me about potential sabotage of personal matter and he was writing to you as a 24 the system. This was a system that dealt with 24 partner of Hassans rather than Chief Minister? 25 25 and deals with Gibraltar's national security A. At this stage this is also a bit of tittle-tattle, Page 113 Page 115 1 and therefore I was not going to take any 1 isn't it? 2 2 risk, perhaps unfairly. I mean, if you want to Q. And you say you do not have those emails 3 3 in your Gmail? criticise me for failing to follow the natural 4 4 legal principle of audi alteram partem, I A. I don't know whether those emails were 5 5 certainly did not hear the other side. I heard actually ever sent to me. I certainly looked 6 6 yesterday at length because Sir Peter asked me what Mr Gaggero said to me and I said, 7 7 "Right, that's it, I'm not taking a risk with this to, to see whether I could find those emails 8 8 at all. This contract stays with Bland. It's either in my Gmail inbox or in my official 9 not going to 36 North." Which, as you 9 email addresses, and I could not find them, but 10 10 would wish me to remind the tribunal that I if they originated from James, they are very 11 11 hold an indirect financial interest in. likely to have originated from his Hassan's 12 Thereby once again, I say, acting selflessly 12 email address and under the Hassan system it 13 13 and with integrity in a way that actually did is impossible ever to delete any email; they are 14 14 not give me a financial benefit but was what I always there. And so, it should be possible to 15 15 believed to be in the interests of the people of obtain them if they were sent, but, you know, 16 16 this was 21.51, he might have called me later Gibraltar, sticking to the red lines that I 17 believe one should always stick to, to act in 17 to tell me what was in it. It is not 18 18 uncharacteristic for James to say, "I'm going to the best interest of the jurisdiction of 19 19 Gibraltar and its people and not in one's own send you something", then instead of sending 20 20 self-interest. it phone you and tell you what the thing says. 21 Q. Mr Levy says: "Shall I send exchange of 21 Q. If we go to B3598, please. These are your 22 22 letters to your Gmail?" Why did he offer to communications with Mr Perez and Mr 23 23 send letters to your personal email address? Sanchez. I apologise but we are going back to 24 A. Well, I mean, I was I think away or he 24 July/August 2018. We have gone forwards a 25 25 little bit but now we are going to have to go was away at the time. So accessibility of Page 114 Page 116

1 back. 1 proceedings. 2 A. Yes. 2 Q. Going to the next three messages, these are 3 Q. The first three messages there are between 3 three further exchanges, moving forward four 4 you and Mr Perez on the 8th of July 2018 and 4 days to the 12th of July, and Mr Perez says, 5 he says, "Fabian, I hope this note finds you 5 "Fabian, James is likely to come and see you, 6 6 well. For info, please be aware that I will he is paying out to our other developers to 7 7 tomorrow inform James that both Tommy and stay. Not critical. All law enforcement heads 8 will be serving our notices. All is in place. 8 are aware, but that it's not just about the 9 9 Good luck for tomorrow, my friend." You software, which I doubt they can sustain, but 10 say, "Best wishes. Fabian" and he says, 10 about the relationship. Both of us remain 11 "Thank you, Fabian." What did he mean by, 11 critical to sustain the current NSCIS platform 12 "All is in place"? 12 in place. Just for info" and ... 13 A. You're not seriously asking me to tell you 13 A. Sorry, do you mind if I just read that 14 14 what somebody else meant in something that carefully? 15 15 they wrote? I can tell you what I interpreted. Q. Yes. 16 Q. What did you understand him to mean, 16 A. ... Yes. 17 then? 17 O. You say, "Thanks, noted" and he says, 18 18 A. That he was ready to leave Blands, all is in "Fabian, all good so far. He appears to accept 19 19 place for him to leave Blands. the birth of 36 North as long as I assist him in 20 20 some capacity with Blands. Next meeting set Q. And you respond saying, "Good luck for 21 tomorrow." Is it fair to say that you were very 21 for Monday." So, that is Mr Perez updating 22 much in the loop and supportive in terms of 36 22 you and then the next three entries are 13th of 23 23 North's plans at that stage? August 2018, this time with Mr Sanchez, he 24 A. No, certainly not. No, no, no, this was 24 says, "Fabian, this is the email that Blands 25 25 something that was happening around me at have just sent to Tommy Cornelio. FYI they Page 117 Page 119 1 that time. You know, I then spoke to John 1 are asking for departments to write to Blands 2 Perez as the face of Blands, I had a 2 stating that they are changing provider and that 3 3 relationship with him as the face of Blands in Blands no longer has liability." And you say, 4 4 Gibraltar. It was a very fluid relationship "Okay, noted. Well, I guess if we are saying 5 5 because of Blands. There were a lot of issues the programs are ours then they only really had 6 on which we were working with Blands, and 6 maintenance liability or development liability. 7 7 we still work with Blands on. James Gaggero Tell the departments to send to you so we can 8 8 was not really present in Gibraltar around that get Lloyd or JP to look at these ..." - and those 9 9 time, and so he had let John be the face of two individuals were Crown Counsel at the 10 Blands and I had communications with John 10 time. It looks from those emails - I think those 11 not just on the fact that he was leaving Blands 11 are the ones that you are referring to in your 12 but he still got in touch with me on issues 12 witness statement, when I took you to them, 13 13 relating to Blands until that time. So, the where you asked Caine Sanchez to ensure that 14 14 relationship was fairly fluid. He was telling there was legal oversight over the transition, is 15 15 me he was striking out on his own with that correct? 16 Tommy Cornelio, and I was happy for them to 16 A. I think so. 17 be doing so on the basis that this was agreed 17 Q. Then if we go over the page to 3599, the 18 18 with Blands, it was two young entrepreneurs 17th of August, Mr Perez messages you and 19 19 going off to do their own thing, there shouldn't says, "Fabian, thank you for all your support, 20 be an issue there. And I think it's rather 20 as always. Can I call you at a suitable time 21 remarkable that the fact that I said, "Good luck 21 please? I'm okay, just keeping my discipline 22 for tomorrow" to anyone - I do that a lot to 22 at the moment which I must admit is very 23 23 people who are off to do things - should be frustrating. We are meeting one to one on 24 read in any sinister way, as I understand has 24 Tuesday. I think they will try to offer me 25 been proposed during the course of these 25 payment in lieu and some form of Page 118 Page 120

1 compromise. I have not fired a single rocket 1 effectively, to Mr Gaggero and it says, "As 2 2 yet. With regards to the system, it's now you are aware, I've been running and 3 3 becoming difficult as we continue to run it maintaining the NSCIS platform on behalf of 4 under unnecessary strain. Don't worry, we'll 4 Bland Limited as from midnight on the 11th of 5 continue to do so if necessary." What support 5 August 2018. I have done this in good faith in is Mr Perez referring to there in his message? 6 6 order to allow you time to resolve the issue 7 7 "Thank you for all your support, as always"? with the Government and, of course, to ensure 8 8 A. Well, I assume support in wanting to see that Gibraltar's national security measures are 9 9 them establish themselves, asking that the not affected. I have proceeded on the basis 10 10 departments provide the legal advice necessary that I will be fairly remunerated for this work. 11 for the migration of the system - this is a 11 I have done my best to maintain the NSCIS 12 12 hugely important system, it's migration was platform during these difficult times, 13 hugely important to the Government, in 13 especially in circumstances where our working 14 particular given that the migration would 14 relationship has ended and at the same time as 15 15 setting up my own company. I have to date resolve the issue of ownership which was 16 particularly important to the Government. 16 received no communication from either Bland 17 17 Q. If we can now to go C1274, please. This is Limited or the Government of Gibraltar with 18 an email of the 30th of August 2018. 18 regard to a possible solution to the problems 19 19 A. Sorry, can I just, before you take me there faced by Bland Limited. Unfortunately, 20 20 circumstances are such that it is not possible 21 Q. Yes. 21 for me to continue working under the current 22 A. Particularly important to the Government 22 conditions ..." and so he gives notice of his 23 23 in the context of protecting the public's departure and that he will be invoicing Bland 24 ownership of this system. Remember, if we 24 Limited. So, why did you understand Mr 25 25 are with Blands we have a dispute as to Levy to be sending you this email? Page 121 Page 123 1 ownership. If we are with 36 North, 1 A. Well, Mr Levy was sending me a lot of 2 2 ownership is accepted to be ours. So, it's stuff about 36 North, etc., much of which I 3 3 hugely in the public interest to resolve that in was ignoring because it didn't really have 4 4 favour of the taxpayer, being the hundred anything to do with me. I mean, Tommy 5 5 percent undoubted owner of this important Cornelio's claims in respect of whether Bland 6 6 platform, which potentially can also be owed him money or not was not really a 7 7 matter that I cared much about. I subsequently exploited to produce income for the taxpayer 8 8 may have said, "Yes, send it to me." The best through its sale abroad. So, that was very, 9 9 very important to the Government. way to deal with James - if he wants to tell you 10 10 Q. But is your position that there was in fact something, is to tell you and that gets over the 11 11 issue. Did I reply to this? I probably didn't. I nothing to resolve in the sense that it was an 12 agreed transition at all those moments? 12 don't know whether ... 13 13 A. Yes, but the thing to resolve is that you Q. We have not seen a reply to it. 14 14 didn't do anything in the transition process A. I don't know whether I even read it. I 15 15 which might permit there to continue to be a mean, this would have been August 2018. I 16 16 may have been away, I may have seen it doubt after it's gone to 36 North, that it's not 17 100% owned by Her Majesty's (at the time) 17 cursorily. If there isn't a WhatsApp or an 18 18 Government of Gibraltar. email reply, I may have spoken to him about 19 19 it. I probably said, "Look, what's it got to do Q. If we look at C1274, there is an email of 20 20 the 30th of August 2018 from Mr Levy to your with me? Do I really need to be involved in 21 personal email address and it says, "Tommy 21 these things?" You've got to understand, even 22 22 wants to send this. I've asked him to wait. in August I get hundreds of emails a day to my 23 23 What do you think?" And then below is an personal email address, close to a thousand in 24 email from Mr Cornelio to Mr Levy on the 24 my other email addresses. Many, many 25 25 hundreds of WhatsApps a day and many 29th of August which sets out a draft, Page 122 Page 124

1 1 telephone conversations. So, I mean, I know other partners at Hassans. He doesn't always 2 2 that we are looking at this one now and this make them on his own and, to his credit, 3 3 one matters, but there are many others and you whenever they are successful he shares them 4 shouldn't take it for granted that I even 4 with his partners at Hassans. They are not 5 engaged in the context of something like this. 5 often unsuccessful. 6 6 Q. Did you expect that 36 North would Q. And, again, this is an email to your 7 7 personal email address. Was that an attempt to succeed in its venture? 8 8 delineate between your office and your A. I expected that, because Bland and 36 9 9 personal involvement? North appeared to be dealing with this issue in 10 10 A. Perhaps it was. Perhaps it was. I mean, a way that was entirely agreeable to both of 11 and good that it should be, but, you know, 11 them, at least as far as I could see, despite 12 12 frankly, you've seen that I've had a issues relating to wages, etc., but on the macro 13 conversation with James Geggero on the 21st 13 issues, the transfer of the platform, that that 14 14 of July. That's about the macro issue, the was being dealt with in a way that was agreed 15 15 and was in the interest of the wider community movement of the platform. I'm interested in 16 that, in the movement of the platform, hundred 16 and the taxpayer, that that was going to lead to 17 17 percent ownership for the Gibraltar taxpayer 36 North being successful. And 36 North's 18 18 secured, a cheaper deal per annum. All of that success would not just be positive for the 19 19 is good and something I can and should be taxpayer from the point of view I have already 20 20 interested in, actively selflessly, with integrity referred you to, of 100% ownership of the 21 and in the interests of the taxpayer and the 21 platform being confirmed and less cost per 22 wider community. But this is not something, 22 annum, but also from the international 23 23 this is tittle-tattle, but you shouldn't be exploitation of that platform, which would 24 surprised to see this. I mean, I get tittle-tattle 24 produce royalties for the Gibraltarian taxpayer, 25 and incidental stuff all the time in relation to 25 in respect of something that the Gibraltarian Page 125 Page 127 1 matters that the Prime Minister of the United 1 taxpayer would not otherwise have been able 2 Kingdom would never receive tittle-tattle on 2 to do because the Government is not able to 3 3 from people who he is aware of this. This is say, "Oh, well, look, we have something here 4 4 Gibraltar, you know, and I get it all the time. which is an asset, let us go out and seek to 5 5 Q. It is true, is it not, that Hassans had made a exploit it by selling this to other governments." 6 6 substantial investment in 36 North, specifically We haven't got the expertise, the time or the 7 a 476,000 loan and guarantees of consultancy 7 wherewithal to do that, whilst 36 North might 8 8 to Mr Perez and Mr Cornelio at 300,000 per have done that and would have produced 9 9 annum each if the venture did not prosper? something very positive for the taxpayer. 10 10 A. I found that out later, I found it Q. It would also have produced income for 11 11 you? extraordinary. 12 Q. When Mr Levy came to discuss the 12 A. Tangentially but that was not what drove 13 13 investment with you or seek your view on the me to agree to something which was 14 14 investment, the potential investment, what did somebody else's idea and it would not have, 15 15 you understand the investment to be? and I think I can say with the benefit of the 16 16 A. I don't think he particularised what the Latin res ipsa loquitur that, when the time 17 investment would be. I think he just said we 17 came, I made the decision that was bad for my 18 18 would be making an investment. Now, James pocket, not good for my pocket, but that was 19 19 is a seed investor in many businesses in never one of my concerns. That's why I would 20 20 Gibraltar, what you might call an angel insist that I always acted selflessly and with 21 21 investor in many businesses in Gibraltar. That integrity because I had no regard to my 22 22 investment might range from a few thousand personal self-interest. Far from it. When I 23 23 pounds or a few hundred pounds to, you know, acted I acted to defeat my personal interest. 24 a few hundred thousand pounds, and he has 24 Q. Were you aware that a major part of the 25 25 business would be the NSCIS contract and routinely shared those investments with his Page 126 Page 128

1 without that NSCIS contract it would be difficult. But he is not peed off, with respect 2 2 difficult for 36 North to be profitable? to my language, at the time because of that, but 3 3 A. The major part of the work that 36 North what James had said to me, and had incensed 4 was going to do, as far as I was concerned, 4 him greatly, was that he had, after notice had 5 was the exploitation of the architecture of the 5 been given notice, he had found that they had 6 6 disbursed costs for the setting up of their new NSCIS platform in its sale to third party 7 7 venture using Bland credit cards. So, it stuck governments around the world, something 8 8 which John Perez had been seeking to in my mind that he said to me that they had 9 9 persuade me of for months when he was at bought a book on setting up your own 10 10 Blands, I think even before he started talking company, etc., using Bland's credit card on 11 about 36 North. That was going to be the key 11 Amazon, and he thought this was just unfair 12 12 driver for profit and growth in respect of 36 and improper. You know, I could understand 13 North, as far as John Perez had said to me. 13 how James felt, I also thought it was a bit 14 Q. Can we now go to B11 ... 14 petulant and petty, but I could see that, you 15 15 A. The NSCIS platform and maintenance was know, this was not being resolved. And for the 16 sort of what you might call the bread and 16 Government, you know, the issue of 17 17 butter, but then this would be launched ownership was going to become a big one 18 18 because we were never going to let go of the internationally, etc. 19 Q. Yes, but that was the most tangible thing 19 fact that we said this was ours. So, things are 20 20 on the table at the time? starting to become sticky at this time. It's very 21 A. At the time, yes. 21 much in the wider public interest, in the 22 Q. B1117. This is your criminal investigation 22 interests of the taxpayer that we deal with this 23 23 witness statement. issue of ownership and that it's clear to 36 24 A. Yes. 24 North, to James Gaggero, to Bland Limited 25 25 Q. And at the bottom of that page you say, and to the whole world that the platform Page 129 Page 131 1 "Given that there was no further 1 belongs to the Government. And in that 2 communication between me and Mr Levy on 2 respect I have heard the things that were said 3 3 this matter after the text in question [the text by Mr DeVincenzi, which I am surprised at, 4 4 he had sent previously], Mr Levy sent me a which I think are covered by legal professional 5 5 further WhatsApp message on the 4th of privilege and which are views that I would not 6 6 September. That text provided as follows: share as to ownership of the platform. 7 'Have you been able to find a solution with 7 Q. Given that things are starting to get sticky, 8 James G?" You say, "Hi. Saw him yesterday, 8 did you not think that that was the moment 9 9 asked him to give me a bit of time and not to where you should extricate yourself as 10 10 have a row. He is pissed off. F." And Mr someone who had a financial and personal 11 Levy says, "That is the attitude of ala derecha", 11 interest in the situation? 12 by which he means, "The ring wing." 12 A. Well, they were only sticky in the context 13 13 A. Yes. of how to do it. I mean, at this stage, you 14 Q. When he says, "Have you been able to find 14 know, James Gaggero, to be fair to him, 15 a solution?", by the 4th of September 2018 15 because he also has a view, he believes it 16 16 was it apparent to you that there was no longer belongs to Bland Limited and is trying to make 17 an agreement between the parties but rather a 17 a case for some element of remuneration in the 18 18 dispute? context of the migration from Bland Limited 19 19 A. No, I don't think that's fair because I don't of what he says his company has an ownership 20 20 think that that dispute related just to the stake in, not just the maintenance role in. So, I 21 21 felt that it was very much in everybody's parties. I think this is where it starts to get 22 22 sticky because Bland is starting to say, "If you interest because of the nature of this platform 23 23 want to go you have to buy the platform from that I should continue being involved in this 24 us because it belongs to Blands." I think that's 24 respect. This was not a dispute yet which 25 25 required - this had not got to the stage of it where the whole issues starts to get very Page 130 Page 132

1 1 becoming impossible or difficult or requiring you in order to land the contract? 2 2 me to bang the table and make a decision to A. Do you think it's appropriate for me ... 3 3 say, "It's going to 36 North because I say so Q. From your perspective? 4 because that's the company I have a stake in, 4 A. ... in an inquiry where we're trying to 5 Hassans have invested money and I want it to 5 ascertain facts, for me to tell you what other 6 go there so I can line my pocket." In fact, I 6 people thought? I just cannot tell you what 7 7 never did that, I did the opposite, right? It was other people thought. I can tell you that ... 8 8 actually at the sticky stage but not at the Q. But your perception ... 9 9 difficult stage, and it didn't require a decision A. ... John Perez was in direct communication 10 10 from me which would have required with me, as you have shown and referred me 11 declaration of a conflict because I was going to 11 to. I have never met Tommy Cornelio. I think 12 do it to a company that I had an interest in. 12 I have been clear about the fact that our 13 Q. Did you not think, nevertheless, that it 13 children now play in the same basketball team, 14 might be prudent to let someone who did not 14 but we have never exchanged even a phrase, 15 15 have those connections, those personal and and I would not be able to pick him out in a 16 financial connections, to deal with the 16 line-up because I'm not good with faces. I 17 17 stickiness? know he's there on alternate Saturdays when 18 18 A. Well, I don't think at that stage there was I'm there. But John Perez ... 19 19 anything which required a decision which O. I think, in fairness ... 20 20 could have been dealt with by anybody else. A. ... was able to speak to me, as you can see, 21 In other words, I held the relationship with 21 very openly and didn't need James Levy to 22 James Geggero, I had been the one talking to 22 open any channel. 23 23 him throughout. He had engaged with me in Q. I was just going to point out that, in 24 this process, he would expect to, he is the 24 fairness to you, the messages that you 25 25 Chairman of one of Gibraltar's largest disclosed yesterday we could see unfamiliarity Page 133 Page 135 1 corporations, he would not expect to interface 1 on your part vis-a-vis Mr Cornelio earlier in 2 with anyone else. He had some interface with 2 3 3 the Financial Secretary at different times, but A. Yes, and then, as you kindly said before, I 4 4 on the macro issue, he would expect to didn't disclose them yesterday. 5 5 interface with me, and then given the fact that Q. Yes. A1374 please, paragraph 75. This is 6 6 he then sought further meetings with me and Mr Gaggero's witness statement and he says 7 he sought that interface with me. 7 here - this is at a meeting between you and him 8 8 Q. In retrospect, do you think that you might on the 27th of September - he says, "I then 9 9 have been entertaining Mr Levy and 36 North asked him if I could speak to him in private as 10 with these communications in a way that 10 everyone left his office. I advised him that it 11 11 would not be open to the ordinary citizen? had become clear to me that James Levy, KC 12 A. Far from it. The ordinary citizen expects 12 was involved with 36 North. I told him that 13 13 the same engagement and more often than not once the case against 36 North had been 14 14 gets it from me. My telephone number is no commenced by Bland the matter would be out 15 15 secret, my email address is public and I get of my hands. He stated that, if this occurred, it 16 16 would be improper for him to interfere." Did engagement all the time from people seeking 17 to establish businesses, from people seeking to 17 you say that to Mr Gaggero? 18 18 change Gibraltar's tax code so that their A. Yes, I very probably did. 19 19 businesses can prosper, etc. The Chief Q. Why did you think it was improper to 20 Minister of Gibraltar is not a remote individual 20 interfere once a case had been started by Bland 21 21 who is not accessible to people who want to against 36 North? 22 22 engage with him on matters which relate to A. Well, because then it would be in dispute 23 23 their commercial benefit - far from it. territory. 24 Q. Do you think that Mr Cornelio and Mr 24 Q. Was Mr Gaggero at that time ... 25 Perez expected Mr Levy to open the door to 25 A. As I understand it, by the way, no such Page 134 Page 136

34 (Pages 133 to 136)

a case has been commenced as yet. Q. Had you made Mr Goggero aware at that time of your own stake or ultimate beneficial ownership of 36 North? A. I believe he was aware of it from the way that he communicated with me. I mean, my declaration of a member's interest is a public document, it has long been commenced on in Gibraltar. James would have been aware of that and I don't know whether we specifically talked about it, but the reference that I made which he refers to about my not becoming involved because it was improper suggests that we specifically discussed that, or that he was specifically aware of it. Q. You say in your witness statement to the police, you say that it was in response to Mr Goggero's allegation of a member of Goggero's allegation of a was been gaid about the system we were operating, which we even the slightest and remotest risk that this is the case, then I'm not going anywhere near the transfer of the NSCIS platform on to have access to the system. Page 137 **Tommy Cornelio or John Perez being involved. Q. Wes, B1123, towards the bottom there is an entry in bold and it says, "On the 4th of October 2018 you instructed Caine Sanchez to provide Bland with fill control of the management, maintenance and support of the NSCIS platform in two emails from Mr Peter Canessa to Mr Caine Sanchez." And just over the page, your answer to that question is, "I aware of the circumstances? A. No, I blink I answered that before when I of short of the gagero that Mr Comelio had continued to access the MSCIS platform or thereafter we were also told by Mr Goggero hat, in enjoying continued access to the NSCIS platform in two emails from Mr Peter Granesa to Mr Caine Sanchez." And just over the page, your answer to that question is, "I aware of the circumstances? NSCIS platform in woe amails from Mr Peter Canessa to Mr Caine Sanchez." And just over the page, your answer to that question is, "I aware of the circumstances? NSCIS platform in woe amails from Mr Peter Canessa to Mr Caine Sanchez." And just ov				
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4 Convent Place to investigate. It was something risk was being said about the system were operating, which we considered to be essential to the security, the declaration of a member's interest is a public document, it has long been commented on in Gibraltar. James would have been aware of that and I don't know whether we specifically talked about it, but the reference that I made which he refers to about my not becoming involved because it was improper suggests that we specifically discussed that, or that he was specifically aware of it. Q. You say in your winness statement to the police, you say that it was in response to Mr. Gaggero's allegations of sabotage against 36 policy and the time? A. Yes. 2 Q. Did you explore the basis for Mr Gaggero's allegation at the time? A. Yes. 2 Q. Yes, B1123, towards the bottom there is an entry in bold and it asay, "On the 4th of the provide Bland with full control of the management, maintenance and support of the NSCIS platform in two cmails from Mr Peter Canesso to Mr Caine Sanchez? And just over the page, your answer to that question is, "I gave this instruction as a result of information provided by Mr Gaggero that Mr Cornelio had continued to access the NSCIS platform in two comails from Mr Peter Canesso to Mr Caine Sanchez? And just over the page, your answer to that question is, "I gave this instruction as a result of information or thereafter we were also told by Mr Gaggero that in enjoying continued access to the system of the principal of automatic to abotage the operation of the system of the provided by Aff Gaggero at the time? A. No, I think I answered that before when I told you that I felt the principle of natural told you that I felt the principle of natural told you that I felt the principle of natural told you that I felt the principle of natural told you that I felt the principle of natural told you that I felt the prin	2	Q. Had you made Mr Gaggero aware at that	2	allegation of this sort being made. It wasn't
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5 that he communicated with me. I mean, my 5 declaration of a member's interest is a public 6 document, it has long been commented on in 7 Gibrattar. James would have been aware of 10 that and I don't know whether we specifically 11 talked about it, but the reference that I made 12 which he refers to about my not becoming 13 involved because it was improper suggests that 14 we specifically discussed that, or that he was 15 specifically discussed that, or that he was 16 Giaggero's allegations of sabotage against 36 17 North that you gave instructions to ensure that 18 Giaggero's allegations of sabotage against 36 18 North that you gave instructions to ensure that 19 North that you gave instructions to ensure that 20 A. Yes. 21 A. Yes. 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. Did you explore the basis for Mr Gaggero's 24 allegation at the time? 25 A. Do you want to take me to that so that I am 26 Day on the circumstances? 27 Q. Yes, BI123, towards the bottom there is an 28 centry in bold and it says, "On the 4th of 29 Cotober 2018 you instructed Caine Sanchez to 29 provide Bland with full control of the 20 management, maintenance and support of the 21 Specifically discussed than the reference that in mile and the reference that is an any the reference that is any that is was in response to Mr 21 Tommy Cornelio or John Perez being involved. 22 Q. Yes, BI123, towards the bottom there is an any the reference that is any that is any that is a result of information provided by Mr Gaggero that Mr Cornelio inder continued access the NSCIS platform in two reference we were operating; which we considered to be essential to the security, the immigration security and the case, then I'm not going anywhere near the transfer of the NSCIS platform in we should be a certified by the fact of the Carnes of the NSCIS platform in we have the case, then I'm not going anywhere near the transfer of the NSCIS platform in were a construction in the system were operating it un	4	ownership of 36 North?	4	Convent Place to investigate. It was
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35 (Pages 137 to 140)	<u> </u>	01	<u>I</u>	

1 Gibraltar's, one of Gibraltar's largest 1 I discussed with Mr James Levy, KC on a very 2 2 companies, if not Gibraltar's largest company, large number of occasions the fact that the 3 that had operated the system successfully until 3 RGP had suggested that he might be a person 4 then that they could now operate it and that's 4 of interest in the investigation. He raised this 5 what I felt was the key issue for me, that I had 5 with me constantly when I spoke to him on 6 to secure Gibraltar's borders and I did it in this 6 other matters. I consistently replied to him 7 7 way, acting selflessly, with integrity and that I was sure that the investigation would 8 8 exonerate him given that, from what I knew of without regard to my personal self-interest. 9 9 Q. Can we now go to your witness statement, him, I was sure that he would not have acted in 10 10 a manner which was contrary to law. In fact, paragraph 39, your first affidavit, at page 11 A233. We are moving - sorry, A190. I had 11 this was also the conclusion reached by the 12 read it the wrong way first. Paragraph 39 and 12 police when they made the decisions about 13 we now move forward to the investigation 13 who to charge in consequence of their Op 14 itself and you say, "In the context of Operation 14 Delhi investigation." What was your 15 Delhi, I became aware from Mr Levy himself 15 understanding as to why Mr Levy was raising 16 that he was one of the persons who was of 16 this with you constantly and on a very large 17 interest to investigators." What exactly did Mr 17 number of occasions? 18 18 Levy tell you in this regard? A. Both before the 12th of May and, in a 19 19 A. I can't remember when, but long before the different way, after the 12th of May, he 20 20 12th of May 2020, that police might want to thought that the police investigation was 21 speak to him, that the police were being very 21 completely unfair, that it was motivated by the 22 unfair and that they might want to speak to 22 competitor, that it was an issue of business 23 23 him. There was the phrase, "A person of competition raised to a criminal investigation, 24 interest" - I mean, I see it arose in the Eddie 24 he was very disparaging, of course, about Mr 25 25 Yome WhatsApp that you referred me to at the Gaggero's ability to interest the police in a Page 141 Page 143 1 beginning of today as well. It's a phrase that 1 matter which he insisted was commercial in 2 does not mean "suspect" and does not mean 2 nature and not criminal in nature, and in that 3 3 "witness", it is a phrase which perhaps is a way we would when we spoke have those 4 4 hybrid for the fork in the road between one discussions. 5 5 person being determined to be one thing or the Q. Did he ask you for help? 6 6 A. No, not at all. He didn't, I don't think he other, no? 7 Q. We have had witnesses who have said, 7 felt he needed help and neither did I think he 8 8 within the police, who have said that they do needed help. 9 9 not recognise the term, but I think that is the Q. Was he concerned about his status as a 10 10 way in which it is used. person of interest, to adopt the phrase? 11 11 A. But you saw it was in the WhatsApp from A. I don't think that I would say he was 12 Eddie Yome to me that you referred me to at 12 concerned in that respect. Obviously, things 13 13 the beginning of the session today. So, it's change after the 12th of May. I wouldn't 14 14 obviously a term of art in the police. describe him as concerned, I would describe 15 15 Q. For some within the police, yes. him as annoyed and frustrated at the way that 16 16 A. For some. the police were conducting the investigation 17 THE CHAIRMAN: It absolutely is not a term 17 and the reasons why the police were 18 of art to others; it has no legal significance. 18 investigating with such vigor in relation to 19 19 MR SANTOS: Exactly. certain aspects of the matter, which made it 20 20 THE CHAIRMAN: And it has no legal standing feel to him that it was a crime to compete 21 21 against Bland Limited and Mr Gaggero, and I 22 22 MR SANTOS: That is exactly the point, yes. think he might have expressed it in that way 23 23 So, if we go now to A2333, which is the on a number of occasions. 24 reference I read out earlier. This is your third 24 Q. Do you recall the dates of these 25 25 conversations with him? affidavit, paragraph 5, you say, "I recalled that Page 142 Page 144

36 (Pages 141 to 144)

1 sitting in this room either watching the A. No, no, no. 2 2 Q. Are you able to give a time ... proceedings or involved in the proceedings, 3 3 A. No, no, no. I mean, I ... and those conversations happen all the time, 4 Q. ... a time range? 4 and they are not file noted. 5 A. I can tell you that they changed after the 5 Q. Did you consider whether it was 12th of May, so what I'm relating to you is 6 6 appropriate to communicate with Mr Levy 7 7 before the 12th of May. about him being a person of interest given that 8 Q. How far back, are you able to say how far 8 it was a live criminal investigation in which 9 9 back from the 12th of May they go? the Government was liaising with the RGP at 10 10 A. During the course of the year, between the same time? 11 May '19 when the investigation kicks off, what 11 A. So, this is an important point. The Chief 12 you might call, in earnest, and May '20, during 12 Minister of Gibraltar speaks to a lot of people, 13 the course of that year, at different times. 13 his friends and former partners or current 14 Q. Would you be able to estimate roughly 14 partners (on sabbatical) included all the time 15 how many conversations? Are we talking 15 about many issues. You have made the point 16 five/10/a hundred? 16 repeatedly, and I do not challenge it, that the 17 17 A. It's impossible for me to give you anything RGP is completely independent of the 18 18 which is a rational explanation for that. I think Government. So, the RGP can be 19 19 I may have read in reports of the proceedings investigating whatever it wants to investigate 20 20 that Mr Levy felt it was a handful of and the Government can be talking about that 21 occasions. My impression is that it was 21 self-same issue with parties to that 22 22 investigation, either in the knowledge, because slightly more than that, but anyone who knows 23 23 Mr Levy will know that he is vehement in the knowledge has been provided without 24 making his point and repeats it, even though 24 detail that that investigation is ongoing, or 25 25 he might not realise how many times he is without knowledge that the investigation is Page 145 Page 147 1 making it. So, he would have raised it with me 1 ongoing. In this context it's a little even more 2 2 on a number of occasions, more than just two complex than that because in this context, after 3 3 or three, in my view, and I could sense how May '19, the Government is potentially a 4 4 incensed he was about the fact that this complainant in this criminal investigation. So, 5 5 investigation was taking the course that it was you haven't got the Government here as the 6 6 Government aloof from the RGP, where the taking from where he could see and the way 7 7 that he was being dragged into a criminal RGP is carrying out a criminal investigation; 8 8 matter when he felt had simply made a you have got the Government here briefed by 9 9 commercial investment as an angel investor. the Commissioner of Police at the time about 10 10 Q. Why are there no notes of any of these alleged damage done to the Government itself. 11 conversations? 11 Therefore, this was an issue that we were 12 A. If I had a note of every conversation I have 12 talking about because I wasn't just talking 13 13 had with James Levy I would have spent my about it to James Levy, I was talking about it 14 14 time in Government writing down the things to a lot of parties, not just in my capacity as 15 15 that James Levy has said to me and I have said representative of the Government, which is 16 16 separate to the RGP, but as the representative to him. But if I had conversations noted down 17 with everybody that I have a phone discussion 17 of the alleged potential victim of offences 18 18 with - I mean, I'm on the phone a lot, and those having been committed. I do not believe that 19 19 conversations are not official, and therefore there is a ring of privilege or confidentiality 20 20 there are not phone records or logs or file notes which prevents the victim or the arm's length 21 of conversations. With James Levy, with 21 Government from talking to third parties about 22 22 Lewis Baglietto, with - I hesitate to name things that the RGP may be doing because, if 23 23 people who have not been named in this you were to suggest that, it would suggest that 24 inquiry, but with the many other people who I 24 the RGP are the Government are one in the 25 have conversations with, many of whom are 25 context of an investigation, which we are not, Page 146 Page 148

1			
	and the ring of information/privilege, etc. does	1	appropriate for you to communicate with him
2	not extend from the RGP to the Government.	2	notwithstanding the Government's dealings
3	Q. It is not just any old third party, though, it	3	with the RGP?
4	is someone who is a person of interest in the	4	A. I did not consider that it was inappropriate
5	same investigation and someone who is	5	for me to be communicating with him, but I
6	suspected, not suspected	6	did not give full vent to his desire for
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Not a suspect.	7	communication on the subject. I oft avoided it
8	MR SANTOS: but being investigated for a	8	and sought to move on in relation to other
9	potential conspiracy against the Government.	9	matters because there were issue that I was
10	A. I don't think anybody has ever said that in	10	uncomfortable in discussing with him. For
11	the context even of these proceedings. I think	11	example, James was very defensive of Thomas
12	that the most that has been said, from what I	12	Cornelio and John Perez, whilst, after the
13	have gleaned, and again I have not read the	13	discussions I had with Mr Gaggero, where he
14	transcripts and I have not been able to see all	14	said that there was a potential for us to have
15	the information, is that the translation of the	15	suffered sabotage, I wanted nothing to do with
16	words, "Person of interest" in the context of	16	anything that they might say. I mean, I was at
17	James Levy is that the DPP felt, and officers in	17	different times ready to listen to certain things,
18	the investigation felt, that he had questions to	18	depending on what time I had, etc., but I
19	answer. Now, in the same way as person of	19	wasn't going to be persuaded to change my
20	interest does not translate to suspect or witness	20	view, although I did sometimes entertain
21	•••	21	James just for the sake of entertaining James.
22	Q. Yes, I corrected - for the record, and I am	22	Q. Did you not think it might have been
23	very happy to clarify that - I corrected myself	23	prudent to impose boundaries to avoid
24	and I said someone who was being	24	conflicts between your role as Chief Minister,
25	investigated rather than someone who is	25	your role as leading the Government that was
	Page 149		Page 151
1	suspected.	1	making the complaint and your personal and
2	A. I mean, the DPP said that he is somebody	2	financial relationship with Mr Levy?
3	who had questions to answer. Even that is not	3	A. Yes, and I think I did in the way that I dealt
4	necessarily, in my view, a person who is being	4	
5	* * *		with him on certain occasions and the way that
	investigated, although when you cut forward	5	with him on certain occasions and the way that I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed
6	•		with him on certain occasions and the way that I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed in the way that I acted when I made the
6 7	to the 12th of May, a search warrant, in my view, can only be obtained against somebody	5	I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed in the way that I acted when I made the
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7	to the 12th of May, a search warrant, in my view, can only be obtained against somebody who is being investigated.	5 6 7	I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed in the way that I acted when I made the decision that the contract should stay with Blands.
7 8	to the 12th of May, a search warrant, in my view, can only be obtained against somebody who is being investigated. Q. Precisely. I mean, the information, I think,	5 6 7 8	I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed in the way that I acted when I made the decision that the contract should stay with Blands. Q. And do you think that you maintained
7 8 9 10	to the 12th of May, a search warrant, in my view, can only be obtained against somebody who is being investigated. Q. Precisely. I mean, the information, I think, makes the RGP's position by the 6th and 7th of	5 6 7 8 9	I pushed back on certain occasions, and indeed in the way that I acted when I made the decision that the contract should stay with Blands. Q. And do you think that you maintained compliance with the Ministerial Code in all
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1	go to the entity in which I have a minor	1	is set out in a WhatsApp of the 11th May
2	financial interest, it should go, it should stay	2	2019." You helpfully set out the message
3	with Bland Limited. So, that, in my view, is	3	from Mr McGrail there, "CM - I have sent an
4	why I can discharge the burden of	4	email requesting an opportunity to brief
5	demonstrating that I acted properly and in	5	yourself, MoJ, FS, CS, AG & DPP on a case.
6	keeping with the Code.	6	I believe you are flying out on Monday with
7	Q. Thank you. Sir, I notice the time, it is three	7	Albert M. Could we meet first thing on
8	past 1, and perhaps we should break for lunch?	8	Monday. It is important and sensitive." Your
9	A. Mr Chairman, if I may just very quickly	9	evidence there is that the Attorney General
10	say that, as I have shared with counsel to the	10	was present at the meeting, but there has
11	inquiry, the Attorney General is in Brussels	11	been some doubt raised by one or two
12	today dealing with the European negotiation. I	12	witnesses (including the Attorney General
13	expect I will be talking to him and I think it's	13	himself) as to whether he was there. Do you
14	important that all parties should know that I	14	distinctly recall him being there, or is it based
15	will be having discussions with him, but will,	15	on the message?
16	of course, studiously avoid discussing	16	A. I remember a full table of attendees, or
17	anything to do with the proceedings, but he	17	what I might call my side of the table, which
18	will need steers from me in relation to the	18	is the right-hand side of the table. I sit at the
19	negotiation.	19	head; my attendees sit on the right-hand side
20	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I entirely understand	20	of the table. I don't know whether all of
21	that and that is perfectly proper.	21	those listed here attended but, you know, I'm
22	A. Thank you.	22	relying on that to say that he was there.
23	MR SANTOS: We are making progress. I	23	Q. At 32 of your statement, at the bottom of
24	would say that I am about two fifths of the	24	the page, you say, "If fact, I made clear
25	way through.	25	during the course of that meeting that, should
	, ,		
	Page 153		Page 155
1	THE CHAIRMAN: Are we making sufficient	1	there be evidence of corruption in respect of
2	progress?	2	a government officer or officers, then the
3	MR SANTOS: I think we are making	3	Government itself would be a complainant in
4	sufficient progress, not to make any inroads	4	respect of that case. As it turned out, when
5	into the lunch hour because I have had pleas	5	the time came, the RGP refused to provide
6	about not interfering with that.	6	the Government with the evidence that there
7	THE CHAIRMAN: 2 o'clock.	7	was corruption so that we could be a
8	MR SANTOS: Thank you.	8	complainant against the Civil Servant." You
9	(13.04)	9	say that "the RGP refused to provide the
10	(The short adjournment)	10	Government with the evidence", were you
11	(14.00)	11	not prepared to accept the RGP's assessment
12	MR SANTOS: Good afternoon, sir. Good	12	as to whether there was such evidence?
13	afternoon, Chief Minister.	13	A. Of course not.
13	A. Good afternoon.	14	Q. You were not? (?)
15	Q. Can we now look at your witness	15	A. My Government's involved, at that time
16	statement, A188, paragraph 30, please. Your	16	between two thousand and (let me just think)
17	affidavit. We are moving forward to May	17	2015 and 2019, a number of lawyers. I will
		18	
18 19	2019 now, 13 May 2019. You say, "Mr	19	start with myself (just so I don't forget
20	McGrail sought a meeting with me to brief	20	myself), the Minister for Justice at that I think was Samantha Sacramento, Neil Costa
	me in relation to that investigation. We met,	20	
21	together with Attorney General, Michael		I think was still a minister in the
22	Llamas QC, in my office on 13th May 2019.	22	Government, Steven Linares was a lawyer,
23	In that meeting Mr McGrail gave us details	23	Gilbert Licudi was a lawyer. I think half of
24	of that investigation. The request from Mr	24	the Government were legally qualified; at
25	McGrail to brief me in relation to this matter	25	least two of us were leading counsel. So,
Ī	Page 154		Page 156

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1 1 ensure that they were engaging on the issues when it comes to something quite as 2 2 consequential -- quite as consequential as an that were relevant to Hassans and which they 3 3 allegation of corruption by a senior civil were raising in that meeting.", and you say, "I 4 servant in Government, why should we 4 am reinforced in that view by the evidence of 5 5 retired Superintendent Paul Richardson". simply accept that the RGP say that there is 6 6 evidence of that, without as complainant Can you please expand on that explanation? 7 7 Why did you think that the RGP needed to being entitled to see what it was alleged had 8 8 been done to us so that we could become the talk to Mr Levy? 9 9 complainant in that respect. Otherwise, if I A. Well, I would have thought it was 10 10 could put it this way to you, what the RGP obvious: they were talking to me about the 11 are asking is that somebody make a 11 NSCIS and the transfer of it from Blands to 12 12 complaint based on their facts -- on the 36 North. 13 RGP's facts, not on their own facts as found 13 Q. Did you consider whether to disclose 14 14 what you knew about 36 North, and the out. This was not an allegation of something 15 15 interactions you had had with 36 North, to that had been done to us physically; we had 16 not felt the pain of the alleged crime, it was a 16 the RGP? 17 17 metaphysical thing, so I think it's absolutely A. Well, I believe I did. I believe I had 18 incumbent on the Government to have that 18 stated during the course during the course of 19 19 evidence in order to be able to advance the that meeting that I'd had these dealings with 20 20 complaint. 36 North, and I believe that they were also 21 Q. But you had had an account from the 21 aware of them from Mr Gaggero, who had 22 RGP as to what had occurred. 22 relayed to them his dealings with me. 23 23 A. An account. Yes, but not the evidence. Q. Did that not make you think that you 24 Why would the complainant not be entitled 24 should stay out of future discussions on that 25 25 to see what it is alleged had been done criminal investigation, given your own Page 157 Page 159 1 against them? I find it very difficult to 1 personal involvement in the factual matrix 2 understand that there is for some reason a 2 and your relationship with Mr Levy? 3 3 reluctance on the part of the RGP to share A. Well, the then Commissioner of Police 4 4 with the alleged victim -- sorry, the alleged obviously does not share your view, because 5 5 victim -- the evidence of the crime visited he's the one who specifically involves me in 6 6 the discussion on the date in May 2019 and upon that victim. 7 Q. Well, I do not think it is meritorious to go 7 on the date in May 2020. 8 8 into the correspondence. There was Q. Well, I think it is fair to say that the date 9 9 correspondence between the DPP and in 2019 is when you say that you disclosed 10 10 ISOLAS, I believe, but I think we will leave this information. 11 11 it there. A. I didn't say I disclosed it, Commissioner, 12 A. I don't think we've been made -- I don't 12 I say they talk -- they need to talk to James at 13 13 think the government was at all privy to that Hassans --14 14 correspondence. O. Yes. 15 15 Q. We can have a look at that. The Inquiry A. -- about details which may relate to 16 16 asked you about your comment at the end of aspects of what was being discussed. 17 that meeting that the RGP should speak to the 17 Q. So, you did not disclose any information 18 18 senior partner at Hassans, and your yourself about your involvement --19 19 explanation is in your third statement, A. I can't disclose --20 20 paragraphs three and four, page A232. And Q. -- with 36 North? 21 21 you say at paragraph three, "I do believe, A. -- I can't -- I can't recall what I said in that 22 22 however, that my comment about contact meeting, which is now some five years ago, 23 23 with the senior partner of Hassans, James but I'm sure that by reference to Hassans I 24 Levy KC, was to suggest that the RGP 24 was also including reference to the aspects of 25 25 should establish that contact in order to Hassans' involvement. And in fact, as you Page 158 Page 160

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1 have referred me to, as I say in my statement, 1 Levy. It's "a search warrant at Hassans", " in 2 2 Paul Richardson confirms that I made that relation to" that case. So at that stage, you 3 3 reference, and it's in, I think, his witness know, it says "for (JL)". I mean, the bracket 4 statement that I made that reference. 4 seems to be in the wrong, place, it's: (for JL). 5 Q. Did you discuss the investigation with the 5 But he had been the one who was 6 6 representing Perez and Cornelio's interests in Attorney General at any point between then 7 7 (13 May 2019) and 12 May 2020? the context of the transfer from Bland to 36 8 A. In that whole year? 8 North, so what's not clear there is whether 9 9 they are seeking to obtain the files that 10 10 A. I don't believe this was an issue that the related to Perez and Cornelio and their 11 Attorney General and I were discussing at 11 information from their lawyer, or whether 12 that time, but I can't tell you that we didn't at 12 they're seeking to obtain information from 13 some stage have cause to exchange a few 13 their lawyer in respect of his own actions. What is very clear is that I'm being told that 14 14 words on it. 15 Q. Would that have related solely to the 15 the warrant is being executed, they "are 16 NSCIS element, or would you have discussed 16 executing". Not that they are going to 17 17 the fact of Mr Levy being a person of execute, or they are standing there with a 18 18 interest? warrant hoping not to execute it; that they are 19 19 A. I don't think that Mr Levy's relevance to actually executing. 20 20 Q. Of course, at this point you were aware the proceedings was relevant to whatever that Mr Levy was a person of interest in the 21 minor discussion I would have had with the 21 22 Attorney General, but if there is evidence 22 investigation. 23 23 that we talked about James... I mean, you're A. Yes, although we've agreed that that 24 asking me to go back now not just four years; 24 means neither fish nor fowl, in the context of 25 25 you are asking me to go back five years, and witness or suspect. Page 161 Page 163 1 to recall any oral discussion with the 1 Q. If we then go to B141--2 2 Attorney General and, you know, in trying to THE CHAIRMAN: Did you know he was a 3 3 ensure that I'm accurate and truthful I cannot suspect in that case? (?) 4 4 point to anything that sticks in my mind. A. No, I didn't. 5 5 Q. Moving on to 12 May 2020, which is the Q. If we can go to B1417, please. 6 6 day that the RGP attended Hassans with the A. B? 7 7 warrant. Can we go to your statement at Q. 1417. These are your WhatsApp 8 8 paragraph 40 first of all, please, A190. exchanges with Mr Llamas. And the first 9 9 A. I have it. entry, at the top of the page, is at 12.29. And 10 Q. You say that on 12 May 2020 you 10 the Attorney General says to you, "Are you "received a WhatsApp message from Mr 11 11 free? Two minutes." That is at 12.29, four 12 McGrail that said: 'CM - before you 12 minutes after you were informed by Mr 13 13 hear it from anyone else I want to inform you McGrail about the warrant. Did you speak to 14 14 that detectives are executing a search warrant the Attorney General at that stage? 15 at Hassans for (JL) in relation to the case 15 A. Yes, I did, but I don't remember whether 16 against Perez, Cornelio & Sanchez. Its been 16 that was face-to-face or whether he was on 17 done in the most discreet of ways and we're 17 the phone before he came to my office. 18 hoping there is co-operation. Rgds". You 18 Q. And we see that both of you responded to 19 19 have given evidence as to your interpretation Mr McGrail by WhatsApp, which we will 20 of that message; how did you interpret that 20 look at shortly, but do you recall whether you 21 message as far as the reference to Mr Levy 21 spoke to Mr Llamas before responding to Mr 22 was involved and his status in the 22 McGrail or afterwards? 23 23 investigation? A. I don't recall. I know my response to Mr 24 A. Well, the case is not referred to being a 24 McGrail because it's over the page --25 25 case against Perez, Cornelio, Sanchez and Q. Yes. Page 162 Page 164

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1 A. -- in my statement. I don't know Mr 1 in other words, seeking to obtain evidence 2 Llamas's response. 2 from James Levy could have happened in a 3 3 Q. In terms of your response, you do not way that was less intrusive and did not 4 remember whether you spoke to Mr Llamas 4 expose the jurisdiction to reputational risk in 5 before responding to Mr... 5 the way that this did. 6 6 A. I cannot specifically tell you that I THE CHAIRMAN: But you did not know 7 7 remember speaking to him before I he was a suspect? 8 8 WhatsApp Mr McGrail or not. A. Sorry? 9 9 Q. Did you agree to speak to Mr McGrail THE CHAIRMAN: You did not know he 10 10 with Mr Llamas? was a suspect at that time. 11 A. Did I agree with Mr Llamas to speak --11 A. But search warrants are not executed 12 Q. To speak to Mr --12 against people who are not suspects. By that 13 A. -- with Mr McGrail? 13 stage I was starting to become concerned that 14 14 O. Yes. he might be a suspect. 15 A. I cannot recall whether I agreed that with 15 THE CHAIRMAN: But you did not know 16 Mr Llamas or whether I sought myself to 16 that he was a suspect? 17 17 speak to Mr McGrail. I didn't need Mr A. Well, I didn't know because I wouldn't 18 18 know --Llamas's agreement to speak to Mr McGrail. 19 19 Q. Then at 12.34, nine minutes after the THE CHAIRMAN: You did not need (?) to 20 20 message, you respond. This is in your confirm that. 21 statement, A191, and you say, "Ian, Thank 21 A. Yes, but from what I'm trying to -- what 22 you for the courtesy of this information. I 22 I'm trying to get across is that people 23 23 think that is a bad decision. A search warrant wouldn't tell me whether someone was or 24 should only have been sought if you believed 24 was not a suspect. What McGrail tells me in 25 25 that the person in question was not going to his texts suggests that he isn't, but the Page 165 Page 167 1 cooperate and will try destroy evidence. If, 1 execution of a search warrant points towards 2 2 as you say, you are hoping for cooperation, him being... put it this way, I'll use the words 3 3 especially in a case involving a senior Silk of the DPP: having questions to answer. 4 4 and head of Gibraltar's largest legal firm, you THE CHAIRMAN: But you asked about the 5 5 should, in my view, first have sought to words, you "think that is a bad decision." 6 6 contact that person and obtain cooperation. But, you are saying that when you did not 7 Given my close personal relationship with 7 actually know that he was a suspect. 8 8 JL, I won't comment further." You say "I A. I was saying that with the information 9 9 think that is a bad decision." Why did you that I had, which was only the message from 10 feel that it was appropriate to give your view 10 Ian McGrail that day. 11 11 on the decision at that point? THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. 12 A. Because Mr Levy, for the reason's I've set 12 Q. Do you think that you would have 13 13 out there, is Gibraltar's most senior silk, I expressed such a view so readily if it had not 14 14 think at that time, and the head of Gibraltar's been for the fact it involved Mr Levy? 15 15 largest law firm. And the consequences of A. I expressed that view when Mr McGrail 16 16 carrying out a search warrant against such a came to see me, by telling him that I would 17 person where (?) jurisdiction. In other 17 be expressing exactly those same sentiments 18 18 words, there was a jurisdictional risk as a even if it had been another senior lawyer in 19 19 result of the execution of that search warrant. Gibraltar. And I'm reinforced in that view 20 20 Gibraltar's reputation was in play; indeed, because Mr McGrail had thought it 21 21 Gibraltar's reputation has been brought in appropriate to come and brief me in relation 22 22 to another search warrant that was going to play as a result of a lot less than that, not 23 23 least by these proceedings. So, I was very be executed again-- in respect of a much 24 concerned that that should be an issue that 24 more junior member of the Bar in Gibraltar, 25 25 should not have been progressed in that way; because he understood the reputational risks Page 166 Page 168

1 to the jurisdiction from the execution of a 1 June when you sent that letter? 2 search warrant in respect of a legal 2 A. No, but I'm entitled to have my opinion, 3 3 because of course I know all of the players. professional, given the issues that are 4 relevant in relation to Gibraltar in particular 4 And of course, it is possible that the RGP 5 5 might have had information which enabled in the Spanish media. 6 6 Q. Is it fair to say that from this moment them to take the view that a search warrant 7 7 onwards you were angry? was necessary. No such information was 8 8 A. That I was angry? shared with me, and given what I've seen in 9 9 these proceedings, where information has Q. Yes. 10 10 been disclosed in that respect, I think they A. Yes, absolutely I was angry. 11 Q. You then say that a search warrant should 11 were relying on the flimsiest of flimsy 12 12 only have been sought if the RGP believed pretences in order to obtain a search warrant 13 that the person was not going to cooperate. 13 instead of a production order. 14 14 Had you seen the information laid before the Q. Do you believe that certain people and 15 15 law firms in Gibraltar are off-limits for police magistrate, or been informed as to the RGP's 16 basis for thinking there was a risk of 16 investigations? 17 17 destruction of evidence? A. Absolutely not. Nobody's off-limits. 18 18 Gibraltar is governed by the rule of law and A. I self-evidently had not. 19 19 Q. You said in your letter of 5 June that the entirely so; we are all subject to the law and 20 20 obtaining and execution of a search warrant no one is above the law. But there are some 21 was, in your opinion, "of dubious legality, 21 circumstances when going about the 22 abusive, unprecedented in policing in 22 enforcement of the law I think requires more 23 23 Gibraltar, incompatible with public guile and temperament than was shown in 24 confidence in policing and the good name 24 this case by the Royal Gibraltar Police. 25 25 and reputation of Gibraltar as a business and Q. You end the message saying, "Given my Page 169 Page 171 1 financial centre." How did you feel able to 1 close personal relationship with JL, I won't 2 say that, without knowledge of the full facts? 2 comment further." Were you recognising in 3 3 A. First of all, I said that on the basis of that message that you yourself did not 4 4 legal advice. That letter was prepared for me consider it appropriate to comment on the 5 5 by my counsel in this matter, so I am 6 6 reinforced in the view that I did not reach A. I was saying explicitly what I say in my 7 7 those conclusions without the benefit of legal message: that given my close personal 8 8 advice. And second, because I am very clear relationship with James I wasn't going to 9 9 in my view (especially after I've seen what comment further at that stage. 10 scant evidence has been provided in these 10 Q. Why were you not going to comment 11 11 proceedings as to the suggestion that a search further? 12 warrant was necessary) that there is nothing 12 A. Because I wanted time to think about my 13 13 to substantiate that a search warrant should reaction, and I had time to think my reaction 14 14 have been executed to -- against Mr Levy, -- through my reaction, that's why I wanted 15 15 and I do not agree that if that search warrant to see Ian McGrail, who I found out was in 16 16 had been challenged it would have withstood Number 6. Otherwise I would have spoken 17 17 -- indeed, a very recent case of the Court of to him on the phone. 18 18 Appeal, of the reference of the King versus Q. Were you acknowledging that you were 19 19 Verralls, where there is an in-depth analysis conflicted between your duties as Chief 20 20 of the law in respect of search warrants, Minister and your duties as a friend? 21 21 suggests to me that actually this was a A. I had other duties here, too. I was also 22 22 warrant also obtained improperly, as that the senior representative of the party that we 23 23 warrant has been found to have been were being told should be a complainant in 24 executed improperly. 24 these proceedings, and I felt that it was 25 25 Q. But were you aware of those facts on 5 entirely inappropriate that things had Page 170 Page 172

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1 progressed in the manner that they appear to 1 Q. So, is your evidence that straight after 2 have progressed. I'm entitled to have 2 saying that you would not comment further, 3 3 opinions even though I have different you then sought to call him? 4 4 A. I don't think it was straight after; I think capacities. 5 Q. As well as your friendship, there was the 5 some minutes had passed. 6 fact that you were financially invested in 36 6 Q. Well, your evidence says, "Just after 7 7 sending my response, I was informed that Mr North's fortunes. You were aware --8 8 McGrail was actually, at that moment, in No6 A. Well, hang on, but the investment in 36 9 9 North had two years before already been Convent Place on" --10 10 resolved by me by giving the contract to A. Yes. 11 Bland Limited. A year and a half before this 11 Q. -- "an unrelated matter." 12 12 A. That "Just after" must have meant a few I had already resolved the issue of that 13 conflict, against my financial interest. So I 13 minutes 14 14 Q. So I think you have already alluded to didn't consider that at this stage there was 15 15 this, but I want to ask you directly. Why, anything relating to that financial interest 16 which was live; that had been extinguished. 16 after saying that you would not comment 17 17 Q. You were also invested in Hassans as a further, did you nevertheless see fit to call Mr 18 law firm. 18 McGrail to your office and do just that? 19 19 A. I am still. A. Because I wanted more information. 20 20 Q. And you had communicated with two of Because this was this was jurisdictionally 21 the other individuals named in that message 21 important: Gibraltar's reputation was 22 from Mr McGrail. Did those connections 22 potentially going to be tarnished by this 23 23 contribute to your comment that you should action, carried out in this way. 24 not comment further? 24 Q. Can you estimate what time that meeting 25 25 A. No, my comment was about James, started? Your response to Mr McGrail was Page 173 Page 175 1 which is exactly what it says, but I was also 1 12.34, and then he is called up to your office. 2 invested with the fact that I'm the senior (at 2 What time, more or less, would you say that 3 3 that time and now) elected representative of the meeting started? 4 4 A. It's very difficult for me to say with any the people of Gibraltar, and these had -- this 5 5 warrant, executed in this way, could degree of accuracy, but I would have thought 6 6 potentially have reputational consequences it was before one o'clock. It wasn't a long --7 7 for Gibraltar and its people. it wasn't a long delay. 8 8 Q. Did it occur to you that a Chief Minister Q. And how long did the meeting with Mr 9 9 should not be expressing strong views on a McGrail take, as far as you can recall? 10 live criminal investigation? 10 A. Between five and twenty minutes. I 11 11 A. Well, I'm surprised that that point is being wouldn't be able to give you a more accurate 12 taken, given that when I was expressing 12 estimation of time; it was very fast-moving, 13 13 strong views about the airfield incident the it was very fast-paced, it was very ill-14 14 RGP were very happy to receive my strong tempered. 15 15 views. Q. Was there anyone there other than you, 16 16 Mr McGrail and Mr Llamas? Q. In paragraph 41 you say, "Just after 17 sending my response, I was informed that Mr 17 A. Not that I can recall. 18 McGrail was actually, at that moment, in No6 18 Q. Given the importance and the sensitivity 19 19 Convent Place on an unrelated matter. I of what was being discussed, did you not 20 20 therefore asked that he should come up to my think it appropriate to have someone present 21 office to see me, which he did." 21 to take a note? 22 22 A. I think the way I found out was because I A. Not necessarily, because Mr McGrail had 23 23 asked for Ian McGrail to be got on the phone reached out to me directly on the subject and 24 for me, and I was then told that he was in 24 so I assumed if he'd wanted to say anything 25 25 Number 6 and did I want him to come up. further, because it was a live investigation he Page 174 Page 176

1 would want to say it to me rather than say it 1 from the outset of the meeting, because 2 more widely. 2 you've already accepted that you were angry 3 3 Q. Mr McGrail's evidence is that you at the time of the message. Would you 4 berated him and gave him the dressing-down 4 accept that? 5 of his 36-year law enforcement career. Do 5 A. I would, yes. Anger is an emotion, it's 6 6 not something that one necessarily is able to you agree with that characterisation? 7 7 A. I haven't been there for the many other 8 8 Q. In paragraph 44 of your statement you dressings-down he must have had in his 36-9 9 year career, so I'm not able to say. say, "I made clear, in firm and forthright 10 10 Q. Well, let us forget the 36 year lawlanguage, to Mr McGrail that I considered 11 enforcement career bit: do you agree that you 11 that the RGP had not acted properly in the 12 12 berated him and gave him a dressing-down? execution of a search warrant in respect of a 13 A. No, I don't think that I berated him. I 13 senior lawyer like Mr Levy. I repeated the 14 think I made my strength of feeling very 14 points made in my WhatsApp reply. In 15 clear and, you know, Mr McGrail has been 15 person, I robustly told Mr McGrail that he 16 present when I've made my strength of 16 should not think that I was making this point 17 17 feeling clear to the senior management team because I was close to Mr Levy. I told him 18 18 that I would be making the same point if any at the police on other occasions in respect of 19 19 other senior member of the legal profession other matters. I wouldn't say that I was more 20 20 had been involved." Is it your position that a vehement in my style or presentation on that 21 occasion than I was on other occasions when, 21 search warrant could never be proper against 22 admittedly, Mr McGrail was not then 22 a senior lawyer in Gibraltar? 23 23 Commissioner of Police, but he was present A. No, that is not my position; it's not what I 24 as part of the senior management team when 24 25 25 I'd made my views clear. Q. Did you not allow for the possibility that Page 177 Page 179 1 Q. You acknowledge in your evidence that it 1 the RGP may be privy to some information 2 was an ill-tempered meeting --2 which you were unaware of at the time? 3 3 A. Of course I did. A. Mm-hmm. 4 4 Q. -- you were very angry --Q. Did it not occur to you, then, that they 5 5 A. Yeah. may have been aware of information that 6 6 Q. -- you used robust language throughout justified their actions, contrary to your 7 the meeting, very likely laced with 7 impression? 8 expletives. 8 A. That is exactly what Ian McGrail 9 A. Yeah. 9 suggested to me by telling me that the DPP 10 Q. Do you recognise that a fair-minded 10 had advised that they should go by way of 11 11 observer might have interpreted that as a warrant. 12 berating? 12 Q. We will come to that shortly, but at 13 13 A. Well, this is a subjective concept and paragraph 45 you say, just over the page, "I 14 14 therefore I don't think that much turns on recall telling Mr McGrail that the 15 15 whether it was a berating or it was not a communications devices of senior lawyers 16 16 berating. I think it was a robust exchange. were likely to include legally privileged 17 17 material which would have to be sifted Mr Ian McGrail is not a shrinking violet by 18 18 any stretch of the imagination or by any through by the RGP in a warrant type 19 19 measure, and he didn't seem to -- appear to situation such as this one they had brought 20 20 be reacting as somebody who was being about, an expertise which the RGP did not 21 21 berated: he was standing up for what he have in dealing with 'white collar crime'." 22 22 Did you think that this disqualified the RGP wanted to represent to me were the reasons 23 23 from using warrants in cases dealing with why it was appropriate to have acted in that 24 24 white collar crime? 25 Q. And it is fair to say that you were angry 25 A. I felt they had to be very careful when Page 178 Page 180

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using warrants when there was an alternative, 1 whether or not to sign the search warrant. 2 perfectly practicable alternative, which is a 2 That doesn't mean I'm not entitled to my 3 3 production order. Which in my view, unless opinion in respect of that. 4 there is specific evidence that there is going 4 Q. But if it was good enough for the 5 to be destruction of evidence should be the 5 magistrate, was it not good enough for you? 6 6 preferred way of progressing in respect of A. Unless it's legally challenged, and it's 7 7 individuals who hold privileged information shown that the magistrate should not have 8 8 belonging to other parties. granted the warrant. 9 9 Q. You would accept, would you not, that in Q. It was open to Mr Levy to judicially 10 10 raising all of these points you were review the warrant, was it not? 11 questioning the RGP on an operational matter 11 A. Indeed it is. 12 12 Q. And you have given evidence that you in a live criminal investigation? 13 A. I didn't think it was an operational matter, 13 believed that the warrant would not have 14 because he was telling me he'd (?) already 14 withstood a challenge through judicial 15 15 review. executed the warrant. 16 Q. Well, his message to you said, "detectives 16 A. I think it is one of the flimsiest warrants 17 17 are executing a search warrant at Hassans". ever obtained in Gibraltar's courts. 18 A. Exactly: the horse had bolted. 18 Q. So, was not the right thing to do for Mr 19 19 Q. Are you saying that you thought that the Levy to get on with that, and enforce his 20 20 legal rights and seek appropriate remedies search warrant had already been carried out -21 21 through legal letters and if necessary the 22 A. Yes, and the damage --22 court, like any other citizen? 23 23 Q. -- by then? A. That is a matter for Mr Levy and his 24 A. -- the damage had been done, because 24 lawyers, and I expected that they would do so 25 25 they were executing a search warrant in a law and hope that they still will challenge the Page 181 Page 183 1 firm in Gibraltar, and that could lead to a 1 grant of the warrant. I think it was an gross 2 serious reputational damage for Gibraltar. 2 (sic) abuse, and it should never have 3 3 Q. In paragraph 46 you say, "I said that if the happened in Gibraltar. 4 4 police were investigating a lawyer for an (14.30)5 5 Q. But if it was open to them to do that and offence in respect of which they might 6 6 destroy evidence, then they could seek to if it was so clear that they would be 7 persuade a magistrate of the need for a search 7 successful in doing so, why was it necessary 8 8 warrant." Is that not just what the RGP did? nevertheless for you to involve yourself in it? 9 9 They went to a magistrate and sought to A. I'm not suggesting it was necessary. I'm 10 persuade? 10 just suggesting that I also had equities in this 11 11 A. They wouldn't have got it otherwise. which are not the equities which are 12 Q. Yes. 12 improper which you put to me about my 13 13 A. The RGP cannot grant itself a search involvement in 36 North, etc. I had equities 14 14 warrant; they need to have gone through this which were proper and which I had to pursue 15 15 process. But as we have now seen, on the as my obligation in defence of the probity of 16 16 scantiest and flimsiest of evidence, and as I this jurisdiction and its reputation. 17 know from my own practice magistrates in 17 Q. But you did have other equities in the 18 18 Gibraltar tend to simply grant the warrants matter, did you not, Mr Picardo? 19 19 that are put before them for granting. A. But the one that you imply is the one that 20 20 Q. Did you not think that it was really rather leads me into an improper motive is one that 21 21 I already suggested was fully resolved 18 a matter for the magistrate whether a search 22 22 warrant was appropriate as opposed to a months earlier. 23 23 production order? Q. Not your equity in terms of your 24 A. Legally, it is only going to be the 24 partnership of Hassans? 25 25 magistrate who's going to make up his mind A. No, not my equity in terms of my Page 182 Page 184

1 1 should not want to see ventilated, you know, partnership of Hassans, but yes my 2 2 involvement in 36 North and my financial the RGP's improperly obtaining search 3 3 interests in 36 North. But as I said warrants, etc. It certainly wasn't a threat at 4 specifically, and I said it on the day to Ian 4 Mr McGrail himself. 5 5 Q. Reading on in paragraph 34, Mr McGrail McGrail in the heat of that moment, I would 6 6 be making the same point, and I use the 7 7 "I was struggling to understand how the CM example of Sir Peter and Melo Triay, if the 8 8 was seemingly aware of parts of the evidence other senior lawyers in the jurisdiction had 9 9 been subject to actions of this sort by the gathered in Op Delhi, for example, he was 10 10 Royal Gibraltar Police. challenging the need to obtain JL's devices 11 Q. If we go to Mr McGrail's first statement, 11 when he claimed the investigating team 12 paragraph 34, page 1. 12 already had the data we needed from the 13 13 other suspects. What had been extracted A. Where do I see that? 14 14 from the suspects' mobile devices was Q. A10, sorry. (Pause). At the bottom of 15 the page, paragraph 34: 15 information that only the investigating team 16 "There was a heated debate on whether the 16 and the DPP and Crown Counsel would have 17 17 actions of the team were proper or not, with been privy to. It is certainly not something I 18 18 would have expected the CM to be aware me saying they were and the CM saying they 19 19 were not. I stated that it should be left for the 20 20 courts to decide who was right or wrong. I A. Well, certainly that's true in respect of the 21 said this because the CM said that JL should 21 detail, but not in respect of the fact. Because 22 not hand over his mobile device to the RGP 22 the fact was widely known in Gibraltar. 23 23 but should do so to a court. He said he hoped Q. The fact, sorry what fact was ... the fact 24 I was right and that he was wrong as there 24 of the arrests and the confiscation of devices? 25 25 would be consequences if he was found to be A. Exactly. Page 185 Page 187 1 right in that we had not conducted ourselves 1 Q. But had you been informed as to the 2 properly in this matter. I took this as a sort 2 evidence that the RGP had extracted from 3 3 of threat from the CM." those devices? 4 4 Did you say that there would be A. No, but I assumed that digital 5 5 consequences if Mr McGrail was found to be communications, which are exchanges of 6 6 wrong and you were found to go right? messages, have two sides to them. So once 7 A. Not Mr McGrail. I was not making 7 you have got one side, you have got the 8 8 a threat to Mr McGrail. That is entirely whole thing. 9 9 incorrect. I was saying that there would be Q. So that was surmised on your part rather 10 consequences because potentially there 10 than any information that you had? A. I hesitate to use the word "surmise" 11 11 would be actions for damages against the 12 Government of Gibraltar. Indeed, in the case 12 because I was aware of the fact, just like 13 13 I have just referred you to, in the findings of everybody in Gibraltar who was in the know 14 14 the Court of Appeal in the King and Verrells was aware of the fact, that individuals had 15 15 v the RGP, what is now left to be determined been arrested and their electronic 16 16 in the damages that the taxpayer is going to communications obtained. 17 have to pay because of improper execution of 17 Q. Perhaps we can agree on "deduction". 18 18 a search warrant in that case. A. Yes. 19 19 Q. So the consequences you were alluding to Q. Did you allege that the RGP was 20 20 and concerned by, is your evidence that the knowingly allowing itself to be used by 21 21 consequences were the financial Mr Gaggero to pursue a commercial dispute? 22 22 consequences or claims being brought in as A. Can you refer me to that? I can't think of 23 23 a result of the warrant? Mr Gaggero's number. 24 A. Yes, and indeed reputationally as well 24 Q. I believe it is dealt with in paragraph 38. 25 25 that, you know, this is an issue that we Yes: Page 186 Page 188

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"The CM also expressed a critical view that 1 service disciplinary route. 2 2 the complainant in the case, Mr James A. I think that is a mischaracterisation of 3 3 Gaggero, the Chairman of Bland Limited, what I said. I said that it should be HMGoG 4 was actually using the RGP and that the RGP 4 that would lay the complaint, not that it had 5 was knowingly allowing itself to be used to 5 to be HMGoG that should lay the complaint. 6 6 pursue to pursue what in essence was I was very clear about my thinking on that. 7 7 a commercial dispute without there being any A previous socialist labour government in the 8 8 conspiracy to defraud." 1980s/1990s had found its reputation 9 9 Did you say something to that effect? severely tarnished by allegations of 10 10 A. Very likely I would have said something corruption at the time of the election in the 11 like that, yes. I had been struck by the fact, 11 mid 1990s. I was very clear that if there 12 and I think it is in evidence somewhere, that 12 were going to be allegations of corruption 13 Mr Gaggero had actually stopped me on the 13 they should be properly investigated and that 14 14 day that Mr Cornelio and Mr Perez were my government itself would be the one to lay 15 15 going to be arrested, he actually stopped my a complaint if credible evidence of 16 car and knocked on my window and said to 16 corruption could be brought to us in respect 17 17 me in glee, "Today's the day. They're going of any senior officer or anybody else having 18 to be arrested." And I was rather shocked at 18 incurred in that sort of activity. 19 19 that because, you know, I didn't find out that Q. Did you express a preference for 20 20 Perez and Cornelio had been arrested once a disciplinary route at all --21 they had been arrested. I found out before 21 A. No. 22 they were arrested that Mr Gaggero, the 22 Q. -- for Mr Sanchez? 23 23 alleged victim or one of the alleged victims A. That's never been an issue on which I 24 of what was being investigated, had already 24 think I have expressed any view whatsoever. 25 25 been briefed by the RGP in respect of the Q. Then jumping ahead ... sorry, going back Page 189 Page 191 1 actions they were going to take. So if I was 1 to your witness statement, paragraph 51, I 2 told by the Commissioner of Police as Chief 2 think this is 193: 3 3 Minister of Gibraltar that the search warrant "I believe I told Mr McGrail, as that meeting 4 4 in respect of Mr Levy was being executed as ended, that I was greatly disappointed by the 5 5 it was being executed, Mr Gaggero was manner in which the RGP had acted and that 6 6 being advised even before instruments of I believed that they had acted improperly and 7 7 outside the law. I was very angry about this detention were being enforced by the RGP, 8 8 which is really quite remarkable and that is I turn of events and Mr McGrail's attitude in 9 9 think what led to my statement there. the meeting and used robust language 10 Q. If we then look at paragraph 38, a little 10 throughout the meeting [as I have said 11 11 bit further down, four lines from the bottom: previously] very likely laced with 12 "He said that if Caine Sanchez was corrupt 12 expletives." 13 13 that it was HMGoG that had to make the Did you feel that you were sufficiently 14 14 complaint. I told the CM the charges Caine informed to pass such a judgment over the 15 15 Sanchez could face were that of misconduct RGP's action at that stage? 16 16 in public office. He said that even for that A. Well, I passed that judgment because I 17 offence it had to be HMGoG that that had to 17 had taken the view that I was able to form it 18 18 lay the complaint, something which to that and I was able to form it not just based on the 19 date had not materialised. What I took from 19 discrete information that I had about this 20 20 this comment was that the CM was stating matter, also about the individuals who were 21 that the RGP could not proffer charges 21 involved and what I knew of them. In my 22 22 against Caine Sanchez without HMGoG's view a senior silk in Gibraltar, that also 23 23 complaint. This significantly resonated with happens to be the head of his own religious 24 the AG's previous suggestions that Caine 24 community, is not someone who is going to 25 Sanchez should be dealt with via the civil 25 fail to respond to the exigences of Page 190 Page 192

1	a production order if it is provided. That was	1	A. Yes, but if you think laterally in respect
2	my view and it's a view that I believe I'm	2	of that question, you are then saying that
3	entitled to. In the same way as I wasn't the	3	because I have a relationship with someone
4	police officer laying the information, I am	4	they are not entitled to the protection that I
5	a person with wide experience of the legal	5	would deploy in respect of others. Now,
6	profession in Gibraltar, um, and I think I am	6	there is only one Chief Minister in Gibraltar,
7	entitled to form a view about something.	7	right? And there is only one person who is
8	Q. As we have seen, paragraph 7.7 of the	8	being informed of these things on that day,
9	ministerial code says that ministers must	9	that's me. It is not possible for me to
10	scrupulously avoid any danger of actual or	10	delegate to another the protection that I
11	perceived conflict of interests between their	11	would have afforded to senior partners and
12	ministerial position and their private financial	12	lawyers of other firms to deploy in respect of
13	interests. Given your financial interests in	13	James Levy. It had to be me.
14	Hassans, do you believe that you managed to	14	Q. But is that not precisely what the
15	avoid a danger of actual or perceived	15	ministerial code says you should be doing,
16	conflict?	16	which is stepping out of that situation and
17	A. Entirely, because this was not in any way	17	letting someone else do it?
18	driven by my financial interest. You have to	18	A. But I don't think that there is a moment
19	understand what I am saying about the nature	19	here where the ministerial code engages
20	of the effect of this. Whether it was, and I'm	20	directly because I'm not dealing with
21	sorry to repeat the point, Sir Peter Caruana,	21	a financial interest of mine. I'm not seeking
22	Melo Triay, the head of any other one of the	22	to protect any financial interests. I'm seeking
23	important chambers in Gibraltar, this was	23	to protect the reputation of the jurisdiction.
24	hugely consequential because of that, not	24	This is the key point. This is not an issue
25	because I am a partner on sabbatical in	25	about James Levy as one of my partners.
	D 402		P 405
	Page 193		Page 195
1 1	Hassans That is not relevant to the issue	1 1	This is about James Levy a senior partner of
1 2	Hassans. That is not relevant to the issue	1 2	This is about James Levy, a senior partner of the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if
2	here.	2	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if
2 3	here. Now, you may also recall, Mr Santos, that in	2 3	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if you look at Chambers and Partners, which is
2 3 4	here. Now, you may also recall, Mr Santos, that in recent memory a Gibraltar law firm, a very	2 3 4	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if you look at Chambers and Partners, which is considered to be the bible in respect of
2 3 4 5	here. Now, you may also recall, Mr Santos, that in recent memory a Gibraltar law firm, a very large Gibraltar law firm, has gone into	2 3 4 5	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if you look at Chambers and Partners, which is considered to be the bible in respect of lawyer standing, the only star performer year
2 3 4 5 6	here. Now, you may also recall, Mr Santos, that in recent memory a Gibraltar law firm, a very large Gibraltar law firm, has gone into liquidation, partners have been arrested,	2 3 4 5 6	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if you look at Chambers and Partners, which is considered to be the bible in respect of lawyer standing, the only star performer year after year and Chambers and Partners is
2 3 4 5 6 7	here. Now, you may also recall, Mr Santos, that in recent memory a Gibraltar law firm, a very large Gibraltar law firm, has gone into liquidation, partners have been arrested, charges have been laid and there have been	2 3 4 5 6 7	the largest law firm in Gibraltar. Indeed if you look at Chambers and Partners, which is considered to be the bible in respect of lawyer standing, the only star performer year after year and Chambers and Partners is James Levy. The top ranked lawyer in
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1 example, because they concern family, 1 investigation should of course continue. But 2 2 friends or employees. If exceptionally was there not a danger that the Commissioner 3 3 a minister wishes to raise questions about the of Police would now be in fear of further 4 handling of such a case, they should advise 4 angry meetings with you if he took the wrong 5 the Chief Secretary and write to the minister 5 step? 6 6 responsible, as with constituency cases, but A. Well, that's a hypothesis. In fact the 7 7 they should make clear their personal opposite turned out to be true. And what I 8 8 connection or interest. The responsible felt should happen, which was that the 9 9 minister should ensure that any inquiry is investigation should continue, is in fact what 10 10 handled without special treatment." he felt should happen and what everybody 11 Why did you not seek to involve the Chief 11 else felt should happen because the 12 12 Secretary? investigation continued. So the hypothesis 13 13 that you postulate is defeated by the reality of A. I involved the Attorney General. Um, at 14 14 that time and for many years the Attorney what occurred. 15 15 Q. In paragraph 53 of your statement you General has really taken over the role that 16 previously had been done by the Chief 16 say: 17 17 Secretary. I involved the Attorney General "I do not think Mr McGrail understood then, 18 18 or now, the consequences of his actions. I do in the presence of the Commissioner and the 19 19 not think he appreciated the negative effects Commissioner knew all of those connections 20 20 to which you are referring. This was not, I to Gibraltar's international reputation, as both 21 21 mean, the reality is that this is not a country a finance centre and a properly policed 22 of 60 million people. We uphold the same 22 jurisdiction, from police behaviour of this 23 23 kind." ethical standards but with a level of 24 proximity which therefore necessarily by 24 Assuming that you are right about the search 25 25 degree is different. So I didn't need to warrant being legally flawed and that it Page 197 Page 199 1 specifically declare those things to 1 would be overturned through the judicial 2 Mr McGrail. Indeed, it's given away by the 2 review, why do you think that the mere 3 3 fact that he wrote to me in his WhatsApps execution of a search warrant, or 4 4 alluding to my relationship with Mr Levy. It non-execution as it happened, would have 5 5 wasn't something that was in any way negative effects on Gibraltar's international 6 6 hidden. reputation? 7 Q. And in fairness to you, you did refer to 7 A. Well, I proceeded on the basis that this 8 8 the personal connection in your text message. was execution and in fact it has only been 9 9 A. In my reply. He referred to it in, um, very late in these proceedings that the idea 10 introducing the issue and I referred to it in 10 that it has not been executed has come up and 11 11 my reply. 12 Q. In your evidence you say that you were 12 Q. I am happy for you to proceed on the 13 13 basis of an executed search warrant. highly critical after the event of the decision 14 14 to proceed with the search warrant, but do A. Exactly. 15 15 you accept that in fact while you were in that Q. Why --16 meeting with Mr McGrail the RGP officers 16 A. When I gave this witness statement it was 17 were still at Hassans with Mr Levy 17 on the basis that the warrant had been 18 negotiating whether there would be 18 executed. So the point is this. When you are 19 19 an execution or not? looking at production orders versus search 20 20 A. I don't know the chronology, but I warrants, you are not just seeking to protect approached this on the basis that the warrant 21 21 the subject of the warrant or the order. What 22 22 had been executed. The horse had bolted as you are seeking to protect is the privilege and 23 23 far as I was concerned. the communications of the third parties that 24 Q. You say in paragraph 47 of your 24 that individual may represent in respect of 25 25 statement that your position was that the other matters. Now, in the context of Page 198 Page 200

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1	Mr Levy and his practice, which is	1	another minister, a member of the opposition
2	international, very wide-ranging and	2	and himself all being partners in Hassans and
3	involving individuals of the highest net worth	3	how those in Spain who describe Gibraltar as
4	in the world, they would find that their	4	a pirate's haven would have a field day if this
5	information was being held by the Royal	5	leaked out. He also referred to Mr Rosety, a
6	Gibraltar Police, not subject to a production	6	Spanish Parliamentarian from the right-wing
7	order where what is being distilled is the	7	party VOX who was already asking
8	information just in relation to the matter that	8	parliamentary questions in connection with
9	the order relates to, but with a search warrant	9	the collision at sea on the 8th March 2020
10	with a much wider opportunity to trawl	10	and that he would also capitalise on
11	through information, and that could make	11	information about this investigation if this
12	those individuals, who are clients of Mr Levy	12	came out publicly. He brought this up as I
13	and who are an important part of how	13	had emailed him on this matter a couple of
14	Gibraltar's finance centre makes its business	14	days earlier as will be explained further on in
15	work, very concerned about what happens in	15	this statement."
16	Gibraltar when the most senior lawyer in the	16	First of all, did you say something to that
17	jurisdiction can have his phone and your	17	effect about the Financial Secretary, another
18	information taken away and held by the	18	minister, a member of the opposition and
19	police.	19	yourself all being partners in Hassans?
20	Q. On what basis do you think that those	20	A. I may have done. I mean, this is I don't
21	individuals would learn about a search	21	know whether that detail is in my statement
22	warrant being executed against Mr Levy?	22	or just in Mr McGrail's, but it may have
23	A. Well, I mean Gibraltar is not, um, the	23	done. It was a very fast moving, very angry
24	biggest place on the planet and therefore	24	conversation and I may have used those
25	word spreads quickly. Because word spreads	25	words. I'm surprised there isn't a recording
			g
	Page 201		Page 203
,			
	anialthy things can than he renerted in the	1 1	ofit
1	quickly things can then be reported in the	1	of it.
2	Gibraltar media and what is reported in the	2	Q. Were you concerned about the impact
2 3	Gibraltar media and what is reported in the Gibraltar media is subsequently picked up in	2 3	Q. Were you concerned about the impact that the search warrant or a future charge
2 3 4	Gibraltar media and what is reported in the Gibraltar media is subsequently picked up in the international media. And potentially this	2 3 4	Q. Were you concerned about the impact that the search warrant or a future charge might have on your own income as a partner
2 3 4 5	Gibraltar media and what is reported in the Gibraltar media is subsequently picked up in the international media. And potentially this could be reported very widely indeed and in	2 3 4 5	Q. Were you concerned about the impact that the search warrant or a future charge might have on your own income as a partner of Hassans?
2 3 4 5 6	Gibraltar media and what is reported in the Gibraltar media is subsequently picked up in the international media. And potentially this could be reported very widely indeed and in fact it has been because we have seen very	2 3 4 5 6	Q. Were you concerned about the impact that the search warrant or a future charge might have on your own income as a partner of Hassans?A. That did not cross my mind then and it
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questions to answer. But, you know, I've 1 "Mr McGrail then retorted that he had taken 1 2 2 the advice of the Attorney General on this heard that phrase afterwards so I may be 3 3 matter. Mr Llamas, who was in the room imputing it to him then. But he certainly 4 with us throughout, stated that this was not 4 didn't use the word "suspect" because that 5 true. Mr McGrail then insisted that he had 5 would have stood out like a sore thumb to me 6 sought the advice of the Director of Public 6 and he didn't use that word. 7 7 Prosecutions on whether to obtain a search THE CHAIRMAN: Why would it have 8 8 warrant or a production order for Mr Levy. stood out like a sore thumb? 9 9 Mr McGrail then specifically told me that the A. Because the word "suspect" implies a lot 10 10 advice of the DPP was that they should more than person of interest and it takes you 11 proceed by way of search warrant. The 11 from being a witness to being somebody who 12 Attorney General said he did not believe that 12 is involved in the criminality, who is 13 the DPP had given such advice. I responded 13 believed to be involved in the criminality 14 by saying that I too did not believe that 14 itself. And that would have struck me. 15 would have been the advice of the DPP (with 15 THE CHAIRMAN: But he was a suspect. 16 whom I have never discussed the matter), but 16 A. But I wasn't told he was. 17 that if that was the advice of the DPP, then I 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, on reflection do 18 would have to disagree with the DPP also." 18 you not think that might make your 19 Just focusing first of all on Mr McGrail's 19 intervention rather inappropriate? 20 reference as you recall it to the Attorney 20 A. If I had been told, then it might have 21 General giving him advice. Mr McGrail's 21 made my intervention inappropriate, but I 22 evidence was that he did not recall saying 22 was not told and therefore I was not 23 that but if he had it would have been 23 labouring under the apprehension that I was 24 an honest mistake by referring to the 24 intervening in respect of somebody who was 25 Attorney General's chambers, which is the 25 a suspect. Somebody having questions to Page 205 Page 207 1 old description of the OCPL. Is that correct? 1 answer is not somebody who is a suspect and 2 2 A. No, he referred to the Attorney General I believe those are the words that Ian 3 3 and I think he gesticulated towards him. I McGrail used on that day. 4 4 consider that to be the first lie I was told on THE CHAIRMAN: As a matter of interest, 5 5 when did you discover that he was a suspect? that day by Ian McGrail. 6 6 Q. Then turning to his reference to the DPP, A. I don't know whether the documentary 7 can I ask you to be as specific as possible 7 trail shows us that in any particular, um, 8 8 about the words that he used to describe what detail, but I cannot put my finger in my mind 9 9 advice he had obtained from the DPP? on when I find out that he has more than just 10 10 A. The DPP advised that we should go by questions to answer. If that ever actually 11 11 way of search warrant. The DPP advised we happened in that way. 12 should go by way of search warrant. 12 THE CHAIRMAN: You did speak to 13 13 Q. So your evidence is that he referred Mr Levy, did you not? 14 14 specifically to the warrant. A. Yes. 15 A. Yes. 15 THE CHAIRMAN: Did he not tell you, 16 Q. Was there any mention of intervention? 16 "Actually it is worse than being a person of 17 A. No, that's not a word that I can recall 17 interest, they actually suspect me"? 18 18 A. He may have done in those words, he being used at all on that day. 19 19 Q. Did he state that the DPP -may have done. But if you are asking me to 20 20 A. Might have been, but I remember remember those oral conversations and 21 21 whether that word was used specifically, I do warrant. 22 22 Q. Did he state that the DPP advised on not remember that word being used 23 23 whether to treat Mr Levy as a suspect? specifically. I remember James being very ... 24 A. I believe ... let me tell you very honestly. 24 25 I believe that he said, um, that James had 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Sorry, you have just Page 206 Page 208

1 said that if he was a suspect it would stick 1 advising at all and the DPP advising against 2 2 out like a sore thumb. I was wondering when 3 3 you did realise it stuck out like a sore thumb A. I accept that those two are different, but 4 and you realised he was a suspect. 4 they do not vitiate the lie that I was told by 5 A. I don't think I can put my finger on 5 Ian McGrail. Those are two different 6 6 a moment when I can tell you this sticks out positions, but what I was told was very 7 7 like a sore thumb. I'm directing my mind to specific by Ian McGrail and neither of those 8 8 get him off the hook of the lie that he told the meeting of 12 May and what happened 9 9 during the course of that fractious five to 10 10 20-minute meeting and I cannot recall that Q. My point to you is a slightly different 11 word being used then. 11 12 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. 12 A. If I may say so, if the DPP had advised 13 MR SANTOS: Was it perhaps a more 13 that they should go by way of search warrant, 14 general, the DPP has been advising 14 I would have had to accept that because then 15 throughout or was there a specific reference 15 he would have directed his little mind to it 16 to the words? 16 and I would have accepted that. Even though 17 17 A. Absolutely not. I mean, I've seen how I might have disagreed, as I say in my 18 18 Mr McGrail has sought to rely on that in the statement. 19 19 context of his later statements to wriggle off Q. Do you accept that it would be more 20 20 the lie that he told me, but that's not what he serious for the RGP to act against advice 21 said. He said, "The DPP has advised that we 21 rather than act without advice? Against the 22 should go by way of search warrant." 22 express advice of the DPP rather than acting 23 23 without his --Q. Can we look at your statement at 24 paragraph 54 now? You say: 24 A. The only relevance to me of this is 25 25 "After Mr McGrail left the short and simple. That I was told by the Commissioner Page 209 Page 211 1 ill-tempered meeting with us, I subsequently 1 of Police that he had acted with the advice of 2 asked the Attorney General to confirm for me 2 the DPP to go for a search warrant. And in 3 3 whether or not the DPP had, in fact agreed fact that turned out not to be true. If they had 4 4 that a search warrant was the correct manner acted contrary to advice of course it would be 5 5 for the RGP to seek to obtain relevant worse. If they have acted with advice it is 6 6 evidence from Mr Levy. The Attorney not worse, but that does not go to the issue. I 7 General subsequently confirmed to me that 7 was lied to by the most senior law 8 8 the DPP had NOT, in fact, advised the RGP enforcement official in Gibraltar, to my face, 9 9 to proceed by way of search warrant in in my office, about something that affected 10 10 respect of Mr Levy." the reputation of the jurisdiction. And none 11 11 If we go to B1417 now, the Attorney of those degrees of advised, strongly advised, 12 General's text to you is the second one on 12 didn't advise, get him off the hook for lying 13 13 that page and in fact what the Attorney to me. 14 14 General says to you, would you accept, is (15.00)15 15 slightly different because the Attorney Q. Let me ask you this question. Did the misquote - because I think it is accepted by 16 16 General says: 17 "Spoken to DPP. He is categorical that 17 the Attorney General that he misquoted the 18 18 DPP. Did that misquote perhaps make you whilst he told the RGP that an interview with 19 19 JL would likely be necessary, he strongly more concerned that you otherwise would 20 20 have been, because he was saying that the advised against a search warrant." 21 21 RGP had acted against the DPP's advice? The Attorney General now accepts that that 22 22 was incorrect and should have said that the A. Perhaps initially it did, yes. But when I'm 23 23 DPP did not advise on the search warrant at told later that that is not the case, what I'm 24 all. You do accept that there is a difference 24 told doesn't unhook Ian McGrail from the lie 25 25 that he tells me on 12 May 2020 in the office between those two positions, the DPP not Page 210 Page 212

1 of the Chief Minister. 1 have acknowledged that you were angry 2 2 Q. When did the Attorney General tell you about the warrants from the outset. Could it 3 3 that he had misquoted the DPP? be that your loss of confidence was 4 A. I can't recall. I think it must have been 4 attributable to the facts of the search warrant 5 5 itself rather than this lie? during the course of the following day or 6 6 A. No, not at all. Believe me, in the later that day. I can't recall, but it was fairly 7 7 soon I'm told. It's not that he's strongly minutes, hours and weeks after that, I 8 8 interrogated myself on that issue on a number advised against. 9 9 Q. Well, I was going to show you the letter of occasions. This was not now about the 10 10 of 5 June where in fact the position that you search warrant. This was about the fact that 11 put forward is the corrected position --11 Ian McGrail had lied to me, and he did not 12 A. Yes, indeed. 12 reach out to me to say: look, I'm sorry if I 13 Q. -- but I wanted to ask you whether it was 13 mislead you in some way. That's not what I 14 14 intended. I'm sorry if you feel that I've lied just before that letter --15 15 A. It was closer to the time. I think it was to you; I didn't. No, he never did that. He 16 still in the 24/48 hours after that original 16 had specifically - perhaps because the 17 17 meeting, but please remember this is the meeting was fractious, perhaps because he 18 18 second lie he told me on that day. The first was nervous, he told me something which 19 19 lie he told me was that the Attorney General was not true. And the relationship between 20 20 had advised, pointing towards the Attorney the Chief Minister and the Commissioner of 21 General who was in the room, who said that 21 Police, just like the relationship between a 22 22 chief minister and his ministers, a chief was not true. 23 23 Q. Your response to that message is minister and the Governor, has to be one of 24 [Spanish quoted] translated: "Well, then he 24 utmost good faith, of complete openness, 25 25 lied to us both." Mr Llamas says: "Exactly. transparency and honesty - and Ian McGrail Page 213 Page 215 1 He certainly gave us the impression that SW 1 on that day failed that test. And there was no 2 decision was sanctioned by DPP." Mr 2 way back. 3 3 Llamas says that "he gave us the impression". Q. At the time of the meeting you were 4 4 Is that not slightly different to saying that he expressing doubt as to the DPP's advice. It 5 5 was only after the meeting that you verified had expressly said that the search warrant 6 6 decision was sanctioned by the DPP? the position --7 A. Maybe, but that's probably just Michael's 7 A. Yes. 8 shorthand two hours later. I remember 8 Q. -- with the DPP. Did you reach out to Mr 9 9 distinctly what Ian McGrain said to me. I McGrail to point out, or to give him a chance 10 don't think I will ever forget that meeting. 10 to address that new finding on your part? 11 11 A. No. I didn't think that it was the role of Q. Paragraph 55 of your statement is where 12 you say effectively what you said about two 12 the person lied to to reach out to seek the 13 13 minutes ago: "... confirmation from the DPP correction of the lie. I felt if anything it 14 14 that he had not advised that the evidence would be the other way round and it might 15 15 from Mr Levy should have been obtained by have had an effect, you know, when tempers 16 16 way of search warrant was confirmation that calm and parties reconcile themselves. You 17 Mr McGrail, the most senior law 17 know, I'm always one that is ready to accept 18 18 enforcement officer in Gibraltar, had lied to that perhaps if things in the heat of the 19 19 me, the most senior elected representative of moment may have flared, and he could have 20 20 the people of Gibraltar, in my office. The withdrawn his view in that respect, and 21 DPP's assertions were totally contrary to Mr 21 perhaps even apologies (if he thought it 22 22 McGrail's express statements to me, and on appropriate) but he obviously did not think it 23 23 that day 12 May 2020 I lost all confidence in appropriate to reach out to me as he had 24 his probity and integrity in his dealings with 24 reached out to me many times before. He did 25 me and generally in him as a result." You 25 not think it appropriate to take the view that Page 214 Page 216

1	The best of the later of the la	1	ala anno de crima de la constituir de la lacación de la constituir de la c
1	he had misled me perhaps inadvertently. He	1	characterized, an allegation of a huge
2	simply insisted on the position that he had	2	conspiracy against him with everybody
3	properly represented the facts at the time.	3	acting improperly except him. So a doubling
4	Q. The lie ends up being your primary	4	down rather than an attempt to resolve the
5	reason for section 34. Did you not think that	5	matter through the statutory process. There
6	before Sorry, not for section 34; for your	6	is a statutory process. There is no other
7	loss of confidence and for approaching Dr	7	process. There is a statutory process. The
8	Britto. Did you not think that before doing	8	statutory process is the one that kicked in for
9	so, you owed him the opportunity of	9	reasons relating, as you know, to the
10	explaining himself?	10	Q. We will cover that process?
11	A. Sorry, this bring me back to the point I	11	A. But there is, answering the point you are
12	made before. How is it that the person who	12	making, there is a procedure for him
13	is lied to is required to reach out to the	13	to
14	person who has lied to give them an	14	Q. For him to explain himself to the GPA,
15	opportunity to correct that position -	15	but I was - my question was addressed in
16	although in fact from what I have seen,	16	terms of you, but I think you have addressed
17	Michael Llamas was in contact with him, but	17	by question. He did have, as we have seen, a
18	you know there was no attempt in the other	18	meeting with the Attorney General on 13
19	direction to try and reach out to me. So, I	19	May, the following day, where the Attorney
20	don't think I had an obligation to do that.	20	General directly raised this point with him,
21	Indeed, section 34, from memory - I know I	21	and where they came to an understanding or
22	am not here to be quizzed about the Police	22	a conclusion that the Attorney General would
23		23	try to smooth things over with you. Did the
23	Act - but section 34 from memory is set out		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	on the basis of the GPA when they trigger	24	A Wall Lawrent and Buffer and Addition Wall
25	that process has to permit the individual to	25	A. Well, I wasn't really for smoothing. You
	Page 217		Page 219
1	give his explanations. So, there is a statutory	1	know, if somebody had told me that they had
2	regime which enables him to put his view in	2	got it wrong and he had reached out to me,
3	respect of the things that have given rise to	3	perhaps my better nature would have kicked
4	my loss of confidence and potentially the	4	in and I would have wanted to resolve the
5	Governor's loss of confidence or the GPA's	5	matter, but that was not happening. You
6	loss of confidence. T here is a built-in	6	know, when I listen to - I mean the fact is
7	procedure for that, and what you saw in fact	7	that if 12 May was a low point, the 13 May, I
8	when that representation from him came	8	think, is an even lower point when you start
9	back, was an allegation of the widest	9	to see a Gibraltar senior police officer
10	conspiracy in the history of Gibraltar	10	recording all of Gibraltar's senior law
11	involving every senior officer except him.	11	officers, the Solicitor General, the DPP, the
12	- ·		
14	() But the difference when you talk about	1/	Attorney (Ceneral atcators, and his own
12	Q. But the difference, when you talk about	12	Attorney General etcetera, and his own
13	the person lying and the person being lied to	13	senior colleagues without telling them. But
14	the person lying and the person being lied to in this scenario, you were the person who	13 14	senior colleagues without telling them. But if you listen to the bit that is inadvertently
14 15	the person lying and the person being lied to in this scenario, you were the person who was triggering a process by which he would	13 14 15	senior colleagues without telling them. But if you listen to the bit that is inadvertently recorded in the car, and you listen to how Mr
14 15 16	the person lying and the person being lied to in this scenario, you were the person who was triggering a process by which he would ultimately lose his job. You still did not	13 14 15 16	senior colleagues without telling them. But if you listen to the bit that is inadvertently recorded in the car, and you listen to how Mr McGrail explains to Mr Richardson the
14 15 16 17	the person lying and the person being lied to in this scenario, you were the person who was triggering a process by which he would ultimately lose his job. You still did not think that you should raise it directly with	13 14 15 16 17	senior colleagues without telling them. But if you listen to the bit that is inadvertently recorded in the car, and you listen to how Mr McGrail explains to Mr Richardson the events in my office and how he dissembles
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14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	the person lying and the person being lied to in this scenario, you were the person who was triggering a process by which he would ultimately lose his job. You still did not think that you should raise it directly with him before triggering that process? A. The process actually provides for him to be able to have the protection of statute in advancing his position in that respect. Instead of advancing a position which set out that he might have inadvertently misled me or that he had not intended to say that, what	13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	senior colleagues without telling them. But if you listen to the bit that is inadvertently recorded in the car, and you listen to how Mr McGrail explains to Mr Richardson the events in my office and how he dissembles and uhms and ahs, I think it is very clear that my recollection of what happened there is what is correct, and that Mr McGrail's recollection is self-servingly designed to try and get him off the hook after the lie that he told me. Q. Mr Picardo, I did not want to interrupt

1 things, but just to be abundantly clear about 1 Michael and Lewis Baglietto and that aspect 2 2 this, you said you were not for smoothing of the communication was being played out 3 3 were not for smoothing over. Did the between them. There may have been one or 4 Attorney General actually raise that with 4 two calls between Michael and me, and I you? 5 5 think there are some WhatsApps later on as 6 A. I think he did. I think he said: look, Ian 6 the action turns --7 7 Q. Yes. McGrail says this. But, you see, what Ian 8 8 McGrail was saying was not credible to me. A. -- into the next stage of this. 9 9 It was further doubling-down on how to get Q. We will get to those. But in terms of this 10 10 round me with the sly. This wasn't: I'm meeting, did you communicate your loss of 11 sorry. It should not have happened. I 11 confidence in Mr McGrail to the Attorney 12 12 mischaracterized it. Let's sit down and talk General in the aftermath of that meeting? 13 about it. This was: no, no, no. I did not 13 A. I don't know whether I would have 14 14 mislead you. I did not lie to you, an expressed it in that way to the Attorney 15 15 General in the immediate aftermath of that insistence in that respect, which I did not 16 believe was genuine, and given what I have 16 meeting, but at some stage I will have 17 17 seen subsequently, I am reinforced in that expressed it to him in that way, just has I had 18 18 expressed it in that way to Dr Britto, to the view. 19 19 Q. What further contact did you have with then acting Governor, to other individuals as 20 20 the Attorney General following that well, and we can come to all that. But at 21 21 WhatsApp exchange on 12 May about the some stage I would have expressed my views 22 DPP's advice on these matters? 22 23 23 A. Is there more in writing? Have I deposed Q. But you are not able to assist with when 24 to some element of it? 24 that was? 25 25 Q. I don't think there is, which is why I am A. If there isn't a documentary piece of Page 221 Page 223 1 asking you. There are-- We can see the 1 evidence, we would have to put that together 2 2 message on B1417. We can see that there is from what might have been happening at the 3 3 a message at 6.42 where the Attorney time. 4 4 General forwards to you a message he has THE CHAIRMAN: I think now is probably 5 5 received from Mr McGrail: "We both are a good time for a break. We are anticipating 6 6 disappointed but I just can't leave the matter a late sitting tonight, so probably we would 7 7 as it is. I would like to meet face to face. 8 8 We have to work together and your wrong MR SANTOS: Yes. I was going to say that 9 9 impressions about me need clearing up." So, I probably - I think I probably need about - I 10 there Mr McGrail is attempting to meet with 10 am probably about three hours from 11 11 Mr Llamas, and of course they meet on the finishing. So I am not suggesting that I 12 following day. We can see that that was sent 12 finish today. 13 13 THE CHAIRMAN: We will need to sit late to you but we do not know anything else 14 14 about your contact with the Attorney General for you to finish in a reasonable time 15 15 tomorrow to allow everybody else---on this issue on the 12 May meeting and the 16 fall out from that in the following days. 16 MR SANTOS: Precisely. I would not want 17 What contact was there? 17 to go much more than 45 minutes tomorrow 18 18 A. I don't know that there was much more morning. 19 19 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. contact. Michael was pursuing a lot of 20 20 MR SANTOS: So, I may seek your meetings with the police, a record of which 21 21 indulgence and the witness's indulgence. has been provided by way of transcript, I 22 think, as a result of the unethical and 22 THE CHAIRMAN: We will have the first 23 23 improper recording that occurred. There short afternoon break now. 24 might have been some contact with me, but I 24 MR SANTOS: Thank you. 25 25 think it was all turning into contact between (A short break) Page 222 Page 224

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1 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. 1 that one that you refer to in May 2019? 2 2 MR SANTOS: Yes, thank you. We have, as A. Yes. 3 3 I said, received your WhatsApp exchanges Q. Is there a reason why we do not have any 4 with Mr Levy on Saturday. The last 4 more? Are you able to say why we don't 5 exchange you disclosed is dated 2 May 2019. 5 have any more recent WhatsApp messages 6 Do you know why it is that they do not go 6 than that? 7 7 beyond that date? A. Well, no more recent WhatsApp 8 8 A. You are referring to the ones on Saturday. messages which are relevant. 9 9 I think there were other WhatsApp Q. Yes, but I am working on the assumption, 10 10 exchanges which are exhibited to my which I think is a fair, safe assumption that 11 criminal statement etcetera. 11 there would be some relevant WhatsApp 12 12 Q. I think those are within the same time communications around the time? 13 period. I don't think we have anything after 13 A. No, there was a lot of discussion around 14 May 2019 and I just wanted to ask you why 14 the time and therefore a lot of con versations 15 we do not have anything after that date? 15 around the time, not necessarily so much 16 A. I'm not sure. Are we able to see the 16 WhatsApping going on around the time, in 17 17 disclosure? particular with Mr Levy. 18 18 Q. Yes. C7022? Q. There is a reference, for example, to you 19 19 A. That is in the -having sent something to Mr Levy? 20 20 Q. It should be in the non-witness statement-A. Yes. 21 - I think you have got it there. Is that open 21 Q. And that is the kind of thing that I would 22 in front of you? 22 have expected perhaps to see? 23 23 A. This one? A. Yes, but that thing which I sent I think 24 O. That one. 7022? 24 was the HMIC report, which I assume I 25 25 A. Yes. That is the one that was disclosed probably sent by hand, highlighted. Page 225 Page 227 1 over the weekend. 1 Q. Is your position that you have WhatsApp 2 Q. Yes. Are you asking to see the one that is 2 messages right up to date with Mr Levy? Do 3 3 disclosed to you -they end at a particular date? 4 4 A. Well, James Levy had different phones at A. Yes. 5 5 Q. -- criminal witness statement. I think that different times, and therefore I was 6 6 is B1 - something like B112. 1130. 1120 is exchanging messages with him on those 7 the witness statement itself. Perhaps we will 7 different phones, and I have given access to 8 8 find those and in the meantime I will move my team so that they can look for all of the 9 9 on to something else. You explain in your messages which relate to my 10 fourth witness statement that you made all 10 communications with James Levy at that 11 11 reasonable efforts to retrieve messages. time on those phones. So, you have 12 What did those reasonable efforts consist of? 12 everything that I have. I think he's explained 13 13 A. Well, reviewing all of the information that he's changed phones on a number of 14 14 that I have on my phone; making that occasions. It's also true that Mr Levy - I don't 15 15 accessible to individuals in my office and the know whether he will enjoy me saying this -16 16 but a man in his mid-70s. I do talk to him a office of my legal advisers so that they could 17 review the electronic devices as well, in 17 lot more than I WhatsApp him. 18 18 Q. Do you have any WhatsApp messages order to try and extract messages relating to 19 19 with Mr Levy from May 2020? that time and in relation to this subject. 20 20 Q. If we look at 1204, I think that may be A. Whatever I have with Mr Levy has been 21 the one that you are-- You may not have this 21 exhibited to the witness statement etcetera in 22 22 one in front of you but it will certainly appear these proceedings and has been gone through 23 23 on screen. B1204. I think is the exchange by my office and my solicitors' office. 24 that was provided to the police, but that is 24 Q. That is in terms of relevant messages? 25 dated September 2018. The latest we have is 25 A. Yes. Page 226 Page 228

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1 1 Q. But do you have any messages at all with some wav. 2 Mr Levy in May --2 Q. In paragraph 11 of your statement - I 3 3 A. Ah, I don't know. I would have to look. think it is the same one you have open in 4 4 Yes, I would have to go back and look. I front of you, page A234? 5 5 A. Yes, I have it. mean, the exercise has been done in relation 6 Q. This is in response to questions by the 6 to things which are relevant to these 7 7 Inquiry as to your contact with Mr Levy on proceedings. 8 8 the warrants, you say: "My frequent Q. Can we go to A234, please? This is your 9 9 third statement, paragraph 9. You say there: conversations with Mr Levy KC about the 10 10 "9. The evidence before the Inquiry, in search warrants were mostly telephonic and, 11 particular..." Sorry, let me just make sure 11 as I have already said, there is no record 12 12 beyond those already disclosed. There is no that you have that. A234? 13 13 A. Yes. breakdown of the number or dates or times of 14 14 Q. "The evidence before the Inquiry, in these conversations, as there were and still 15 15 particular retired Superintendent Richardson are many of them. There were no meetings 16 in his third statement, demonstrates that 16 in my office such as may have resulted in a 17 note of it." Does that not mean that there 17 superintendent Richardson agreed that Mr 18 18 were meetings with Mr Levy which did not Levy KC's status as a suspect was borderline, 19 19 result in a note? Sorry, does that mean - that especially in the view of the DPP. 20 last sentence --20 Additionally, the statement discloses that no 21 A. No. That means that I haven't had 21 careful consideration appears to have been 22 22 given to whether the threshold for obtaining a meetings with James Levy in my office at 23 23 No. 6 Convent Place about the search Search Warrant instead do f a Production 24 24 Order had been met." When you expressed a warrants. 25 Q. You say "There were no meetings in my 25 view on the warrant, is it correct to say that Page 229 Page 231 1 you were told about the warrant in 1 office such as may have resulted in a note of 2 confidence by Mr McGrail? 2 it."? 3 3 A. I haven't seen anything anywhere to A. Yes. In other words, no meetings have 4 4 suggest that I was ever told anything by Mr been held to discuss the search warrant 5 5 McGrail in confidence in respect of this between me and James Levey in No. 6 6 6 Covent Place in order to, you know, sit matter. 7 Q. Was your interpretation then --7 down, discuss these issues, make a not of 8 8 A. He told me the opposite. If you look at them etcetera. These have been principally 9 9 his message to me, he said: I'm telling you telephonic conversations between me and Mr 10 before you find out from other people. So, it 10 Levy. I don't see Mr Levy that often. I talk 11 11 is hardly something that he is saying he is to him very often, as you know. At that time 12 telling me in confidence; quite the opposite, I 12 I did see him on occasions, but principally I 13 13 would be speaking to him on the phone. would suggest. 14 14 A. You say "principally" and we know about Q. Are you saying that you felt at liberty to 15 15 share that with whoever you pleased, that a meeting that took place at your home on 17 16 16 information? May? 17 A. What information? 17 A. Yes, on a Sunday. 18 18 Q. The information that he provided you in Q. Is your evidence that there were no 19 19 meetings in your office at all with Mr Levy 20 20 A. Absolutely. That was by no stretch of the in No. 6 where you discussed the search 21 21 warrants? imagination confidential information. "We 22 22 are executing a warrant at Hassans. I'm A. It is my evidence that there were no 23 23 telling you before other people find out." I meetings in my office, No. 6 Convent Place, 24 can't see how that was in any way suggested 24 with Mr Levy to discuss the search warrants. 25 25 to be under the cloak of confidentiality in I have had many meetings with Mr Levy in Page 230 Page 232

1 that office thereafter, usually when he is 1 was why that meeting was not mentioned in 2 introducing clients to Gibraltar who want to 2 this witness statement? 3 use Gibraltar as a jurisdiction, etcetera, or 3 A. Because it was one of those conversations 4 indeed other matters in which he may be 4 of which there were and are still many. It 5 5 representing third parties, as I see him and I was one of the "were". 6 6 see many others. He may in passing have Q. The preceding sentence says "My 7 7 mentioned issues relating to the search frequent conversations with Mr Levy KC 8 8 about the search warrants were mostly warrant at those meetings in passing, literally 9 9 whilst we are standing up and he is going to telephone." 10 10 the door and I am going to the door to say A. Mostly; not exclusively. 11 goodbye or say hello, but we held no 11 Q. So, your position is that the Inquiry 12 12 meetings at 6 Convent Place about the search should have deduced from that that in fact 13 warrants 13 there was at least one meeting, telephonic --14 Q. We have --14 A. Why do you say "deduced"? 15 A. I am not telling you because I remember 15 Q. Because there is no express reference to a 16 that. I am telling you because it would be 16 meeting in that paragraph. 17 17 untrue for me to assert the contrary. In other A. There is no express exclusion of it either. 18 18 words, it is very likely that he has mentioned If somebody says that something is mostly 19 19 it when I have been there with him, and he telephonic, it therefore necessarily - some 20 20 has been going or arriving etcetera etcetera. are not telephonic. They are in person. 21 Q. I have just referred to the meeting of 17 21 SIR PETER CARUANA: (Inaudible due to 22 May at your home. Why was that meeting 22 no microphone) WhatsApps, revealing the 23 23 not referred to in this affidavit dated 15 existence of this meeting where exhibited to 24 November 2023? 24 the RGP witness statements which were 25 25 A. Because it fits within exactly what exhibited to - these exchanges to -Page 233 Page 235 1 paragraph 11 sets out. It's not a meeting in 1 MR SANTOS: I do not know if RGP - if 2 my office. There is no record of it and there's 2 this statement - what RGP witness - Yes, 3 3 no breakdown of those meetings. That is one well, perhaps that is something that can be 4 4 of the meetings that occurred, but there's clarified. 5 5 nothing contrary to what is set out there SIR PETER CARUANA: (Inaudible) 6 about the fact that that meeting happened. In 6 MR SANTOS: Yes. We will get to those. 7 fact, paragraph 11 actually sets out that 7 (To the witness) In paragraphs 12 and 14 you 8 8 meetings did happen. say: "I recall (because the date is noteworthy 9 9 Q. Where is it that you say that paragraph by virtue of these events) that I spoke to Mr 10 11 sets out that meetings did happen? 10 Levy on the telephone on 12th of May. I do 11 11 A. "[T]here is no record beyond those not recall the time at which I spoke to him. I 12 already disclosed" because there is no record 12 expressed to Mr Levy my consternation at 13 13 of that meeting, as you know. There is no how the Police had acted in executing a 14 14 breakdown of the numbers or dates of these Search Warrant at his home. I do not recall 15 15 conversations as there were and are still the precise method by which we spoke. I 16 16 many, and this was not a meeting in my may have been able to reach him on his home 17 office and therefore it does not come within 17 number ... or on the office number (...) as Mr 18 the definition of the last sentence of 18 Levy KC has an office extension at his 19 19 paragraph 11. home." Just jumping over 13, you refer to 20 20 Q. But there is no specific express mention Gibtelecom having provided records and you 21 of that meeting on 17 May in that paragraph, 21 said: "Gibtelecom have provided me with 22 Mr Picardo? 22 their log record of my outgoing mobile 23 A. No, there isn't but that paragraph does not 23 telephone traffic on that day. I can confirm 24 exclude events like the events of 17 May. 24 that none were to James Levy, nor were there 25 Q. That was not my question. My question 25 any calls during the period 12:20 to 13:00 Page 234 Page 236

1 hrs. In so far as concerns incoming calls, I 1 other. I know it happened, but I cannot say it 2 2 am advised by my private secretary that happened before or it happened afterwards. I 3 3 Gibtelecom has informed him that they have mean, I understand the consequence, and I 4 no such information available to provide 4 wish I could recall, but I really cannot. 5 because this has long-since been deleted by 5 Q. What, to your recollection, was said on 6 them in consequence of their data retention 6 that call? 7 7 policy in accordance with their obligations A. Well, James was really a combination of 8 under the Data Protection Act. I am however 8 incensed and depressed about what was 9 9 entirely content to confirm, as I have done happening. Yeah, it really was a - you 10 10 above, that such calls occurred." When you know, how can they think that I would not 11 say "such calls occurred", are you referring to 11 give them evidence if they sought to get it 12 during the period 12: 20 to 13:00 hours or 12 properly? How can they believe that I would 13 during the whole of 12 May? 13 be involved in anything that's untoward? I 14 A. During the whole of the 12 May but it is 14 think it was laced with "just because we are 15 very likely that there may have been a call 15 seeking to compete with Blands; this is not 16 round that time. 16 fair". The language that I saw reported the 17 Q. The question - the follow-up question 17 other day is language that James has been 18 really is you receive a message from Mr 18 repeating for many years now, that this 19 McGrail at 12: 25 I believe, and you say that 19 investigation is fundamentally flawed. You 20 you meet him before 1 o'clock, certainly 20 know, all of that was coming out at the time. 21 before 1 o'clock, possibly earlier. From your 21 But laced less with anger and more with 22 recollection, did you speak to Mr Levy 22 frustration at the process that had been 23 before you met with Mr McGrail or 23 followed by the RGP and the unfairness of it. 24 afterwards? 24 I wouldn't say he was despondent, but he was 25 A. It's impossible for me to give truthful 25 close to that. Page 237 Page 239 1 evidence there because I just cannot tell you 1 Q. Did you discuss potential legal steps at 2 what happened first. I'm afraid it's 2 that stage? 3 3 impossible for me to tell you which happened A. Did we discuss potential legal steps? 4 4 first. And without a call log that might help Perhaps I said, you know, you've got to 5 5 us or a WhatsApp that might help us, it's just challenge this CO. It won't stand. You 6 6 know, if you put this through the ringer you'll impossible. 7 Q. Mr Levy's evidence was that he 7 be able to show that it's been improperly 8 8 telephoned you as he walked from his home obtained. I'm sure that they will never be 9 9 to Hassans office in Midtown and based on able to justify a suggestion that you would 10 the day books which we have from the 10 destroy evidence, etcetera. 11 11 officers who attended Midtown, it looks like Q. Did you communicate to Mr Levy your 12 that must have been at around ten past 1.00? 12 loss of confidence in Mr McGrail at that 13 13 A. So that would be after I spoke to Ian point? 14 14 A. No. McGrail. 15 15 Q. But this is --Q. Did you discuss Mr McGrail's position as 16 16 CoP, as Commission of Police at that point? A. (Inaudible due to over-speaking) 17 Q. I do not want to put anything into your 17 A. Not at all. If you will allow me to 18 18 mouth. I just want to say - I want to give you characterize it in this way: I hadn't discussed 19 19 the opportunity to say whether you recall that that with myself vet. 20 20 it was before or after the meeting, but you are Q. Your evidence in paragraph 13 is that you 21 21 also recall speaking to Mr Levy about not able to say? 22 22 A. Mr Chairman, I am very keen to ensure reopening places of worship after lockdown. 23 23 that I only tell you things which I know are Mr McGrail says that he recalls you making 24 true, and on this I cannot give you evidence 24 reference to that during the course of the 25 25 where I can confidently say one thing or the meeting, which would suggest that the call Page 238 Page 240

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took place before the meeting with Mr 1 A. But you have asked me the question 2 2 McGrail, but do you recall whether your call about whether or not I have concerns. So, I 3 3 with Mr Levy about places of worship was mean I am very happy for you to break down 4 before or after that meeting? 4 the question if you like, or I will break it 5 A. So, as I think I have said before, I 5 down. 6 remember the meeting with Ian McGrail 6 Q. Did you take your Chief Minister's hat off 7 7 vividly, as if it were yesterday; I can relive it in order to make that call? 8 8 like a film in my had. But I cannot recall A. I don't think it is a hat that you can take 9 9 when this call with James Levy happened. on and off. You are a Chief Minister all of 10 10 That's part of the morass of memory of that the time. You are a friend all of the time. 11 day or days. I know it's been suggested that 11 You are a potential victim and complainant 12 12 perhaps that was on the day before or on the all of the time, until you are not. So, did any 13 day after. I'm clear that I was talking to 13 of those exclude me from speaking with 14 14 James Levy, and was I made privy to James about those things at the time, as well 15 as talking to him about these things. So, the 15 confidential information given to me on the 16 Pandemic and its after-effects was living in 16 basis that it was confidential information that 17 17 my relationship with James Levy at that time I could not share with James Levy? The 18 18 answer to all of those questions is: no. You alongside these issues that we were also 19 19 discussing. might say it is prudent or less prudent for an 20 20 Q. Do you recall mentioning in the meeting elective official to speak to an individual who 21 to Mr McGrail that you had been discussing 21 might be the subject of a police investigation, 22 places of worship with Mr Levy? 22 and it might or might not have negative 23 23 A. If Mr McGrail has said that I said that, I political consequences for the individual 24 have no reason to think that I might not. He 24 holding that political office who has that 25 25 might have a much better record of that conversation, in the view of the public. But Page 241 Page 243 1 meeting that I do. 1 it is certainly not improper, because the 2 2 Q. If we look at paragraph 17, you say: police, as we are at pains to point out, and I 3 3 "Finally, I wish to say that I do not share Mr think all parties agree in the context of this 4 4 McGrail's exaggerated and self-serving view Inquiry, is separate to the Government. So, 5 5 and descriptions of my having spoken and therefore, the fact that the police are 6 6 expressed by views to Mr Levy ... on the day investigating someone does not mean that a 7 the search Warrant had been executed in his 7 member of the government cannot talk to that 8 8 home. I do not consider that it was person. Indeed, even after a person has been 9 9 'inappropriate behaviour' to do so. To the charged, a member of the government can 10 10 contrary, I believed and continue to believe continue to talk to that person and have a 11 11 that it was entirely proper, natural and relationship with that person. The two are 12 appropriate, not least given my very close 12 not mutually exclusive because the 13 13 friendship and relationship with him. The government, qua the political government is 14 14 high office that I held (and continue to hold) not the prosecuting authority and it is not the 15 15 does not disqualify me from doing so, still investigating authority, and it has no conflict 16 16 less does it required me to engage in an in speaking to a person who may be the 17 17 subject of prosecution or investigation. unnatural omission to do so to avoid the 18 18 speculative and reckless suspicions of Mr Q. In this position, it was the complainant, 19 19 McGrail or anyone else." Do you consider though? 20 20 that you have no concerns, therefore, about A. It was a potential complainant. 21 21 contacting a suspect in a live criminal Remember that what I had said to Ian 22 22 investigation? McGrail on 19th - in May 19, was the 23 23 A. In what capacity? As Chief Minister? government would be a complainant if he 24 Q. Well, I think it is better if you tell the 24 could be shown evidence that there was 25 25 Inquiry in what capacity you contacted him? misconduct in public office or corruption. Page 242 Page 244

1 Q. The government was not a complainant at 1 and I cannot recall whether it would have 2 2 been on the 13th or the 14th, but his memory that stage. 3 3 is probably better than mine because he's A. Certainly not at that stage. 4 Q. If we go to B142 --4 probably had many less meetings and issues 5 A. In fact, I believe that there was a police 5 in the time between. But this reference, I 6 6 press release at the time had suggested that think it very likely a reference to a telephonic 7 7 the government was a complainant, to which communication, which doesn't exclude the 8 8 the government took great umbrage and we fact that there was potentially likely also an 9 9 sought that it be withdrawn. in-person communication. The nature of 10 10 Q. If we go to B1422 please, this is a "Can you talk - give me 5" is not that they 11 message exchange between you and Mr 11 are waiting outside or that they are going to 12 Baglietto, Hassans. Mr Baglietto messages 12 pitch up in 5. 13 you at 12: 36 asking whether you can talk, 13 Q. Do you recall at least one meeting with 14 and then there is a further message at ten to 14 Mr Baglietto and Mr Levy on this topic? 15 4.00? 15 A. Moshe Levy? 16 A. Sorry, at 12:36? 16 Q. Yes, sorry, Moshe Levy? 17 17 Q. Yes. Sorry, it is towards the top of page THE CHAIRMAN: It would be very 18 18 B1422, the third paragraph? memorable, would it not, speaking to the son 19 19 A. "Can you talk?" Yes. of the suspect? 20 20 Q. There are two messages: "Can you talk." A. Yes. I mean, the difficulty is that he has 21 "Give me five", you say. He says: "OK" It 21 represented me on a number of matters, and 22 looks like there was a conversation at around 22 Lewis has led him on a number of occasions. 23 23 4 p.m. on that occasion. What was discussed So, I am trying to see whether I can distil in 24 during that call? 24 my mind a meeting with Lewis and Moshe 25 25 A. Well, I think we probably discussed that related to this around that time. I haven't Page 245 Page 247 1 exactly what you imagine we discussed 1 seen Moshe's witness statement. If you show 2 2 which was the disgraceful way in which the it to me, it might job my memory. 3 3 police had abused their powers in seeking to MR SANTOS: I think that is a good idea. I 4 4 obtain a search warrant when a production think it should be on the screen now, and I 5 5 order should have been pursued, which was want to focus on paragraphs 8 and 9. 6 6 my view. It was (inaudible) view, and it THE CHAIRMAN: This is a very recent 7 7 would have been the view of many of us who statement, is it not? 8 8 were partners of Hassans, who were friends MR SANTOS: Yes. We received it this 9 9 of James Levy and who had concerns about morning. 10 Gibraltar's reputation. 10 SIR PETER CARUANA: (Inaudible) 11 11 MR SANTOS: I think we received it --Q. Did that conversation take place over the 12 phone or in person 12 SIR PETER CARUANA: It was disclosed at 13 13 A. If Lewis says: "Can you talk?" It's very 8 minutes to 10.00. 14 14 likely that we're doing a telephone MR SANTOS: Yes. We received it at 9.27 15 15 conversation at that stage. a.m., this morning, so about 25 minutes 16 16 earlier than that. (To the witness) Just Q. I ask you because we have received this 17 morning an affidavit from Mr Moshe Levy, 17 focusing on paragraphs 8 and 9-- Sorry, if 18 18 we can just go up to 8. "However, I can Mr Levy's son, and he has given evidence 19 19 that he attended No. 6 with Mr Levy to meet confirm that I met with Mr Picardo and Mr 20 20 you at some point between 12th and 14th May. Baglietto at the beginning of the relevant 21 21 Do you recall that meeting with Baglietto and time period. I believe it was between 12 to 22 Mr Levy? 22 14 May 2020. I can find no record or entry 23 23 A. Not necessarily, no. I don't. I mean I in my diary of this meeting or any note or 24 remember a number of meetings with Moshe 24 email with a record of this meeting. From 25 25 and Lewis, not necessarily on this subject, memory I recall Mr Baglietto telling me that

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1 the meeting had been arranged with Mr 1 Levy's recollection should be preferred. 2 2 Picardo at No. 6 Convent Place. I can (15.56)3 3 remember it attending that meeting. I cannot Q. Mr Picardo, I recognise the difficulty that 4 remember if anyone else was there. I do not 4 it places you in seeing this for the first time 5 5 in your position, but as I say, I can assure remember it being a particularly long 6 6 you we received this at 9.27 this morning, meeting. I do not now recall how the 7 7 and so this is the first time I am seeing it as meeting was arranged or for what specific 8 8 purpose, but I do recall that the topic of the well, quite frankly. 9 9 meeting was a search warrant. I have no A. I appreciate that. Mr Chairman, if this 10 10 recollection or record of what was exactly jogs my memory in any way overnight, if I 11 discussed, but I remember two things that Mr 11 recall anything, I will make sure that I ask for 12 Picardo said at that meeting. The first was a 12 the opportunity to set that out. 13 comment that he made on the fact that if the 13 Q. Thank you. 14 RGP could treat a leading silk in this way, 14 A. Certainly, those words, "treating the less 15 how had they been treating less prominent 15 prominent members of the general 16 members of the general population or words 16 population" - that rings a bell with me. 17 17 to that effect." Do you recall saying THE CHAIRMAN: That is the sort of thing 18 18 something to that effect to Mr -you might have said? 19 19 A. That's definitely the thing I was saying to A. It was the tenor of what I was thinking 20 20 and I believe I-- I do believe I said that to Mr Lewis and to others. 21 Baglietto and to others, and if Moshe was 21 MR SANTOS: Were you in communication 22 there, then his is a good recollection of that. 22 with the Attorney General as to Hassans' 23 23 letters to him, to the RGP and the Q. "Second, I remember him saying 24 something about this was not the only issue 24 magistrates' court. 25 25 that he had with Mr McGrail. I do not A. Not in detail but I was aware of them, not Page 249 Page 251 1 remember him elaborating on what these 1 least from Lewis. 2 issues were. I do not think that he did. I 2 Q. Did he or Mr Baglietto keep you abreast 3 3 cannot remember the words that he used of their communications and meetings with 4 4 each other? only that this was the overall effect he 5 5 conveyed."? A. Not in detail, but I was aware they were 6 6 A. Yes, which suggests to me that it is very happening and I was aware of some of what 7 likely that that meeting might have happened 7 was being said there, but not from Michael, 8 8 on 14 May, because by then that morning I not from Lewis. 9 9 remember sitting down to start the day's Q. Did you direct the Attorney General in 10 work and to go through the international 10 any way as to his conduct at the meetings 11 11 references to Gibraltar and the international with Mr McGrail and the RGP? 12 media, and on seeing the falle fasota(?) 12 A. I wouldn't dare. I know Michael very, 13 13 reference, I believe I was talking about other very well but we know when our respective 14 14 things and it's very likely that it happened not roles are and he wouldn't dare to direct me 15 15 on the 12th - the 13th, but on the -and I wouldn't dare to direct him. 16 16 Q. On the 14th? Q. If we go to C3517, this is a document 17 A. - on the 14th or thereafter. But this is a 17 entitled Voluntary Attendance for Police 18 18 record that I have only seen now and you Interview under Caution dated 12 May 2020 19 19 know I have no specific memory of it, but which was handed to Mr Levy at Hassans' 20 20 certainly that bit about treating less common offices when the RGP attended. Do you 21 21 members of the general public rings true with recognise ever having seen this document 22 my attitude at the time, and so I would 22 previously? 23 suggest that this is the recollection that 23 A. No, I don't remember having seen this 24 should be preferred; Mr Moshe Levy's 24 document. 25 25 Q. If we look on the second page, item 9 recollection should be preferred. Mr Moshe Page 250 Page 252

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1 1 measure, etc. etc." That is an extract from savs -2 2 THE CHAIRMAN: I think you may not the Police Disciplinary Regulations 1991. 3 3 have the second page, but it will be on the A. Yes. 4 4 Q. And in fact it is the most severe penalty 5 MR SANTOS: Apologies, yes. I am only 5 of the eight penalties open to a disciplinary 6 board set out in schedule 2 to the regulations. 6 going to show you one line, item 9: 7 7 Why were you sending this to Mr Baglietto? "Communication with the Chief Minister in 8 relation to any of the above." That is a list of 8 A. Mr Baglietto was aware that Mr Levy's 9 9 topic areas which the RGP say that they will view which he had shared widely with me, I 10 10 be seeking to explore in a formal interview think, during the course of that day, was that 11 under caution. If you cannot remember this -11 Mr Richardson - and I say Mr Richardson 12 what I want to ask you is whether you were 12 because I don't know his rank off the top of 13 aware of the inclusion of that item on that list 13 my head -Q. Superintendent at the time. 14 14 by the RGP at the time. 15 15 THE CHAIRMAN: At number nine? A. So, Superintendent Richardson was 16 MR SANTOS: At number nine. 16 acting out of bad faith and because he had 17 17 A. Perhaps I was from discussions with Mr secured future employment with Bland 18 18 Limited, the terms of which were very, very Levy but I can't remember seeing this 19 19 document in this form. generous and that he was doing everything 20 20 Q. This document was sent by Mr Baglietto that he was doing in his capacity as a 21 to the Attorney General on the evening of 12 21 member of Royal Gibraltar Police Force 22 May 2020 and the Attorney General then 22 induced to do so by Mr Gaggero of Bland's. 23 23 intervened on 13 May - sorry, let me correct I took the view that that was nonsensical, that 24 my language. The Attorney General, during 24 there was nothing to support that suggestion 25 25 the course of his meeting on 13 May, with but James had got it into his head that that Page 253 Page 255 1 Mr McGrail, referred to item 9 and requested 1 was the case and what I was referring Lewis 2 that that be removed, and what I was seeking 2 to was the fact that if it subsequently became 3 3 to establish is whether that was on the basis apparent that in fact everything that we had 4 4 of a discussion that he had had with you seen play out on the morning of 12 May 5 5 about that item or whether you were aware of turned out to be because James was right and 6 6 that item. Superintendent Richardson left the Royal 7 A. I would have no difficulty whatsoever in 7 Gibraltar Police to take up lucrative 8 8 having all my communications with Mr Levy employment with Bland Limited, which I did 9 9 in respect of these matters provided. In fact, not believe was the case, then there could be 10 when I called the inquiry, I was very clear 10 a case of that being misconduct in public 11 11 that everybody's communications with office. It would be very severe. It could lead 12 everybody else were going to be called in for 12 to serious loss of confidence in the police 13 13 force and there could be a very strict sanction everyone to look at. 14 14 Q. If we go back to B1422, on 14 May at applied. This reference had absolutely 15 15 4.55 - sorry, 1422. On 14 May at 4.55 there nothing to do with Mr McGrail. This was all 16 16 is a message from you to Mr Baglietto which about James's theory about Paul Richardson 17 says: "The last limb refers". Now, it may be 17 and what the remedy might be if there were 18 18 that this was on the back of the meeting with any scintilla of truth to that, which I did not 19 19 Mr Baglietto and Mr Levy or may have been believe was the case. 20 20 sent beforehand, but anyway, I just want to Q. Why is none of that explanation included 21 21 ask you about this message exchange. "The in any of the four statements that you have 22 22 last limb refers", and then you say, provided to this inquiry? 23 23 "Dismissal with total loss or reduction of A. Nobody has asked me to provide an 24 pension, benefits, forfeiture of pension 24 explanation about that particular paragraph. 25 25 benefits, will be used as a disciplinary Q. But Mr Picardo, the inquiry asked you to Page 254 Page 256

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1 provide evidence as to your discussions with 1 regulations. 2 Mr Levy about the search warrant. 2 Q. This is not governed by the regulations. 3 3 A. But not about Mr - but about Mr McGrail A. Exactly. 4 4 and the circumstances leading up to his Q. The next message some 18 minutes later 5 5 after Mr Baglietto thanks you - actually, just retirement. 6 THE CHAIRMAN: So, this followed on a 6 to be clear, there is a gap between you 7 7 conversation that you had had with Mr sending that and Mr Baglietto thanking you 8 8 Baglietto about Mr Richardson being of about an hour and a half but then you then 9 9 employed by Gaggero's? send him section 76 of the Police Act, which 10 10 A. With Mr Levy and subsequently with Mr is the power to make orders with respect to 11 Baglietto about Mr Levy's theory which I did 11 property in possession of the police. 12 12 not share, and I believed was not credible effectively, a provision that permits an 13 that Mr Richardson had obtained lucrative 13 application to be made to the magistrates' 14 employment with Bland Limited. 14 court to seek the return of something that had 15 THE CHAIRMAN: You see, Mr Baglietto 15 been taken including, for example, in a 16 has given evidence about this exchange as 16 search warrant. Were you proposing that 17 17 well and he does not - he has said nothing procedure for the return of Mr Levy's phone? 18 18 A. Well, as far as I am concerned, this is the about this. 19 19 A. He might not recall it. I recall it like most basic reference in the Police Act, the 20 20 night follows day that this was about Paul return of property that is in the hands of the 21 Richardson because look, there are many 21 police. In my practice, when I was a young 22 things which I would criticise about the 22 lawyer and I used to have to make 23 23 police action in this case. I did not buy into applications to the magistrates' court for the 24 the theory that Paul Richardson had obtained 24 return of property in the hands of the police, 25 25 lucrative employment with Bland and was this was the section that you would rely on Page 257 Page 259 1 acting because he was persuaded by Bland 1 under the old Act. I think this is now the 2 Limited to act in that way. I did not buy into 2 new Act, so making a reference to this was 3 3 that but I was very clear that if that had been simply referring to Mr Baglietto, the part of 4 4 the case and it was all improper conduct, then the statute which provides for the return of 5 5 there was a remedy that was available. property in the control of the police. 6 6 Q. But if you did not buy into it, why were Q. Was that a proposal in relation to Mr 7 you the one who was making proposals as to 7 Levy's phone? 8 8 disciplinary penalties? A. It's very likely a proposal in respect of Mr 9 9 A. I didn't make a proposal. I set out what Levy's phone, yes. This is the section that 10 could happen in the event that it were true. 10 you would use to try and get the police to 11 11 Q. Did you think it was appropriate for the return property that they have. 12 Chief Minister to be getting involved in 12 Q. Should you, as Chief Minister, have been 13 13 police disciplinary matters? proposing legal claims against the police? 14 14 A. I wasn't getting involved in a police A. This is not a legal claim against the 15 disciplinary matter. There has been no police 15 police. This is a claim for the police to return 16 16 disciplinary matter. This is the Chief that which they hold which belongs to you. 17 Minister referring to a section of the Police 17 Q. An application, a legal application? 18 18 Disciplinary Regulations. No such A. An application, not a legal claim. 19 19 disciplinary matter has been commenced Q. Should you, as Chief Minister, have been 20 20 because, as I told you, the circumstances proposing legal applications against the police? 21 21 which I thought were fanciful did not turn 22 out to be true and I was correct to think that 22 A. Well, I as Chief Minister am not the 23 23 they were not true. This could not be about police; I am not the investigating authority 24 Mr McGrail, as you know, because Mr 24 and I am not the prosecuting authority and I 25 25 McGrail's pension is not subject to the think I am free to share my view as to the law Page 258 Page 260

1 of Gibraltar with any third party that I 1 achieve that for their clients in a way that 2 consider appropriate in particular given my 2 reduces costs and obviates aggravation. 3 jurisdictional concerns about the effect of the 3 Q. If you go to C38 -4 search warrant which I've already shared 4 A. I don't see that there is anything improper 5 5 with you. 6 6 Q. If we go to C 3802, please, this is a letter Q. If Hassans commenced the procedure, it 7 7 could have resulted in the RGP incurring from Hassans to the Attorney General. 8 8 costs. Were you not concerned about these A. Sorry, hang on. Give me a second. 9 9 costs as Minister of Finance? Q. Yes. C 3802, yes? This is a letter from 10 10 A. Not only was I concerned, I referred to Hassans to the Attorney General on 15 May 11 them - I referred them to Mr McGrail in the 11 2020 and the final line there says, "There can 12 context of the meeting of 12 May and then he 12 be little surprise that as we believe is the 13 has referred to them as what he says is the 13 case, the DPP advised the Commissioner 14 14 against the making of these applications." threat that I made against him and I say is the 15 15 This is consistent with the Attorney General's reference to the almost automatic reality that 16 unless this was resolved in another way, it 16 text to you that we saw earlier on which 17 17 would lead to applications which would lead wrongly stated that the DPP had advised 18 to costs and potentially to damages as they 18 against the applications. Did you pass that 19 19 have in the case of R & Verralls v the RGP. information on to Hassans? 20 20 Q. Was there not a conflict between you on A. Did I refer that to Hassans? I very likely 21 the one hand proposing an application 21 did. I probably told James Levy as soon as I 22 against the police, and on the other hand 22 was told myself. I probably wouldn't just tell 23 23 having to foot the bill of any such application James Levy and I probably wouldn't just tell 24 as Minister of Finance? 24 Lewis Baglietto and Moshe Levy. I probably 25 25 A. I don't think I would describe that as a told everyone who talked to me about this Page 261 Page 263 1 conflict. I would describe that as a tension 1 one. This one was vox populi property at the 2 but a tension that had been brought about the 2 time in Gibraltar. Everyone was talking 3 3 Royal Gibraltar Police because of the manner about it and I was saying how disgraceful I 4 4 in which they had acted. thought it was and how much of an abuse I 5 5 Q. Did you not think it was best to leave thought it was and how it was not something 6 6 Hassans to work that out on their own rather that the Director of Public Prosecutions had 7 than get involved yourself? 7 advised on. I shared that view widely --8 8 A. I didn't think I was getting involved in Q. Just -9 9 making the application. The law is public. A. Sorry, if I may say so for a moment - I 10 The law belongs to no one and referring a 10 know that you want to hurry up. 11 11 lawyer to a law doesn't seem to me to be Q. No, no. 12 something which is outside the bounds of 12 A. But I think it is important that you 13 13 that which one should be free to be able to do understand that when I was given that 14 14 and the idea that only lawyers know the law information, nobody told me that I was being 15 15 and only lawyers can refer each other to the given that information confidentially. 16 16 law I don't think I share. Q. Was it not fairly obvious that that was 17 Q. Mr Baglietto replies, "We prefer not to 17 quite sensitive information? 18 have to go to court." Was that the aim, 18 A. Why was it sensitive information? The 19 19 securing the return of the phone and Mr Levy defendant is entitled to know everything 20 20 no longer being a suspect without having to there is against him and if somebody has 21 21 go to court? advised that something should not be 22 22 A. Well, I would have thought it was the aim proceeded with, shouldn't it eventually be 23 23 and it was the laudable aim of what his told to the defendant as unused material? 24 lawyers were trying to achieve for him, and 24 Q. Perhaps by the RGP -25 25 it's not unnatural that lawyers might wish to A. Perhaps. Page 262 Page 264

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O. - but not by the Chief Minister. 1 comfortable with that advice being shared 2 2 A. But once the RGP had gone outside their with the other side. What is your reaction to 3 3 circle of privilege and told me, what that? 4 expectation did they have of confidentiality 4 A. Well, that is his view. He is not a 5 5 politician. He is not a member of the from me? As you say, they were aware of 6 6 what my relationships were and they did not Executive. Once the information was shared 7 7 for one moment seek that I should not share with me, I was uncomfortable with it not 8 8 that information. Indeed, the information being shared with anybody who had come to 9 9 went to the core of my ability to have know of the fact that the search warrant had 10 10 confidence in the RGP and I felt able to share been executed against a prominent person in 11 that information without having to have 11 Gibraltar contrary to the advice or without 12 12 regard to any privilege or confidentiality that the advice of the Director of Public 13 had been expressly stated to me or impliedly 13 Prosecutions in Gibraltar, which in my view 14 14 somehow put upon. added to the abuse and we are talking about 15 Q. Was it not implicit in the exchange that 15 open justice to such an extent that everything 16 you had with Mr McGrail that the 16 that we say here is being relayed on 17 17 information that he was sharing with you television. Why not open justice in respect 18 18 of this matter also? Why hide from a should not be shared with all and sundry? 19 19 A. Quite the opposite. Look at his potential defendant in criminal proceedings 20 20 WhatsApp. I am telling you, before you find and from a suspect the fact that the manner in 21 out from anybody else that this is happening. 21 which such a warrant had been obtained 22 Where is this implication of confidentiality? 22 against him was such that the advice of the 23 23 O. And when the DPP shared the DPP had not been obtained. Indeed, you 24 information with the Attorney General, was 24 might take the view that the advice of the 25 25 that shared with the Attorney General on the DPP is not required and therefore it is less Page 265 Page 267 1 expectation that that would then be shared 1 relevant whether the advice has or has not 2 2 been obtained. It is really more relevant to 3 3 A. It's not me that you're asking that my confidence in the Commissioner of 4 4 question of. You could ask the DPP that Police and what he told me than it is relevant 5 5 question. You could ask the Attorney to anything else. 6 6 General that question. Q. If that is the case, then why did you share 7 Q. Well, as you understood -7 it with Hassans? 8 8 A. Once it was shared with me. A. I shared it, Mr Santos, with Mr Baglietto, 9 9 Q. Well, as you understood it. with Mr Levy and with many other people 10 A. Once it was shared with me, remember I 10 not just at Hassans because the search 11 11 am a politician. I am a member of the warrant was vox populi in Gibraltar and this 12 Executive. I have rights, duties and 12 piece of information in my view helps to 13 13 obligations. None of those as far as I can see demonstrate that it was a complete abuse and 14 14 is an obligation to keep confidential in my view an improperly obtained search 15 15 information in relation to a prosecution if that warrant and I did not believe that I was 16 16 information has not been shared with me in a breaching any confidence or any privilege as 17 way that is expressly requiring me to keep it 17 a result of doing so. 18 18 confidential or there is another implied duty Q. So, when the Attorney General called the 19 19 that you point me to that suggests that it DPP and asked him the question your 20 20 should be confidential. I was very clear and position is that the DPP had two choices, one 21 21 either to just say, "I'm not answering that I've said it to you already and I am trying to 22 22 be as frank and open as I can be. I believe question because it's privileged" or to share 23 23 that I was able to share that information the information and accept by so doing that it 24 widely and I shared it widely. 24 would be shared with everybody in 25 25 Gibraltar? Q. The DPP gave evidence that he was not Page 266 Page 268

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A. No, I'm afraid not, not going to be shared 1 McGrail, okay? That's what I was sharing 2 with the Attorney General. 2 widely because I thought that was a critical 3 3 Q. So, is it the Attorney General sharing it moment in my relationship with the RGP and 4 with you that opened it up because -4 in particular with this Commissioner of 5 A. The Attorney General shared it with me 5 Police. 6 6 not in relation to the substance of the advice; Q. But sharing that information with 7 7 Hassans would naturally encourage them to he shared it with me in relation to the issue of 8 whether or not Mr McGrail had told me, us, 8 bring a judicial review against the search 9 9 the Attorney General and me, the truth. warrant and again open the government up to 10 10 Q. Yes, but in that case then if that is your more expenditure. Is that not correct? 11 position if the substance of the advice - well, 11 A. This is the tension that we were talking 12 the substance of advice must have been 12 about before, but there are some tensions that 13 passed to you for you to then pass it on to 13 you simply cannot get away from and the 14 14 Hassans. reality is that this information was shared 15 A. No, the thing that was shared with me 15 with me in relation to the core issue of the 16 and that mattered to me was the fact that Ian 16 credibility of Mr McGrail with me but it had 17 17 McGrail had not obtained the advice of the other consequences too because I shared it in 18 18 the context of Mr McGrail's credibility with DPP as he had said he had in respect of this 19 19 search warrant being executed. That's what me and it had those other consequences. 20 20 mattered to me and it still matters to me Q. Is not the effect of what you are saying 21 today because it goes to the core of the fact 21 that it was shared with you for one purpose 22 that Ian McGrail lied to me on 12 May in my 22 and that you then shared it for a different 23 23 office about the circumstances leading up to purpose? 24 the grant of this search warrant. 24 A. No. It was shared with me for one 25 25 Q. Do you agree that this information if true purpose. I shared it for that self-same Page 269 Page 271 1 would assist Hassans in any challenge of the 1 purpose but it may have had other 2 warrants and placed the RGP in difficulty? 2 consequences also. 3 3 A. Well, I don't think that I would Q. Did you appreciate those other 4 4 necessarily agree with that because the DPP's consequences at the time of sharing? 5 5 view which I think is shared here and that's A. I appreciated that this might be one of the 6 6 why I have seen it reported, is that the areas which might become one of the 7 7 battlegrounds in respect of the search warrant warrant could nonetheless be defended and 8 8 there is no requirement that the advice of but as you know, it is not necessary under 9 9 DPP be sought in order to proceed with the our law or under English law for advice to be 10 10 search warrant. obtained from the Director of Public 11 11 Q. Sorry, just to correct you. At the time Prosecutions for a search warrant to be 12 what you had received from the Attorney 12 granted, so to an extent this is almost 13 13 General, what you were passing on to irrelevant in that context. It may be part of 14 14 Hassans was that the DPP had advised the window dressing that you might advance 15 15 against the making of the application? in the context of a judicial review or an 16 16 A. I was not passing on to Hassans. I was application -17 saying to all and sundry, to all and sundry, 17 Q. Ultimately it is (inaudible). 18 18 A. But it is not the key issue. The key issue which includes -19 19 Q. You weren't passing on just to Hassans? is whether there was reasonableness behind 20 20 A. Exactly, and I wasn't passing on. I was the suspicion that evidence might be 21 21 destroyed. That's the key issue and on that saying to all and sundry about how 22 improperly the process followed had been 22 there was nothing that was said to me or 23 23 but in particular how I had been lied to by shared with me. I've seen the material only 24 Ian McGrail. That's what this went to. It 24 in the context of this inquiry. The key issue 25 25 went to the fact that I had been lied to by Ian was because Ian McGrail had said so in my Page 270 Page 272

office, it is not relevant otherwise - because 1 A. Absolutely. 2 Ian McGrail said so in my office, first when 2 Q. Can we look at your statement, your 3 he said that he had obtained the advice of the 3 fourth witness statement at paragraph 17? It 4 Attorney General, the first lie he told me, 4 is A1 448. A. Yes. 5 which the Attorney General said was not 5 6 true, in my presence, and second, he said, 6 Q. You say, "At the meeting with Mr Levy 7 7 "We acted because the DPP had said that KC I remember we discussed again how 8 8 they should go by way of search warrant", legally improper it had been in our view for 9 and that is denied by the DPP in the varying 9 the RGP to have proceeded by way of search 10 degrees that we have seen denied, and it goes 10 warrant and not production order, how 11 to that, to the credibility that I put to anything 11 outraged I was by the fact that I believed that 12 12 that Ian McGrail might say after 12 May. It Mr McGrail had lied to me about the advice 13 doesn't go to anything else, but I shared it 13 he'd had in that respect, and my subsequent 14 14 complete loss of confidence in him." So, widely, not just with individuals at Hassans. 15 Q. Two days later we can see on 16 and 17 15 would you accept that in fact the meeting did 16 May there are further exchanges between you 16 entail some discussion about Mr McGrail? 17 and Mr Baglietto on B142. I don't think we 17 A. References to him, ves, but it was not 18 need to go to those messages because I do 18 about Mr McGrail. 19 19 not think it is in dispute that on 17 May, the Q. Well, partly it was, was it not? 20 20 Sunday, there ends up being a meeting A. It was not a meeting convened to discuss 21 between Mr Levy, senior, Mr James Levy, 21 Ian McGrail but we discussed those issues 22 Mr Baglietto and you in your home in the 22 around the issues that James wanted to 23 early afternoon of the 17th. Is that correct? 23 discuss. 24 A. That's right. 24 Q. You say that you discussed again how 25 25 Q. And in your fourth affidavit dated 18 outraged you were by your belief that Mr Page 273 Page 275 1 March 2024, you state that you recall seeing 1 McGrail had lied to you about the advice he 2 Mr Levy at your home? 2 had had. When had you previously discussed 3 A. Yes. 3 what Mr McGrail had said to you about the 4 4 Q. That was 17 May, the day after Mr Pyle DPP's advice? 5 5 had emailed Dr Britto proposing a meeting A. We again in that paragraph relate to how 6 6 on 18 May. legally improper it had been in our view for 7 A. Correct. That's right. 7 the RGP to have obtained the warrants. 8 8 Q. Why did you not mention this meeting Q. Not to the alleged lie? 9 9 until your fourth affidavit served three weeks A. Yes. 10 before this hearing started? 10 Q. Was this the first occasion on which you 11 11 A. Well, because this meeting was about Mr informed Mr Levy about your belief that Mr 12 Levy. It was not about Mr McGrail. This 12 McGregor had lied to him? 13 13 inquiry is not about Mr Levy; it's about Mr A. No, I believe I'd discussed it with him 14 14 McGrail's early retirement. before, but in the construction of that 15 15 Q. You say that Mr Levy was incensed but sentence we again related to it, yes. 16 16 deeply embarrassed. Did you feel a degree Q. I have said that. I am just trying to 17 of obligation to help him out as his close 17 discover the timeline. When do you believe 18 18 friend and him being your mentor? Did you was the first time that you communicated that 19 19 feel an obligation to help him? to Mr Levy, that you believed that Mr 20 20 A. Not on that Sunday. It didn't take me until McGrail had lied to you? 21 21 Sunday to want to help Mr Levy and I would A. Probably sometime after the 13th, 14th at 22 22 have wanted to help anybody in similar some stage around then. 23 23 circumstances subject to such abusive Q. You say that you discussed your 24 behaviour by the Royal Gibraltar Police. 24 complete loss of confidence in Mr McGrail. 25 25 Q. So, from 12 May then? Did you tell Mr Levy that Mr Pyle had also Page 274 Page 276

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		1	
1	lost confidence in Mr McGrail?	1	McGrail with Mr Levy until this fourth
2	A. I don't think I did, no.	2	statement three weeks before this hearing?
3	Q. Did you speak to him about your other	3	A. Well, I didn't think that I didn't fail to
4	reasons for losing confidence in Mr	4	reveal. It's just that, Mr Santos, I know that
5	McGrail?	5	you have to ask me these questions, but you
6	A. I don't think I would have done that in	6	must understand as I know you did how
7	any great detail. There was a lot to talk about	7	difficult the discharge of the functions of my
8	in respect of the matters relating to James.	8	office is and trawling through material
9	No need to go into the rest of it, at least not	9	providing data is not easy whilst at the same
10	in any detail.	10	time trying to do everything else that we are
	•		
11	Q. Did you tell him that you were meeting	11	trying to do and sometimes it is impossible to
12	Dr Britto on the Monday to ask him to	12	jog memory until a document turns up that
13	commence the section 34 process?	13	points you to something that happened, etc.
14	A. I don't believe I did. If I had, James	14	So, I don't recall what it was that led to this
15	would have sought to dissuade me from	15	specific disclosure. There has been
16	doing that, I've no doubt.	16	absolutely no attempt whatsoever to hide
17	Q. Why do you say that?	17	anything from this tribunal, quite the
18	A. Because I know his nature and he would	18	opposite. I constituted this tribunal in order
19	have sought to dissuade me from doing	19	to ensure that we got to the bottom of
20	something like that.	20	everything that had happened in the context
21	Q. Why did you see fit to share your	21	of the early retirement of Ian McGrail.
22	complete loss of confidence in Mr McGrail	22	Q. In paragraph 18 you say, "The key issue
23	given that Mr Levy had no constitutional role	23	in that meeting however was that Mr Levy,
24	in the section 34 process?	24	KC, as a result of the acute embarrassment
25	A. I shared it widely not just with Mr Levy	25	that he felt had wanted to see me to offer me
	Daga 277		Daga 270
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1	who has no constitutional role but with many	1	his resignation as the chairperson of Gibraltar
2	other people who I'd spoke to in the run up to	2	Community Care Trust, a post he has held for
3	that time, not just with Mr Britto and with Mr	3	over 30 years. I told Mr Levy KC in that
4	Pyle but I would have shared that view with	4	meeting that I continued to have full
5	others in my office, for example, in	5	confidence in him and his integrity and that I
6	discussion. I mean this was really, as far as I	6	do not believe it was necessary for him to
7	was concerned, a point of no return for me	7	resign from the chairmanship of Community
8	and Mr McGrail.	8	Care Trust." Why was it necessary for Mr
9	Q. So, you shared it with other people before	9	Levy to come to your home to discuss that
10	you spoke to Dr Britto?	10	issue?
11	A. I shared with other people my views in	11	A. James was very embarrassed at the time.
12	that respect before I shared those views with	12	He was very despondent. I have met with
13	Mr Britto, and not least with Mr Pyle before I	13	James Levy on a Sunday every day since I
14	spoke to Mr Britto.	14	became a lawyer at Hassans until more or
15	Q. Yes, but I -	15	less 2005 or 2006 and then my practice
16	A. And probably with others in the office.	16	changed - in fact, practices changed for
17	Q. Outside the constitutional, the statutory	17	everyone because we no longer had to be in
	process?	18	the same room as the fax machine to have
1 2	D100000;	1 10	
18 19	•	19	meetings but meeting on a Sunday was
19	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to	19	meetings, but meeting on a Sunday was
19 20	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for	20	James Levy's normal course of operation and
19 20 21	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook	20 21	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when
19 20 21 22	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook my world that the Commissioner of Police	20 21 22	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when I met with him on a Sunday even after I
19 20 21 22 23	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook my world that the Commissioner of Police lied to me to my face in my office.	20 21 22 23	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when I met with him on a Sunday even after I became Chief Minister. Jo Bossano meets
19 20 21 22 23 24	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook my world that the Commissioner of Police lied to me to my face in my office. Q. Why did you not reveal that you	20 21 22 23 24	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when I met with him on a Sunday even after I became Chief Minister. Jo Bossano meets with him on Sundays very often and Joe and
19 20 21 22 23	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook my world that the Commissioner of Police lied to me to my face in my office.	20 21 22 23	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when I met with him on a Sunday even after I became Chief Minister. Jo Bossano meets
19 20 21 22 23 24	A. Yes, I would have spoken probably to private secretaries in my office. This was for me a huge issue. I mean, it really - it shook my world that the Commissioner of Police lied to me to my face in my office. Q. Why did you not reveal that you	20 21 22 23 24	James Levy's normal course of operation and there would have been some occasions when I met with him on a Sunday even after I became Chief Minister. Jo Bossano meets with him on Sundays very often and Joe and

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1	Minister every Sunday, so I met with him on	1	my view was that he should not resign as its
2	Sunday because at that stage I was doing a	2	chairman. He had done 30 years of
3	lot of work on some of the issues that you	3	extraordinarily good work as chairman of the
4	will no doubt take me to on the next day. I	4	Independent Trust Community Care and I
5	was at home. I believe my family went to the	5	wanted him to continue.
6	beach that day so I could continue working.	6	Q. Why was it so urgent that he had to come
7	This would also have been in the run up to	7	to talk to you on a Sunday about it?
8	other work that was being done at the time.	8	A. As I've told you, it's not that things are
9	It wasn't a normal year; it was 2020. So, him	9	urgent for James Levy to come and talk to
10	coming to see me was out of deference to my	10	you about them on a Sunday. Unfortunately,
11	office whilst otherwise I might have come to	11	when you discharge the high office that I
12	see him and to the fact that I was working at	12	discharge, working on a Sunday is quite
13	home on that day, not in the office, and we	13	common. I am not suggesting it isn't also
14	spent some time ruminating on what had	14	common if you are a lawyer. I know it is.
15	happened in the previous week.	15	Q. You have said on several occasions that
16	Q. I just want to focus on that because you	16	you are not motivated by your partnership of
17	say that the key issue was resignation as	17	Hassans, that it had nothing to do with,
18	chairperson but you were working on what	18	necessarily your relationship with Mr Levy
19	you were doing to say to Dr Britto the	19	and that you would have done the same for
20	following day.	20	any senior lawyer. You would have been
21	A. Yes.	21	concerned, but would you accept that the
22	Q. We have seen your exchanges with Mr	22	perception of your senior partner, your friend
23	Pyle, which we have turned to.	23	who had just been the subject of a search
24	A. Yes.	24	warrant and is the suspect in a criminal
25	Q. Is it not the case that in fact the purpose	25	investigation attending your home to discuss
23	Q. Is it not the case that in fact the purpose	23	investigation attending your name to discuss
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1	of this meeting was to discuss the search	1	those issues and to discuss your loss of
2	warrants and to discuss your loss of	2	confidence in Mr McGrail? Would you
3	confidence in Mr McGrail?	3	accept that the perception isn't great?
4	A. No. We would have discussed the search	4	Q. It might be, somewhere that's not
5	warrant. We would also have discussed my	5	Gibraltar, but a lot of people have come to
6	loss of confidence in Mr McGrail but	6	my home to discuss problems that they have.
7	principally what we were discussing was	7	I mean, I understand that this would not
8	James being convinced that he had to leave	8	happen in No 10 Downing Street, but my
9	as chairman of Community Care Trust. At	9	home at Buena Vista is not my official
10	that time in 2020 Community Care Trust -	10	residence. It's my personal home. A lot of
11	and this is the beginning of Covid -	11	people come to my home to discuss their
12	Community Care Trust probably had in the	12	problems. Some of them just knock on the
13	region of 100 million of money provided to	13	door and if I'm not dealing with anything
14	that trust as a result of votes by the Gibraltar	14	else, they may come in and discuss those
15	Parliament to transfer the fund that is in the	15	problems. They may seek to see me at No 6
16	social assistance fund which creates the nest	16	or elsewhere, so in the context of Gibraltar, it
17	egg of community care which the trustee	17	is not man bites dog that the Chief Minister
18	administrates, probably the wealthiest charity	18	should see someone in his home whether it is
19	in Gibraltar, and even Gibraltar's history,	19	his friend or not his friend.
20	probably, and he has been the chairman of it	20	Q. You emphasised the context of Gibraltar,
21	for 30 years, and having been the subject of	21	but does that not perhaps mean that one has
22	the search warrant and now subject to the	21 22	to be a bit more careful and impose
23	investigation in which he was involved by	23	boundaries so that inopportune meetings do
23 24	the Royal Gibraltar Police, he felt he had no	23	not discuss - sorry, inopportune or
25	alternative but to resign as its chairman and	25	coincidental meetings or meetings about
23	ancernative but to resign as its chan man and	23	comeidental meetings of meetings about
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1 other issues do not result in inappropriate 1 is a matter entirely for the tribunal. 2 things being discussed? 2 THE CHAIRMAN: My experience is that 3 A. Well, you carry those boundaries with 3 sitting early never works because there is 4 you and we didn't discuss inappropriate 4 always some drama, as indeed happened 5 things. We discussed all the things that were 5 today. 6 6 MR SANTOS: If it assists, my estimate is that appropriate for us to discuss and which I 7 7 would have discussed. With any of the other we will be, if we do another 45 minutes, 8 8 lawyers I've mentioned they would have maximum one hour today, then I should have 9 9 acted or in exactly the same way they had made more than enough progress to ensure 10 been the subject of such abusive proceedings 10 that I can stick to my 45 minute estimate. 11 and I do not accept that we were discussing 11 THE CHAIRMAN: We will timetable 12 12 anything that we should not discuss. everyone else and we might have a short 13 Q. If the meeting was about the Community 13 lunch, which is very popular with everybody 14 Care Trust, why did Mr Baglietto need to be 14 15 with Mr Levy and you at that meeting? 15 MR PICARDO: I do 24 hour fasts, so that 16 A. Mr Baglietto was with Mr Levy because I 16 works for me. 17 think he was involved with Mr Levy in all 17 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. 18 18 MR SANTOS: Can we go to D3346, please. aspects of what Mr Levy was doing in those 19 19 days in relation to the investigation etc. He This is an email from Mr Baglietto to Mr 20 20 Yamas on the 17th of May 2020, which says, is also very close to me and to him. We've 21 always got on extraordinarily well together. 21 "Dear Attorney, further to your confirmation 22 22 that the Commissioner would be content with He was driving. 23 23 Q. Yes, the (inaudible). a written statement from Mr Levy in lieu of MR SANTOS: I just wonder - I think I still 24 24 proceeding with the RGP's proposed interview 25 25 need to make a bit more progress today but I tomorrow, I confirm that Mr Levy will give a Page 285 Page 287 1 just wonder whether that is 1 written statement." That is at 2.51 on the 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Would you suggest 2 Sunday, the same day that you had met in the 3 3 having a second break? Do you think it is a early afternoon, it seems, and Mr Baglietto 4 good idea? 4 says that, " ... it was just after the meeting at 5 5 MR SANTOS: In fairness to the witness, I your home." Was that discussed at your home, 6 think that we should have a break. 6 whether Mr Levy would be producing a 7 THE CHAIRMAN: For the witness and the 7 written statement in lieu of the interview on 8 8 transcriber. the following day? 9 9 MR SANTOS: And the transcriber, yes. A. I don't recall that it was. Can you show me 10 10 More importantly the transcriber. the WhatsApp exchanges with Mr Baglietto 11 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll take a 11 which might time the meeting because ... 12 short break. 12 Q. Yes, B1422. There is some confusion in 13 13 MR SANTOS: Thank you. these messages because it seems - I will tell 14 14 you and then I will let you have a look at them (16.34)15 15 - but it seems as though arrangements are (Adjourned for a short time) 16 16 made for a meeting at midday but then it (16.45)17 THE CHAIRMAN: You are okay with sitting 17 seems actually as though Mr Baglietto says 18 18 that he is picking something up, he is picking a bit late, are you, today? 19 19 Mr Levy up, sorry, at 2 o'clock. If you just MR PICARDO: I am. I would not be 20 20 look at the top of B1422. tomorrow. 21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, I understand that. I 21 A. Yes, that's what I wanted to raise with you. 22 am going to set a strict time limit about 22 If he was saying to me at 14.03 that he was 23 23 tomorrow. picking up now, I think that he was picking Mr 24 MR PICARDO: I am happy to sit earlier 24 Levy up. 25 tomorrow if you feel that that is appropriate. It 25 Q. Just for the sake of completeness, on the Page 286 Page 288

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1	previous page, the penultimate message, he	1	B1422, there are a couple of messages later on,
2	says, "12 noon." So, it seems as though there is	2	at 22.47 and 22.48 from you to Mr Baglietto
3	an arrangement to meet at 12 noon, then on the	3	and we will turn to those shortly, but 22.52,
4	following page there are missed calls slightly	4	Mr Baglietto says, "Shocking but sadly doesn't
5	later on, "Okay" and then you say, at 20 to 12,	5	come as a surprise." That is in response to
6	"Let me know when you're on your way up."	6	your messages, the two preceding messages, I
7	"Okay." And then at 10 past 12 you say,	7	believe, and then he says, "Thanks for your
8	"How you going?" but then there is	8	time today. I think it reassured him a lot." In
9	A. That's why I've asked you to take me to the	9	what way did you reassure Mr Levy?
10	timeline because I think - I mean, these	10	A. My view about his probity, his standing in
11	timings may not accord to each other because	11	the community, the fact that I insisted he
12	they may be timings that come from different	12	should not resign as Chairman of
13	devices. I think that it's very likely that the	13	Communicare Trust and that I believed that
14	email to the Attorney went before the meeting	14	people continued to hold him in high regard
15	with me because I think I was told this rather	15	despite the manner in which the RGP had
16	than discuss it. I mean, I considered this to be	16	pursued their investigation.
17	a very positive outcome but I think I was told	17	Q. Can we now go to - sorry, just staying
18	it rather than discussed it and I think that the	18	there, there are the two messages that we
19	meeting with me happens after this has been	19	jumped over. It says, "Media omitted" - we
20	agreed, and perhaps this email even has been	20	know what that is, that is the page of the
21	sent.	21	HMIC report. We may as well just very
22	Q. The way that it happens, sorry, just to bring	22	quickly glance at that, C6761 - do you have
23	you completely up to speed, is that there is a	23	that? Otherwise it will appear on screen.
24	confirmation - if you look at that email, the	24	A. Yes.
25	B33346, Mr Baglietto says, "Further to your	25	Q. And that is a marked page from the HMIC
	Page 289		Page 291
1	confirmation that the Commissioner would be	1	remort and in fact year have highlighted the
1	confirmation that the Commissioner would be	1	report and in fact you have highlighted the
2	content with a written statement from Mr	2	section that is titled, "Investigative support"
2 3	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation	2 3	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We
2 3 4	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to	2 3 4	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to
2 3 4 5	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to that email being sent, obviously. So, it may be	2 3 4 5	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to examine offenders' phones. This isn't good
2 3 4 5 6	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to that email being sent, obviously. So, it may be that at the time you had this meeting you were	2 3 4 5 6	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to examine offenders' phones. This isn't good practice and doesn't meet best evidence
2 3 4 5 6 7	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to that email being sent, obviously. So, it may be that at the time you had this meeting you were told that the Attorney General had proposed it,	2 3 4 5 6 7	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to examine offenders' phones. This isn't good practice and doesn't meet best evidence standards." You send that to Mr Levy
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to that email being sent, obviously. So, it may be that at the time you had this meeting you were told that the Attorney General had proposed it, but that Hassans had not actually gone back	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to examine offenders' phones. This isn't good practice and doesn't meet best evidence standards." You send that to Mr Levy accompanied by - that is page 13 of the HMIC
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	content with a written statement from Mr Levy." It seems as though that confirmation had come from the Attorney General prior to that email being sent, obviously. So, it may be that at the time you had this meeting you were told that the Attorney General had proposed it, but that Hassans had not actually gone back and given their confirmation.	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	section that is titled, "Investigative support" and particularly emphasise the sentences, "We found officers using their personal devices to examine offenders' phones. This isn't good practice and doesn't meet best evidence standards." You send that to Mr Levy accompanied by - that is page 13 of the HMIC report published last week: "Look at the bit I
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O. Why did you refer to the fact that the 1 electronic communication devices much. I 2 2 HMIC report was public? think I may have got a full copy of it and 3 3 A. Because it had been published already. It's provided for it to be delivered to him by hand, 4 a public source of information. 4 with that and other parts of the report 5 Q. Were you making the point that it was 5 highlighted for him to see. 6 public and therefore could be used in the sense 6 Q. But you say that you sent it by email. 7 7 that it was public information? A. Potentially sent it be email. 8 8 A. If I hadn't said that it was public you would Q. Potentially. 9 9 ask me whether I was referring to a private or A. If I sent it by email it would be in the email 10 10 privileged source of information. trails. 11 Q. I am sure I would. 11 Q. Yes. 12 12 A. So, I think it's fair that I highlighted the A. If I sent it by WhatsApp it would be in the WhatsApp trails. Otherwise, I would have 13 fact that it was public. It had been made 13 14 public I think the previous week. If I'm not 14 sent it by hand. I would not have sent it by 15 wrong, the Commissioner of Police had 15 post. 16 actually gone on Viewpoint that week or the 16 Q. What other parts would you have 17 week after to defend its contents. 17 highlighted from the report? 18 18 Q. But was that referring to the fact that you A. I can't recall, but I recall, apart from part 8, 19 19 which was the part that I had little regard for, had referred to other information which was 20 20 not public? which related to the way that we do budgeting, 21 21 A. No, just the fact that this was public; in a lot of the rest of it made for very difficult 22 other words, the thing I was sending was a 22 reading from the point of view of the RGP. 23 23 public document. Q. If we go to C3953, please. This is 11.53 24 Q. Then Mr Baglietto says, "Yes, excellent, 24 now, about 40 minutes after your exchange 25 we can put it to good use for sure." So, Mr 25 with Mr Baglietto, and this is you emailing Mr Page 293 Page 295 1 Baglietto seems to be communicating to you 1 Pyle saying, "Dear Governor, thanks for the 2 that they could use it in the context of what 2 below note of your thinking. I have read the 3 3 they were planning in terms of Mr Levy's papers again over the weekend. In order to 4 4 device, is that correct? expedite my response I have commented in red 5 5 A. Yes. below each relevant paragraph of your email. 6 Q. Was this not you assisting Hassans with 6 I am also sending you attached the transcript 7 Mr Levy's intended claim? 7 of the Commissioner's interview on Viewpoint 8 8 A. It was me referring Hassans to open and on the HMICFRS reports." Is it fair to say that 9 9 public sources of information, just like the law on the 17th of May you were very much 10 is an open and public source of information, 10 working on securing Mr McGrail's departure 11 11 and this report was a public and open source of from his role? 12 information. 12 A. Not just that. I would have been working 13 13 Q. Yes, but you sending this public on other things as well. But, yes, this was the 14 14 information to Hassans, was that not you thing that the Deputy Governor and I had 15 15 assisting with the claim? agreed to look into and be doing and looking 16 16 A. They obviously felt it was because they at over the weekend. 17 said they could put it to good use. 17 Q. Then if we go back to B1418, please. 18 Q. You say then, "I have sent to JL. Let me 18 These are exchanges between you and the 19 19 know if he sees it." How would you have sent Attorney General and there is an entry from 20 20 it, WhatsApp/email? the line at the top of the page, the fourth entry -21 21 A. So, I could have sent it by email. I think first of all, you can see the first three messages 22 22 James wasn't particularly using WhatsApp in are the same part of the HMIC report that you 23 23 sent to him? those days. I mean, remember his phone had 24 just been confiscated by the police five days 24 A. Yes. 25 before and I don't think he was relying on 25 Q. He says, "Hardly encouraging. I Page 294 Page 296

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1 1 then discontinue the proceedings under understand that technical experts can say when 2 2 a phone has been accessed or otherwise s.59(2)(c)? 3 3 tampered with." A. Which proceedings are you referring to? 4 4 A. Yes. Q. The search warrant. 5 5 A. Just the search warrant? Q. And then you say, at 35 minutes past 6 6 Q. Just the search warrant, yes. midnight on the 18th, you send another 7 7 message, "To discuss" and you send a media A. I am alerting Michael here to his power to 8 8 item. That is at C6763, if we can look at that potentially do that in the event that he 9 9 briefly. That is section 59 of the Constitution considers it appropriate. 10 10 which sets out the powers of the Attorney Q. Yes. Do you consider that it is appropriate 11 General. And the Attorney General responds -11 for a Chief Minister to be making such 12 12 proposals to an Attorney General? sorry, we are flicking between them, so just 13 keep that open - "To me?" and you say, 13 A. In the circumstances that appertained on 14 14 "Exactly. In re a search warrant as a that day, I obviously considered that it was 15 15 proceeding." 2(b) there is section 59(2)(b), appropriate for all the reasons I have already 16 "The Attorney General shall have power in 16 highlighted to you, which caused me great 17 17 any case in which he considers it desirable so jurisdictional concern that I had. If I thought it 18 18 to do to take over and continue any such was not appropriate but had wanted to do it, I 19 19 criminal proceedings that may have been would not have done it in writing in a way that 20 20 instituted by any other person or authority." It was going to leave a trail. So, I thought it was 21 21 looks from that exchange like you were entirely appropriate for me to do it. I didn't 22 proposing that the Attorney General exercise 22 expect that he would do it because I told him. 23 23 his constitutional power to take over and I knew that he would read the section and 24 continue the search warrant proceedings 24 make up his mind for himself, and I didn't 25 25 against Mr Levy. Is that what you were think it was inappropriate to raise such issues Page 297 Page 299 1 doing? 1 with him, given that I understood what the 2 2 A. That was one of the things that I was state of play was between him and Hassans 3 3 alerting him to the possibility of doing, yes. and the police, etc., etc., and this was 4 4 Q. Were you proposing that he do so and then highlighting to him a power that exists in our 5 5 discontinue the proceedings under s.59(2)(c)? Constitution. I mean, you could put it another 6 6 A. I was very clear that what I meant by the way, couldn't you? Is it inappropriate for the 7 7 proceeding was the search warrant proceeding, Chief Minister to refer the Attorney General to 8 8 not the investigation, not the Delhi the powers that are set out in the Constitution? 9 9 investigation. Q. Well, I do not think I should answer the 10 10 Q. Yes, so ... question. 11 11 A. The search warrant against James Levy A. No, no, I am not suggesting that you 12 and that is what I am suggesting. 12 should. I am saying the question could be put 13 13 Q. But were you proposing that he to me: is there anything wrong with a Chief 14 14 discontinue the search warrant proceedings? Minister (a senior, elected politician) referring 15 A. I was suggesting that he could potentially 15 the Attorney General to the powers that he has 16 16 under the Constitution? I didn't ask him to do that. 17 Q. Under subsection (c)? 17 exercise them, I referred him to them. 18 A. Subsection (c)? 18 Q. But you were referring him to them in the 19 Q. Yes, sorry, I just want to be clear here. 19 context of criminal proceedings against your 20 20 You send him this section and he comes back very close friend, your mentor, your business 21 and says, "59(2)(b)." 21 partner and a senior partner of the firm at 22 22 A. Yes. which you are still a partner. 23 23 Q. And you say, "Exactly." That is to take A. Who is also the only star performer in 24 over and continue any criminal proceedings. 24 Chambers and Partners, Gibraltar's biggest 25 25 Were you suggesting that he do so in order to rainmaker, one of the greatest sources of Page 298 Page 300

business for the finance centre, and I think you 1 would not look at the phone for seven days in 2 2 will find that most lawyers in Gibraltar will order to permit Hassans to commence 3 3 tell you that he is that, not just all the other whatever proceedings they might wish to 4 things which he also is which you have also 4 commence. 5 described in relation to me. So, of course, 5 A. Yes, so, in other words, the clock was 6 6 ticking. The clock was ticking and you had to undoubtedly, he is those things to me but he is 7 7 resolve this problem very fast, otherwise the also those things to Gibraltar and therefore 8 8 privileged information of all of these also of my concern in that respect. 9 9 Q. Do you think that that is consistent with the individuals, who are clients of this particular 10 10 provisions we have seen from the Ministerial lawyer, would have been interrogated as the 11 Code? 11 Royal Gibraltar Police interrogated that phone, 12 12 A. Yes, because I was acting selflessly, I was very often with police officers using their own 13 acting in the interests of Gibraltar. I wasn't 13 personal devices to interrogate that phone. 14 14 acting in the interests of a friend, I wasn't Not in keeping with the standards required. 15 15 All of that is happening at the same time. acting in my business interests, I was acting in 16 the interests of Gibraltar every time. That's 16 Q. Does Mr Levy being Gibraltar's biggest 17 17 why I was expending quite so much time on rainmaker and having global clients put him, 18 18 exclude him from the possibility of a search these issues, because I believed genuinely that 19 19 the interests of Gibraltar required me to act in 20 20 A. Of course not, but we all know that that way. This is 10 to 1 on a Sunday 21 21 morning, and the Chief Minister of Gibraltar production orders are designed to protect the 22 works hard, but he's not always up at 10 to 1 22 privilege of those who have relationships with 23 23 on a Sunday morning. the individual who has information that is 24 Q. You have referred to what your intentions 24 going to be disclosed, and so those who are 25 25 were and what your motivations were, but protected are not Mr Levy but his clients, and Page 301 Page 303 1 from a perception perspective do you think 1 that is what you need to have particular regard 2 2 that that is still compliant with the Ministerial to. In relation to this issue, there is also, of 3 Code? 3 course, the fact that you are looking for a 4 4 A. I do. I mean, the one thing that you have needle in a haystack if you go into someone's 5 5 to factor into the equation as well is that at this electronic communications devices, anybody's 6 time, and you will correct me if I am wrong, 6 electronic communications devices, in 7 7 but I am convinced I am right, at this time Mr particular somebody like Mr Levy. It was 8 8 Levy's phone with all of its information, much easier for the RGP to say, with the 9 9 although a copy, I think, may have been made strength of an order of the Supreme Court, 10 10 of it by this time, is in the hands of the Royal "You must give us this information." Then the 11 Gibraltar Police and it contains the information 11 obligation is on the individual, who is an 12 12 of all of his many international, very high net officer of the court and leading counsel, to 13 worth clients, who now find that without the 13 identify all that information and disclose it 14 14 protection of a production order, which goes upon paying a penalty if he doesn't, rather than 15 15 for specific forensically identified information, have to go into the device and go and look for 16 but under the lesser control of a search 16 all of the things that may be relevant. 17 warrant, their information is in the hands of the 17 Because, you know, of course, it's very easy 18 18 Royal Gibraltar Police and there is an HMIC given the list of names that we've seen to 19 19 report that says that the Royal Gibraltar Police identify those individuals who are listed there, 20 20 use their own devices to search into devices but there are also classes of material that are 21 that they have confiscated under search 21 referred to there, not just exchanges with 22 22 warrants. You know, if that isn't a individuals, and what's to say that the Royal 23 23 Gibraltar Police would not have gone into jurisdictional concern I don't know what is. 24 Q. It was being held by the police but it was 24 what we colloquially call chats or exchanges 25 25 being held subject to an undertaking that they with individuals who have the expectation of Page 302 Page 304

1 privilege when dealing with a lawyer in 1 about this and who put this issue on the 2 2 Gibraltar and have had access to those which agenda. 3 3 Q. Did you not think that the RGP may have would create serious concern for those 4 individuals? 4 good reason for their reluctance? 5 Q. But the search warrant procedure also had 5 A. No, I did not and I do not believe that they 6 procedures for the protection of privileged 6 can have. 7 7 material, did it not? Q. So, you decided to clarify that the 8 8 A. Very likely it did, but you have seen what Government was not a complainant. Given ... 9 the HMIC report said about the way that they 9 A. That the Government would not be a 10 10 interrogated those systems, which, in short, complainant unless the evidence was shared 11 likely means that Royal Gibraltar Police 11 with us. 12 12 officers were using their own devices to Q. Given your beneficial interest in 36 North, 13 interrogate the electronic devices that they 13 your partnership, close friendship with Mr 14 took and therefore keeping that information on 14 Levy, your previous communications with Mr 15 15 Perez and Mr Sanchez, did you not think that their devices going forward. 16 Q. Can we now go to B1125, please. This is 16 you should leave this decision to someone else 17 17 your witness statement to the police of the in Government, or at least recuse yourself 18 18 25th of June 2021 and I just want to go to the from the Cabinet discussion? 19 19 bottom of that page and pick it up ... A. I absolutely do not see what the relevance 20 20 A. By the time you have finished with today I of my involvement in 36 North was there 21 won't know what day it is, yes. 21 because I had already resolved that matter two 22 Q. It is the second half of that paragraph: 22 years before in a way that demonstrated I was 23 23 "When I became aware of the fact ..." - can acting selflessly, with integrity and in keeping 24 you see? 24 with the interests of the Gibraltar taxpayer and 25 25 A. Yes, I've got it. the public interest more widely, not my own. Page 305 Page 307 1 Q. "When I became aware of the fact that the 1 And in the context of my communications, my 2 2 Government was being referred to as a other communications with Hassans, I don't 3 3 complainant, I thought that the Chief Secretary see how that can be relevant at all. Let's be 4 4 should provide me with the details of the very clear, what we were asking for here was 5 5 evidence available to support the complaint. evidence that we had in fact suffered the effect 6 6 of a crime so that we could be a complainant The Chief Secretary referred me to the 7 7 assertions made to him by the Commissioner of it. Now, the way I have explained this 8 8 but he was unable to provide me with any before is this. If you suffer a physical assault, 9 9 detail of any evidence in support of the you know that you've suffered the assault. 10 10 complaint. I consider this to be unsatisfactory You may not know who did it because you 11 11 may not see who did it, but you have suffered and not a basis on which the Government can 12 agree that it should be a complainant in this 12 the physical assault. Right? So, you go to the 13 13 matter against any of the defendants. The police and you complain that you have 14 14 Cabinet considered this matter and agreed that suffered the physical assault. Here, we were 15 15 I should clarify that any complaint advanced is being told that we had suffered an assault, in 16 therefore not advanced on behalf of the 16 this case an electronic assault, and what we 17 Government but on behalf of the Chief 17 were saying was, "Well, okay, you're telling us 18 Secretary." Were you made aware that the 18 that we've suffered an assault, you are telling 19 19 DPP was resisting providing that evidence? us that one of our own people, a senior officer 20 20 A. I was not made aware that the DPP was in the Government, is involved or responsible 21 resisting providing that evidence. I was made 21 for that assault - show us that that is the case, 22 22 aware that the RGP were resisting providing because at the moment we have no evidence of 23 23 that evidence. By the way, this was not just any of this, so that we can become a 24 my motion in the Cabinet; there was another 24 complainant in that respect." And that was not 25 25 Minister who was extraordinarily concerned forthcoming. We were not seeking any Page 306 Page 308

information that was privileged or that was 1 Q. Yes, yes, we will turn to that now. 2 confidential, because surely the effect of a 2 A. Yes. 3 crime on a victim cannot be something that is 3 (17.15)4 confidential? It is the very thing upon which 4 Q. You say, "In terms of the past few months 5 the charge is to be based, so therefore it cannot 5 alone: one, this case of deaths occasioned 6 be confidential. But they wouldn't give us that 6 outside of BGTW, where the statute gives 7 7 information. They wanted to be, the Royal them no status as police officer; two, the 8 8 Gibraltar Police wanted to be able to say that HMIC inspection issues; three, the Federation 9 the Government was a complainant, without 9 bringing allegations; four, the runway incident 10 showing the Government why it should be a 10 where we had to go into bat for them despite 11 complainant. 11 all aspects having clearly been mishandled by 12 12 Q. Can we now move to what we call issues 8 the RGP and parts of MoD also; and, five, the 13 to 10, which is the final weeks following the 13 continuing saga of the Alcaidesa claims. I 14 12th of May, the time period between the 12th 14 think I will be asking Ian McGrail to provide 15 of May and Mr McGrail's departure on the 9th 15 more detail and in writing as to what 16 of June. If we go to B1439, please. This is a 16 happened here and what they are going to do 17 message which I showed you earlier, your 17 to engage with these claims before there is 18 message to Mr Pyle on the 14th of May, which 18 any requirement that they do so. I am 19 you also send to the AG. You say there, you 19 starting lose confidence here. Best wishes. 20 refer to sending the article, you say, "I am 20 Fabian". In terms of the runway incident it is 21 totally there to support the officers on the 21 fair to say, is it not, that that had not 22 frontline, I'm starting to have huge concerns 22 happened in the last -- well, actually we dealt 23 23 about the senior management of the RGP" and with this this morning; I am not going to ask 24 then you say, "I will alert to a particular matter 24 you that question again. Did you include it 25 25 when we meet." That was, presumably, a on the list because you knew that Mr Pyle Page 309 Page 311 1 reference to the search warrant and the 1 still felt aggrieved about the incident? 2 2 exchange that you had had with Mr McGrail? A. I still felt aggrieved about the incident. I 3 A. Yes. 3 was very positive about some aspects of what 4 4 Q. Why did you only refer to it in that way, they've done, very disappointed in the MoD 5 5 without any specifics? and how they'd acted, but nonetheless when 6 6 A. Well, because, you know, it's already a you looked at it, this could have been 7 fairly lengthy message and, you know, typing 7 handled in a completely different manner. 8 8 these things with two thumbs takes some time, Perhaps by both sides -- perhaps both sides 9 9 and there was a lot to talk about in that respect. had been at fault. But clearly there were 10 Q. You refer to everything else. It is 10 issues in the way that things had been 11 11 specifics. So, were you ... handled which were just not proper. 12 A. Well, short specifics, but, I mean, I don't 12 Q. What did you mean by "the continuing 13 13 think I could have explained the loss of saga of the Alcaidesa claims"? 14 14 confidence I'd had in McGrail, etc., etc. in a A. Well, that had not been resolved at the 15 15 sentence as I have in respect of all the others in time: I understand there was still outstanding 16 16 a phrase, other than to say, "I've got issues I litigation in Spain on those issues, which 17 need to explain to you." 17 were still causing ruptions within the RGP 18 Q. You then say, "In terms of the past few 18 19 19 Q. What claims did you understand to be months alone ..." 20 A. Excuse me, if I may say so? 20 afoot at the time? 21 21 Q. Sorry. A. I understood that there might be criminal 22 22 A. It is common ground, I think, that I did proceedings against police officers in Spain, 23 23 speak to Mr Pyle about these things. claims for trespass from property owners, 24 Q. Yes. 24 25 A. So ... 25 Q. Was that a reference to Mr McGrail, or Page 310 Page 312

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1 was it a reference to other people within the 1 this was clear first of all because of the 2 RGP? 2 reference to the Attorney General and second 3 3 A. To the RGP generally and the senior because of the reference to the DPP. And 4 management team in particular. 4 when I get the information that the DPP had 5 Q. Are you aware that Mr McGrail had no 5 not given the advice, you know, that results 6 6 part in that operation, other than interviewing in my losing confidence in him, but it doesn't 7 7 for disciplinary purposes one or two of the result in me considering that I'm going down 8 8 the road of pressing any buttons as a result of officers who were involved? 9 9 that: this is a breakdown of the personal A. I am aware that he was a part of the 10 10 senior management team at the time; I am relationship. Then I get the El Faro de Ceuta 11 not able to say what his involvement was in 11 article, whatever happened on the 13th 12 respect of every aspect of that. 12 happened on the 13th, and it's building up to 13 13 be more than just a personal loss of Q. Let us put it in a different way, then: were 14 14 you aware of any involvement on Mr confidence: there is more here. All of these 15 15 McGrail's part in the Alcaidesa incident at things are happening at the same time. The 16 16 call also sees (?) that on 14 May is the day of that time? 17 17 A. No, but he was in superintendence of the his Viewpoint interview on the HMIC report, 18 18 force at the time and this was something meaning all of these things come together in 19 19 which related to his force. that week. 20 20 Q. Then Mr Pyle responds saying (just after THE CHAIRMAN: Was he not only a DI at 21 the time? 21 you provide the article), "Agree. As we 22 22 thought at the time, wrong appointment. A. I'm sorry? 23 23 Q. A detective inspector. I am not sure what Remind me to tell you about the recruitment 24 his position was at the... Chief inspector. 24 process which was abject. Should we meet 25 25 THE CHAIRMAN: Chief inspector. tomorrow after or before platinum?" He Page 313 Page 315 1 Q. I think it was (?) chief inspector. 1 says, "As we thought at the time, wrong 2 A. At the time of the events, but at this time 2 appointment." Had you and Mr Pyle 3 3 he was in superintendence of the force and discussed Mr McGrail's appointment at the 4 4 this issue had not yet been resolved. 5 5 Q. You then say, "I am starting lose A. I think we had, and I had discussed them 6 confidence here.", but we have seen from 6 with Ed Davis as well. I mean, the way that 7 your evidence in paragraph 55 of your first 7 we were told who the appointee was was that 8 8 witness statement, A194 (we saw it earlier they -- Ed Davis and I were at the Convent, 9 9 today), that you say at the final two lines of and we were told that there would be one 10 10 55, "on that day (12th May 2020), I lost all successful applicant who would come to see 11 11 confidence in his probity and integrity in his us and we would congratulate him, and the 12 dealings with me and generally in him as a 12 other applicant we would commiserate with 13 result." 13 and encourage that person to continue in the 14 14 A. Yeah. force, because habitually those who apply to 15 15 Q. So why did you say, "I am starting lose become commissioner, if they don't get it, 16 confidence" in your message of 14 May? 16 can probably leave given their age, and -- a 17 A. I was deliberating about all of these 17 little bit like the Perisher course on 18 18 things in my mind, and what I should do submarines, if you do not get it you tend to 19 19 about them. These are -- I've lost the page, want to go, and that had happened in the past. 20 20 143? Nine? And Ed Davis and I were very, very 21 21 Q. Yes, sorry, 143. surprised, we discussed at the time, that it 22 22 A. Yeah, I've just got 55 and this open at the was Ian McGrail who became commissioner 23 23 same time. I was deliberating what I should and not Richard Ullger. And subsequently, 24 do, at the time. I mean, on 12 May I lost 24 when I discussed it with Nick Pyle it was 25 25 confidence in him because he lied to me, and clear that he was just as surprised. Page 314 Page 316

1 O. Why were you surprised? 1 I mean, I certainly would have 2 2 A. Because we believed that the -- I communicated my views to the Chief 3 believed, and it turned out Ed Davis also 3 Secretary, who was my appointee to the GPA. 4 believed, and it turned out that Nick Pyle also 4 Let me tell you the story, we had one 5 5 moment in the week that I became Chief believed, that Ian McGrail should not be 6 6 commissioner of police, because he did not Minister, the afternoon that I became Chief 7 7 have the temperament to be commissioner of Minister. I was consulted by the then acting 8 8 police and he was not the right candidate. Chief Secretary about the then application 9 9 Q. What was that belief based on? process for commissioner of police that was 10 10 A. On our experience of him at the time, going to go on on Monday. And I was told: 11 what we'd seen -- what each of us had seen of 11 Chief Minister, there are two applicants on 12 him, and on the publicly available 12 Monday, A and B, who would you wish me 13 information at the time about Mr McGrail. 13 to support? And I'd just arrived at Number 6, 14 14 Convent Place, hadn't been able to have a Remember that the application is not made to 15 15 us, so we don't determine the application; shower after the count. And I said: look, 16 16 Dicky (?) it's up to you because you're going we're not there for the interview process, but 17 we are -- or, despite holding high office we 17 to hear the interviews, you're going to have 18 18 are people who have views, also, interpreting to make up your mind for yourself. And, you 19 19 what we see, and how the things that we see know, although you're my appointee you 20 20 affect our view of individuals, and that was decide who you think would be best. After 21 my view. It turned out also to be Ed Davis's 21 the interview process he came to see me, and 22 22 view, and when I discussed it with Nick Pyle he told me that he had voted for Eddie Yome 23 23 also his view. I think there were very, very, to become the appointee because he thought 24 very many people in Gibraltar at the time of 24 he was the best of the two applicants. And I 25 25 Ian McGrail's appointment who could just said that seemed (as far as I was concerned) a Page 317 Page 319 1 not believe that he was the appointee. 1 very good choice. From what I knew of Mr Q. What was the source of Mr Pyle and the 2 2 Yome, not because I have heard the interview 3 3 then Governor's concerns? process, because I wasn't there. I wasn't 4 4 asked by the then Chief Secretary, when A. Well, you've seen what he has --5 5 these appointments were going to happen, 6 6 A. -- said with his concern; I can't really necessarily what my view was in the way 7 7 give evidence as to what his concerns were that has stuck in my mind quite like that. If I 8 8 except the things that he said (inaudible). had been, I would have said my view was 9 9 Q. Sorry, yes, let me clarify: as far as you that it should be Richard Ullger but, you 10 were aware. 10 know, I was not going to be there for the 11 11 A. Well, the things that he has -interview process, so --12 subsequently he's said, and you can see he 12 Q. My question was --13 13 was saying to me in communications at the A. - (inaudible) have said just: you make up 14 14 your mind for yourself, because you're a 15 15 Q. Is it not fair to say that Mr Ullger was member of the board and you have to decide. 16 16 also involved in the airport incident? Q. I am sorry, but my question was whether 17 17 you ever communicated your concerns about A. It was but, you know, when you're 18 18 Mr McGrail to the GPA. To Dr Britto -looking at these issues you're also looking at 19 19 issues of temperament and temperance, and I A. So, the answer that I've given you is 20 20 think everyone believed that Mr Ullger had about my appointee on the GPA. In other 21 21 better temperance and temperament when it words, I would have spoken to the Chief 22 22 Secretary and said: oh my goodness, what's came to dealing with issues. 23 23 Q. Did you ever communicate your concerns happened here? But I would not have 24 to the GPA, about Mr McGrail? 24 communicated to, at that stage, Mr 25 25 A. Depends what you mean about the GPA. Gon alves not Mr Britto, because I believe Page 318 Page 320

Mr Gon alves was then the chairman of the 1 A. All of it. I was evangelising about this to 2 GPA. 2 anyone who would care to listen. I thought it 3 3 Q. Yes. was a disgraceful abuse by the Royal 4 A. And look (?), I was ready to give Ian 4 Gibraltar Police and I wasn't going to keep it 5 McGrail a crack of the whip, and there were 5 to myself. I certainly wasn't going to going 6 6 to keep it from the Governor of Gibraltar. some things that we did at that time on which 7 7 we worked together. There were aspects of Q. Did you inform Mr Pyle about the 8 8 connection between you and Hassans and Covid on which we worked well together, 9 9 and there were things we were doing which you and 36 North? 10 10 were working well, but the vast majority A. Yes, and how irrelevant it was because I 11 were not going as they should. 11 had resolved that matter a year and a half 12 12 Q. Did Mr Pyle ever explain to you why he 13 considered the application process to have 13 Q. And obviously he-- Well, did Mr Pyle 14 14 know about your close friendship and been abject? 15 A. I think that he said to me that - and I'm 15 business partnership with Mr Levy? 16 talking from memory now, from a 16 A. I don't think there is anybody in Gibraltar 17 17 conversation. I think he said to me that the who doesn't know. 18 18 Q. If we go to B/1440 way that the whole thing had been handled 19 19 was designed to avoid the views of the A. Yes. 20 20 Q. We are moving on with your exchanges Governor's representative on the GPA and 21 the Chief Minister's representative on the 21 with Mr Pyle. 22 GPA being given at the beginning of the 22 A. This is Friday. 23 23 Q. This is Friday, correct, yes. The 15th. At process but rather at the end once everyone 24 had spoken so that our views did not carry as 24 8: 42 in the evening, you say: "Thanks Nick. 25 25 much weight as they might otherwise have I think you've probably seen this coming Page 323 Page 321 1 carried, and as they might have carried in the 1 before I have. To extent I allowed too much 2 2 of the benefit of the doubt here and strained 3 Q. On 15 May you met with Mr Pyle to 3 the most important relationship Gibraltar has 4 4 discuss Mr McGrail and if we can go to your (with the UK) in doing so. I sincerely hope 5 statement, your first statement, paragraph 68, 5 the Federation doesn't make such a mistake, 6 A199, you say: "After this exchange..." 6 because it would lead me not to have 7 which is the exchange we have just been 7 confident in it if they did." I think that is a 8 looking at-you say "I am not able to recall 8 reference to the Federation potentially 9 9 that meeting in detail, but subsequent opposing. Then you say: "Again, we shall 10 WhatsApp and email exchanges have 10 have to set out our thinking clearly and then I 11 11 assisted me to doubt anyone would see this cumulative 12 reconstruct the discussion and events that 12 record of behaviour as defensible. But loss 13 13 followed. I do specifically recall, however, of life really puts us now in different 14 14 that I explained to the Governor, Nick Pyle, territory. I never would have thought I 15 15 the issues of the execution of the search would be of this view, especially post 16 16 warrant in respect of Mr Levy and my views Castree - but it feels like the RGP has gone 17 in respect thereof, which was central 17 backwards not forwards. A real pity for the 18 to my loss of confidence in Mr McGrail and, 18 good people in there who need nurturing and 19 in fact, is what I was referring to in the 19 good leadership. Have brought papers home 20 20 to get under the skin of this. Try to have a first of the WhatsApps I have extracted, 21 when I say: '... I will alert to a particular 21 break this weekend if you can." In this 22 matter when we meet..." How much did you 22 message, you seem to rank Operation Kram 23 explain to Mr Pyle about Operation Dheli 23 as the most important matter, because you 24 and the search warrants when you - and your 24 say, "loss of life really puts us now in 25 meeting with Mr McGrail on 12 May? 25 different territory"? Page 322 Page 324

A. Mmh. 1 think doesn't help (within the RGP). I will 2 2 Q. Would you agree?? get some rest. I hope you too. Enjoy your 3 3 A. Well, I put many things into the mix, but [barbeque]. Best. Nick." You respond: 4 all of them together, it would be impossible 4 "My pillow always gives me the best advice: 5 5 If we are going to do this, do we very when you look at the list of issues that you 6 6 are dealing with, it would be impossible not discretely at your end, line someone up. We 7 7 cannot have it headless." Then he says: to give top billing, to put it that way, to the 8 loss of life, no? I mean, it really is 8 "Thinking about it quite a lot. Need to 9 9 something that has to eclipse everything else. discretely bring Joey Britto into our thinking. 10 10 When you are looking at all the things that I'm happy to do that Monday." Your 11 are relevant, even though one matters more 11 exchange there seems to be one of already 12 12 to me in terms of direct confidence, but if thinking about replacing Mr McGrail before 13 they are relevant then the issue that relates to 13 the section 34 process has even commenced. 14 14 Is that not fair? loss of life has to be at the top of the list. I 15 15 A. That was our thinking but we could not would never have been forgiven for 16 16 action section 34. We had to talk to Joey suggesting the opposite. 17 17 Q. Did you refer particularly to Operation Britto and he could have told us that he was 18 Kram because you knew that Mr Pyle had 18 not persuaded, and that all the GPA could tell 19 19 concerns about operation Kramm? us that they were not persuaded that they 20 20 A. No. I refer to Operation Krammbecause I should act in keeping with the provisions of 21 also have concerns, and you will recall that 21 section 34, regardless of what we might tell 22 you have taken me to my WhatsApps and 22 them. But we know what happened 23 23 emails in relation to what was happening afterwards. 24 about Operation Kramm on the 14th - that is 24 Q. Mr Pyle's response is: "Need to 25 to say the day before. The search warrant 25 discretely bring Joey Britto into our Page 325 Page 327 1 issues and the lie were on the 12th. This issue 1 thinking." What did you understand him to 2 of Operation Kramm and falle fasota(?) 2 be saying by that? 3 3 etcetera, that was on the 14th. A. We needed to meet with Mr Britto to 4 4 Q. Then over the page share our thinking with him. 5 5 Q. Why "discretely"? A. I am sorry, by the way, and on the night 6 6 of the 14th... So, I start the day of the 14th A. Well, you would not put an advert in the 7 with the falle fasota(?), and I end the 14th 7 chronical saying, "Joey Britto, please turn up 8 8 with the Commissioner on television on at The Convent on Monday morning so we 9 Viewpoint on HMIC. 9 can tell you how the Governor and the Chief 10 Q. Over the page, the second message is 10 Minister have lost confidence in the 11 11 Commissioner of Police." You would say: from the Deputy Governor. The first 12 message says, "My pillow also gives me the 12 come and see us. We want to explain 13 13 best advice: if we are going to do this, do we something to you. How do you think we 14 14 very discretely at your end, line someone should break this to the rest of the GPA so 15 up." 15 that they have all of this detail? 16 16 A. You have missed the one where he says Q. In fairness to you, Mr Picardo, you have 17 about ethics at the bottom of the page at 17 given evidence that you were telling all and 18 18 1440. sundry about your loss of confidence --19 Q. I think it is only fair that I read that out. 19 A. Absolutely. 20 20 "Thanks. Agree we need to approach this Q. - in Mr McGrail. Hence my question 21 correctly and carefully (but that's a given in 21 about why the discreteness 22 22 my opinion). It's good to have faith in A. Because it is discreet in the context of 23 23 human nature but sometimes we need a wanting to tell the Chairman of the GPA 24 reminder that not everyone has the same 24 before everyone else in the GPA is made 25 25 ethics/morality they should have and group aware because it is fair that the Chairman Page 326 Page 328

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1 should have carriage of that process in his 1 59 of the Constitution. 2 Committee. 2 A. Yes. 3 3 Q. Then C3/953 please. This is your email Q. So do you think that you were in a 4 to Mr Pyle. We looked at this earlier in a 4 sufficiently objective mindset at the time? 5 different context but what you say to him is 5 A. I do and if you look at my contributions, I 6 6 think that they're fair, objective, well thought that you set out in red underneath his email 7 7 your responses - your - let me just use the through and I stand by them. 8 8 Q. Why did you send the transcript of the right word, your comments on each relevant 9 9 paragraph of his email. You send this after interview and viewpoint? Was there any 10 10 you had met with Mr Levy and Mr Baglietto particular matter that you considered relevant 11 earlier that afternoon at your house. Did you 11 from that programme? 12 inform Mr Pyle that you had met them earlier 12 A. Do you have it? 13 that day? 13 Q. I think we should somewhere. 14 A. So, he sends it to me at 8.47. 14 A. Did I highlight any part of it? 15 Q. Yes, at 6.47. 15 Q. Not that we are aware, but perhaps we 16 A. Sorry, 18:47. Yes, you are absolutely 16 can look at that overnight and if there is 17 17 right, 6.47 - setting out his thinking over the anything we will bring it to your attention 18 weekend, and I respond later that night. I 18 and similarly if there is anything that you --19 19 don't know that I said to him that I had seen A. I mean, it's a written communication, so 20 20 James Levy about his issues and in particular if I had felt I had to highlight any particular 21 the issue of community care; neither do I 21 part of it, I would have referred to it in the 22 think it is relevant that I should have told him 22 text or I would have highlighted it in the 23 23 transcript itself. But without the benefit of 24 Q. The question was whether you had -24 seeing it at the moment I can't help you. 25 25 whether you did inform him. Q. At 3955 now, please. Page 329 Page 331 1 A. Well, no because as you can see what I 1 A. Yes. 2 told him is set out in writing, and if it is not 2 Q. Your answer to Mr Pyle's comment about 3 3 set out in writing I didn't say anything about the sequencing of events. Mr Pyle says --4 4 A. Which paragraph? that. 5 5 Q. Given that this was only a few hours after Q. The second paragraph is: "So, as I see it 6 6 your meeting, were you in a sufficiently and to my untrained eye." This is Pyle. 7 objective mindset to write this email to Mr 7 A. Yes. 8 Pyle? 8 Q. "It is for the GPA to take this forward in 9 9 A. A few tends to mean two or three. A the first instance. I agree with you that it is 10 couple is two; a few is three. This is 10 important we follow the process to the letter, 11 actually closer to 8 hours after my meeting 11 not look to prejudge and allow the 12 with Mr Levy and Mr Baglietto. I did not 12 Commissioner to put forward a defence, etc. 13 13 have passions inflamed in me by Mr The last thing we want is to face a charge of 14 14 **Baglietto and Mr Levy on that Sunday** constructive dismissal. I suggest we 15 15 afternoon in my home that I couldn't put into therefore say to Joey tomorrow that we have 16 16 their proper context when doing a legal lost confidence in the Commissioner and set 17 analysis of the letter from-- of the email from 17 out why and task him to consider the options 18 the Governor. 18 as to the way forward." 19 19 Q. I accept the correction that it happened And you respond: 20 20 several hours, 8 hours even, but it is also "Yes, chronologically that is exactly right. 21 21 Section 34 specifically provides that the right to say that at around this time you were 22 messaging Mr Baglietto about section 76 of 22 GPA's action to call upon the Commissioner 23 the Police Act -23 to retire cannot be commenced until we have 24 A. Yes. 24 both been consulted and one of us has 25 25 Q. - and the Attorney General about section agreed. The part of the clause that relates to Page 330 Page 332

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1 consultation is conjunctive and the part that 1 was minded to exercise that power? 2 relates to agreement is disjunctive. We 2 A. Do I comment on that paragraph? I note 3 3 should however at this stage limit ourselves that you haven't given me C3954. Do I make 4 to setting out our concerns." 4 a comment in respect of that paragraph? 5 Do you feel that you did limit yourself to 5 Q. You do. You comment on it quite 6 6 heavily actually. It is the entire following setting out your concerns or did you go 7 7 further and present Dr Britto with no option 8 at the meeting on the following day? 8 A. Yes. (Pause). 9 9 A. No, I think that we set out our concerns. Q. I think, if I may assist, I think your first 10 10 That's why, um, Dr Britto asked me to paragraph in response is a reference to the 11 produce a file note of what we had said. That 11 different between section 34 and section 13 12 file note follows closely the work I had done 12 and the subtle differences between 13 the night before. I had used the email from 13 a retirement, which is a section 34 process, 14 14 and a resignation, which is the section 13 Nick Pyle during the course of the meeting. 15 THE CHAIRMAN: We will come on to the 15 process. So I think that is your comment and 16 meeting. You are talking about the meeting. 16 the following paragraph as well. 17 17 We have not come to it. A. Yes. 18 MR SANTOS: In fairness, my question did 18 Q. But my question to you is more one as to 19 19 in fact go to the meeting because I said: did your perception at the time, having met 20 20 you feel that you limited yourself at the Mr Pyle and having received this email, did meeting? But we are going to come to the 21 21 you understand Mr Pyle to be minded to 22 meeting tomorrow, so perhaps it is best that 22 exercise that section 13 power at that stage if 23 23 we deal with that, I mean, I think we are the GPA did not exercise its power under 24 probably coming, I am just going to ask you 24 section 34? 25 25 one more question about this email and then I A. Well, I think he was ready to consider the Page 333 Page 335 1 think we will continue --1 need to use it if we got to it. Whether or not 2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, it is 20 to 6. It is 2 he would use it if we got to it was a matter 3 3 quite late enough. which I don't believe he had specifically 4 4 A. Do you want me to finish the answer? turned his attention to and whether the 5 5 MR SANTOS: By all means. necessary hurdles had been discharged for 6 6 A. So I do believe that we stuck to setting him to be able to engage section 13 if 7 out what our concerns were. I had used this 7 necessary. 8 8 email as the guide to what we should say to MR SANTOS: Thank you, Mr Picardo, and 9 9 Mr Britto. Um, and then I used this email thank you, Chief Minister, and thank you for 10 also to inform the file note that I prepared of 10 sitting late to get through this. 11 11 the meeting that we had had with Mr Britto. A. Pleasure. 12 Q. Thank you. And my final question is 12 MR SANTOS: Thank you, sir, as well. 13 13 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes. back at the beginning of this email on C3953, 14 14 the final paragraph on that page is Mr Pyle MR SANTOS: And to GPC as well. 15 15 says: THE CHAIRMAN: So if we start at 16 "As to the issue and without getting ahead of 16 10 o'clock tomorrow, which we will do, you 17 myself, section 34 of the Police Act allows 17 would hope to finish --18 for the GPA after consultation with us to call 18 MR SANTOS: By 10.45 according to my --19 19 upon the Commissioner to retire. Within this THE CHAIRMAN: By 10.45, okay. 20 20 MR SANTOS: -- very best, to get finished section 13.1F of the Police Act gives me the 21 21 by 10.45. Certainly I will not go beyond authority to call for the resignation of the 22 Commissioner where the authority has failed 22 11 o'clock. But I am happy to confirm that 23 23 to discharge its responsibility. But you know we will not go beyond 10.45 and that is my --24 all that." 24 THE CHAIRMAN: I think that is better. 25 Did you understand at this stage that Mr Pyle 25 MR SANTOS: I cut my cloth. Page 334 Page 336

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1	A. And I should plan for 5 o'clock
2	tomorrow?
3	MR SANTOS: I think 5 o'clock. Well
4	THE CHAIRMAN: Your flight is at 9, I
5	believe.
6	A. At 9.
7	THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, one way or another
8	I am sure we will get you to the flight.
9	A. Thank you.
10	MR SANTOS: I think it is probably best if
11	we deal with the timings
12	THE CHAIRMAN: Privately.
13	MR SANTOS: in writing this evening.
14	THE CHAIRMAN: Actually, so nobody
15	goes until the timing is agreed. You have
16	covered matters extremely thoroughly.
17	There is no need for people to retread the
18	same ground.
19	MR SANTOS: Thank you, sir.
20	THE CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you.
21	(17.41)
22	(Adjourned until Tuesday, 7 May 2024 at 10
23	am)
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