

**Royal Commission
into the Management of Police Informants**

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF PAUL ANTHONY SHERIDAN

1. My full name is Paul Anthony Sheridan.
2. I have previously provided a statement to the Commission dated 12 November 2019.
3. On 5 December 2019, in the course of giving oral evidence to the Commission, the Commission requested I provide a supplementary statement detailing all discussions I have had with Assistant Commissioner Jeff Pope about the closure of the Source Development Unit (SDU) prior to 24 June 2012, as related in my diaries.
4. As stated to the Commission in my first statement, from February 2010 until February 2015, I was the Detective Superintendent in charge of the Covert Services Division. As such, I have reviewed my diary entries from February 2010 up to 26 June 2012.
5. At paragraph 48 of my first statement, I refer to a notation in my diary on 22 June 2012 regarding a discussion between AC Pope and myself about disbanding the SDU.
6. On 22 June 2012, I attended the office of Assistant Commissioner Jeff Pope. At that time Pope showed me a document which he said came from the Comrie Review. I read one page only of the document, which outlined serious legal issues arising from the use of Nicola Gobbo as a human source against persons for whom she had been acting in a legal capacity.
7. Pope indicated to me that the Comrie Review had discovered information which suggested that members of the SDU had potentially conspired to pervert the course of justice.
8. Pope informed me that he intended to brief Chief Commissioner Ken Lay the following week about the matter. Pope and I then had a discussion concerning the implications of this, including that the SDU may need to be disbanded.
9. My recollection at that time is, that I expressed an understanding of what he was saying however I wanted to consider the matter before I commented further on the future of the SDU.
10. I was of the view that the work undertaken by the SDU was important and should continue, however I did feel there was a need for some modification of their practices. I indicated to Pope that I was working over the week-end and would consider it and come back to him.
11. The email I sent to him two days later on 24 June 2012 is in response to our Friday discussion.¹
12. I note in reviewing my diary entries which record meetings and discussions with AC Pope that I usually list the significant topics that we discussed. I note that there is no entry discussing the closure of the SDU prior to Friday 22 June 2012. This would suggest that the closure of the SDU was not discussed prior to that date.
13. My diary records that on 27 June 2012 AC Pope and I had a further discussion regarding the requirement to brief the Chief Commissioner. The entry indicates that I was requested to prepare a high level report covering the issues concerning the SDU, cases other than witness F, the broad range of issues within the SDU, SDU personnel numbers, the number of human sources being managed by the SDU and those human sources that could be re-allocated to other investigative work groups and in context to these issues, Risk Management. I believe

¹ VPL.0005.0013.1125

that the meeting with the Chief Commissioner was subsequently held at Airlie Police College on Thursday 13 December 2012.

Dated: ^{12th} 14 December 2019

Paul Sheridan.

Paul Anthony Sheridan