

**From:** Sheridan, Paul  
**Sent:** Sunday, 24 June 2012 2:45 PM  
**To:** Pope, Jeff  
**Subject:** Confidential

Jeff, I have been thinking over the week end about your pending discussion with the Chief re SDU and handling of witness F.

I thought I would formalise some of my thoughts for your consideration.

I remain in favour of winding up of the unit as it gives us the opportunity to re-design a new and improved work group which would better manage the handling of high risk sources. I believe that with the Comrie review and my own observations over the past two years we have a sound understanding of the issues that need to be addressed and the best way forward.

There are some parallels with the handling of the old armed robbery squad. The current unit labours under the misapprehension that they are doing the right thing for the right reasons, regrettably the handling of F (and probably others!) has shown that in their current form they present as more of a liability than an asset to the professional reputation of the organisation.

Covert Human Source Intelligence sources will remain an important and integral part of future investigation strategy however a re-build of this unit will send a clear message that the value of CHIS will not be accepted without the requisite professionalism and ethics overlay required of a Victoria Police member.

*What really tips the scales for me is that the handling of Witness F has been undertaken and managed by the best trained human source personnel within the Force. These individuals have travelled the world and been trained and educated by the best and yet they still lost their way! In short our best people in this area must be able to ensure that we do not make these mistakes in future!*

Subject to Ken's views we will need a contingency plan re the [REDACTED] course, I have paid for [REDACTED] however we can still use him, I have arranged for his presentation to be filmed this time for future use. We have a [REDACTED] course planned for [REDACTED] the week prior to, we can likely move that a week and use [REDACTED] then also.

We can reimburse other agencies if they have already paid. (likely they have not yet done so!). The [REDACTED] can also be cancelled given we have some two months in which to give notice.

I have perused the list of [REDACTED] qualified personnel, we can if we allocate some of those personnel to manage the CHIS currently on the lists. They could do this from their existing work locations as some are in Crime and others spread across the suburbs. We could do an assessment and best match CHIS to suitable personnel with workgroup relevance or need. There would be less than [REDACTED] CHIS that we would desire to continue on the books in the short term and we could utilise our newer SDU personnel [REDACTED] to ensure effective handover and management.

Whilst I am disappointed with the course of action I believe that it is the best solution in a difficult situation.

Regards,

Paul Sheridan.

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