

***Confidential***

**Independent Investigation into Brook House**

**Thursday, 31 May 2018**

**Interview with**

**Mary Molyneux and Gareth Jones**

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85. **Mr Jones:** After the event, correct, yes.
86. **Ms Molyneux:** The other reason I was going to make another point is that sometimes, I don't know if it's your experience, there can be inconsistency of attendees even when they have meetings. I sometimes wonder is it the right level of the person coming to get things done and so it can ~~be~~ vary; it depends on who chairs a meeting.
87. **Q.** Absolutely.
88. **Ms Molyneux:** Someone like Michelle Brown, for example –
89. **Q.** Will get more done?
90. **Ms Molyneux:** Yes. Even though the framework might be there and it looks good, it very much can depend on who is running it and who is turning up.
91. **Q.** James ~~shared~~ ~~chaired~~ the Detainee of Interest meeting and wasn't expecting to because Security didn't turn up. It lacked the skill of somebody who is used to being in the chair, Conway similarly.
92. **Ms Molyneux:** Yes, I agree.
93. **Q.** Here is a question for you and it's me being provocative; why don't you bang the table about this?
94. **Ms Molyneux:** That is a very fair comment on Use of Force in particular. I'll be honest, yesterday, I was doing some work and then Jackie ~~[Colbran]~~ and I just got together in connection with the ~~[IMB Board]~~ training sessions so I was preparing for them. When I looked back, ~~at as~~ what we as an IMB had ~~distanced-decided~~ our own - I'm talking about Use of Force - we, as an IMB, had ~~to start set as~~ our own priorities for this year. One of them was more of a focus on Use of Force and I looked back and I thought 'we haven't been doing what we said we would do either' and then I thought 'why haven't we?'
95. **Ms Lampard:** Do you mean priority for this coming year?
96. **Ms Molyneux:** Yes; different priorities yes.
97. **Q.** For 2018?
98. **Ms Molyneux:** Yes.
99. **Q.** Sorry, yes.
100. **Ms Molyneux:** It was one of them; it was one of our top ones post-*Panorama*. We would go to these scrutiny meetings, we would spend time talking to detainees who had been affected by the Use of Force. We've been doing that because we do see them ~~[detainees]~~, but I think we can do that in a more qualitative way by catching them later. Then I thought 'why isn't this happening' and some of it was I thought there haven't been meetings, or the meetings keep changing. Now that's not an excuse and, certainly yesterday, I became a bit surprised and thought we need to bang the table about Use of Force. The other things I'm not so sure.
101. **Mr Jones:** On the basis that you were being provocative I'll be provocative back. Yes, in terms of the impact of force on detainees is the issue for us, not necessarily how G4S govern it and/or run the centre. It's the impact of how they run the centre on detainees, which is a priority to us. If there is an overuse of force then that is going to be detrimental to the detainees, or the force which is used is too much, even if it's on a limited basis, or numbers are limited. I accept the implicit criticism of the question to a degree but what is the impact on the detainees is a first priority.

102. **Mr Marsden:** Absolutely, I am being provocative and it isn't your job to manage the place although, interestingly, if you talk to the Chief Executive of G4S he will say 'well, the IMB say things are okay'. He sees you as part of the management reporting but that aside, I agree with you, Gareth, it's not your job to manage the centre. I think you could make a fuss about things like that in the interests of detainees that wouldn't be out of place.

[MM/GJ: If anyone thinks that the IMB says things are "okay": he/she is reading our 2017 annual report selectively.]

103. **Ms Lampard:** In the long run if they're not governing it properly it will have an impact.

104. **Mr Marsden:** Yes, absolutely.

105. **Mr Jones:** It may or may not. You might be right that it will but I suppose my position on this is that there is a role for the IMB, it is independent but it is to ensure that detainees are treated with dignity and respect. Actually, it's very easy to cross over that line in various places.

106. **Q.** It's not to manage the place.

107. **Mr Jones:** We're not trying to manage the place. We can make observations about the strengths of certain individuals, or whatever, and say who is good, bad and indifferent but that's beyond our remit as well. Likewise, how the Home Office are dealing with the detainees and certain of the immigration issues. In fairness, the Home Office, when you go to them, and say 'Joe Bloggs is hacked off because of this', they won't say to us 'you're overstepping the mark, that's beyond your remit'; they will talk to us. Going back to Use of Force, I think the **impact (emphasis)** on detainees is fundamental.

108. **Ms Lampard:** Yes.

109. **Ms Molyneux:** I will say too that, certainly from mine and rota reports and talking to others, our own observations 'are we getting calls regularly, yes; can we probe on that call, what was it about, what force was used? [Yes]'. Talking to detainees and actually seeing uses of force when we just happened to be in the centre, whether it was a serious incident or otherwise. This was our conclusion in our report too, whilst there had been increased uses of force, certainly I and everyone else on the Board, will say that (- I have too many negatives but) it [the uses of force we have observed or otherwise been aware of] does not seem inappropriate. There is that, and then there is the question of the governance, yes.

110. **Q.** I'm sorry to be sort of challenging.

111. **Ms Molyneux:** No, no.

112. **Q.** These are issues we have to work out in our own mind but if you read the IMB report for this year, talking about the Use of Force, it talks about:

113. "Rota members are notified, normally by telephone. [failure to notify is rare and inadvertent. The IMB can review the related paperwork.] "After the *Panorama* programme they [G4S] set up a [weekly] mMulti-disciplinary Scrutiny Panel, at which uUse of fForce, in the preceding weeks is reviewed, both paperwork and camera footage. The IBM has a standing invitation to attend and the Board finds Brook House management to be extremely open on the subject."