

# Transcript created by Epiq

Event: Callum Tulley Video Diaries BBC  
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MALE SPEAKER 1: Go ahead.

CALLUM TULLEY: This Indian boy last week -- sorry. This Indian boy who -- let me start that again. Last week this Indian boy told me he was 18 years old and he had done time in detention when he was under the age of 18. Today he told me he hadn't done any detention when he was below the age of 18 but was telling me he was put in detention just after his 18th birthday. And it was strange because there's something not right about this boy. He's sat in the medical room in a Bart Simpson t-shirt. He doesn't even look 17. I mean he's saying he's 18 so obviously take his word for it but there just seems to be something strange about him and I can't really put my finger on it. He's got a passport that says he's 26 years old apparently. I don't know how he can possibly get away with that. There's just something not right. But we had this conversation today where he said he hadn't been in detention below the age of 18. But I still, even so, I asked him how he felt just being there in Brook House as an 18 year old boy and he was obviously saying it was really tough, it was stressful. Yes, sorry, I mean, there's ... I just wanted to put that in there really because I know we're in ...

MALE SPEAKER 1: How does it feel to see a guy who's the same age, or at least he's claiming he's the same age, you were when you started there?

CALLUM TULLEY: I started working there when I was 18 and I felt like I was too young to be there. However I was going home at night. I had protection from officers. I always had a radio with an alarm bell on it. I was not always safe of course because no one is safe in Brook House but I

was certainly safer than the detainees, as an officer. So when I'm looking at him I can relate to his experience on some level because being in Brook House as an 18 year old is a scary experience. But I can only imagine, for him, it's just ten times worse because he's banged up at night, he's completely exposed to all the elements which detainees suffer from in that place, and we know that they don't always get the support they need. So I felt worried, you know, just looking at him sat there quite innocently in his cartoon t-shirt which he'd made in the textiles room. Everything about this guy screams out to me that he's a child.

MALE SPEAKER 1: What else today?

CALLUM TULLEY: It was about 3.00 when a medical response was called to the courtyard. Actually, it was about 3.00 when two medical responses were called to the courtyard, D Wing courtyard. Seconds afterwards, seconds after that medical response was called, another one was called to just outside the library. I was in the visitors' hall with an officer. There was only a couple of visitors in there so I was able to leave the officer on his own and go to the medical responses. One was in the library and one was on D Wing courtyard. The library is basically right next to D Wing courtyard so they're in close proximity to each other. And I walked down the stairwell to get to the library and I hear all this shouting, I hear all this screaming. And I step out into the corridor, look to my left -- sorry, let me rephrase that again. I step out into the corridor which leads to the library, look to my left, and on the floor is this Kosovan detainee, who actually had tried to take my keys a couple of weeks before, just fitting almost. He was

just -- he looked almost paralysed but he was shaking, he was fitting, he was -- it looked like he was having a seizure, seizures. That's exactly how it -- it looked like he was having a seizure. And these two officers were just holding him in place trying to sort of give him some form of medical assistance while they were waiting for the healthcare staff to arrive. To his right is this massive puddle of sick where he's just obviously vomited. And he is not in a good way at all. It was quite shocking actually, even by Brook House's standards.

He was sort of being seen to and I wanted to sort of get an understanding of what degree the other guys were suffering from spice attacks because, whenever it's a medical response, you assume it's spice related. So I go out on to D Wing courtyard and see this detainee called **DX** -- sorry, see this Moroccan detainee who'd previously bragged to me about the gangs he's been in and the jobs that he's pulled. And he was suffering from a spice attack. Not one quite so strong as the Kosovan's but, even so, he just looked ... He looked completely out of it but he was able to walk, he was able to stumble his way to E Wing with the support of a couple of officers. And I sort of followed him to E Wing where he was searched into his room and then I left E Wing to go back to see how the Kosovan was doing.

And as I'm walking back along the corridor towards E Wing this other guy's just walks through, being assisted by two officers, who's high on spice and who can barely walk and he just appears totally blazed out of his head. And he just zooms past and he's obviously just admitted into E Wing. Another detainee there who needs to be monitored closely. But how many staff? They have three/four members of staff on E Wing and suddenly they're getting an abundance of detainees



and -- abundance is not an accurate word to use, is it. Let me just continue.

This detainee from Columbia, who I'd actually seen start a small fire in the IT room at one stage during my time in Brook House, and during my time undercover actually, he just appeared so -- sorry, I'm sort of losing my -- I was getting in quite a good ... Where shall I start from to continue this story?

MALE SPEAKER 1: So a third detainee's going into E Wing.

CALLUM TULLEY: Yes. Well D149 not gone on to E Wing so assessment ...

MALE SPEAKER 1: Yes. So second detainee's gone on to E Wing. Third detainee you've seen on spice.

CALLUM TULLEY: Sure. Yes. So this detainee, it's the third detainee I've seen on spice, he's admitted into E Wing to be monitored.

I continue going down the corridor back towards the library and, when I get back, healthcare have arrived and they're seeing to him. And the usual jokes, the usual smears from the managers and the officers can be heard. Only you notice healthcare aren't actually laughing this time. They know, they're aware, that something quite serious is happening. This detainee, this Kosovan detainee, he's coming in and out of consciousness. His heart rate is going through the roof and then it's plummeting dramatically. He is not in a good way at all. And it's probably one of the worst spice attacks I've seen in the whole two years that I've been there. He was fitting. He was having seizures. He was frothing at the mouth. He was being sick. Every possible

reaction you can have to spice it appeared that he was having. And it was not a pretty sight and it was really, really sad to see. This guy from Kosovo, he's a challenging individual, who really is, but it just breaks your heart when you see someone like that because he was just a mess, an absolute mess. I can't understand why people want to do this to themselves.

And it got so bad that the healthcare said, "We need to call an ambulance" and an ambulance was called and they injected him with some stuff. And there was all this effort. There's a big crowd of people watching. The resources that it took to see to this guy who was not in a good way it was incredible. And in the end the paramedics who arrived they injected him with some sort of thing, they got the defibrillator out, I'm not sure if they used that on him. And they took him away in a stretcher and he got on the ambulance and then off he went on an emergency escort to hospital.

It was shocking. It was really, really shocking. And I genuinely believe that staff thought this guy might die. He might die. And they were having this conversation. One of the managers, Michelle, and a couple of the nurses, whilst they were seeing to this Kosovan detainee, they were saying, "It's only a matter of time before someone is taken out in a body bag because of their reaction to spice". And I said to the nurse, "Do you really think someone's going to die here?" and she said, "It's only a matter of time. It is only a matter of time before someone there dies". And that can't happen. That can't happen. Things need to change before someone in that place dies.

MALE SPEAKER 1: What sort of jokes were staff cracking?

CALLUM TULLEY: Oh god. No, I can't remember.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Okay.

CALLUM TULLEY: Sorry, mate.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Anything else today?

CALLUM TULLEY: I can't remember. Yes, I can't remember any of the jokes. Sorry, mate. It was just general laughter really sort of thing.

I was in the visitors' hall all afternoon. And I got out of there not long before 6.00. And I made my way down to E Wing to cover breaks and I was told by an officer, Dan, that literally five minutes before I'd arrived, which is frustrating obviously, one of the detainees who reacted to spice, the Moroccan detainee, he apparently was moaning that he wasn't being allowed off the wing on to association. And so an officer called Sean said to him, "You'd better stop smoking that shit then" or words to that effect. This is all being told to me by an officer called Dan. To which the Moroccan took offence and basically ran at him. Then Sean picked up the detainee on the wing, took him into the detainee's cell and backhanded him were the words Dan used across the face.

Then, once I'd left E Wing, I went to sit in the staff room and Sean was there, sat opposite me, and we got on to the conversation. We got on to the ... We started talking about this incident basically. And I said, "What did you do to him?" and he said he picked him up, he took him into the cell, he accidentally put the detainee on the bed, he

accidentally fell on to the detainee and he accidentally used the detainee's face to push himself up. And that was that.

MALE SPEAKER 1: What do you think he meant when he said accidentally?

CALLUM TULLEY: Sean's being sarcastic basically when he's saying accidentally. But what he's also doing is covering himself. There was a couple of officers in that staff room who he probably wouldn't have trusted to admit to physically abusing a detainee. Everyone knew what he meant. It was just sarcasm.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Isn't the reverse kind of true? Who else was in the room listening and was he actually covering himself or was he making pretty clear even in front of a number of officers? I mean I wasn't there, I'm just wondering, but if he was being quite clearly sarcastic, is this an example of someone being happy talking in front of other officers? Yes, sarcastically.

CALLUM TULLEY: Yes. Well I think ... The culture within Brook House allows you to talk about physically abusing detainees. That is true. It doesn't matter who you're in front of. But there generally is a way in which you'd admit to it to certain officers who perhaps you wouldn't trust as much as others. And so he's chosen his words carefully. He's said accidentally a number of times. Very sarcastically. So everyone in the room knows what that means. And he will of course get away with saying that in front of anyone because that is the culture within Brook House.

But if he was around certain officers who he knew to be involved in the physical abuse of detainees at Brook House then he wouldn't have needed to say accidentally. And actually what you would expect an officer to do in that situation is almost give more details, brag more specifically, about the abuse.

When you're around others and you don't know who you can trust then of course you can admit in certain words that you've physically abused people but you can't explicitly say what you've done. Yes, well, yes, I mean, yes, that is the ...

MALE SPEAKER 1: What do you think? Is there ... If a detainee charges at an officer is there any justification to put him on the bed and slap him?

CALLUM TULLEY: If a detainee charges at an officer and tries to attack ... If a detainee charges at an officer and tries to attack him or her that officer's within his rights to protect himself so he can push the detainee away, he can call first response. He can use any means that are proportionate to the threat that he's under. What Sean described to me was that he picked this detainee up, took him into a room and put him on a bed and then pushed his face into the bed to get himself up. To me that doesn't seem like self-defence.

MALE SPEAKER 1: What does it seem like?

CALLUM TULLEY: It seems like an assault on a detainee. It seems like another example of physical abuse within Brook House.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Anything else today?

CALLUM TULLEY: No.

MALE SPEAKER 1: And action.

CALLUM TULLEY: There were three medical responses called for three detainees on spice. Or at least that is what I thought. Later on during the day I found out that it was actually four detainees who were found under the influence of spice. One of them was just taken back to his normal wing. And that's all. I just wanted to get the numbers right.

MALE SPEAKER 1: How many detainees were on spice today and what does that tell us about the flow of drugs into this supposedly secure environment?

CALLUM TULLEY: Well.

MALE SPEAKER 1: We should be clear. We're not talking about full on drugs. We don't know how many are on drugs.

CALLUM TULLEY: Yes, exactly. Yes, exactly.

MALE SPEAKER 1: There was four so messed up that it required ...

CALLUM TULLEY: Yes. Yes. There are a total of four detainees so messed up that they required medical attention. But, in reality, you walk around the wings and you see people high, you see people extremely high, on drugs. It might be cannabis. It might be spice. It might be other stuff. But what we're seeing is that the flow of drugs in Brook House is so

constant, so regular. And it's not just drugs that's coming in. It's hard drugs which are having serious, serious effects on people's health where people are just collapsing. The detainees are dropping like flies at the moment in Brook House. The centre can't cope with the amount of guys who have been found under the influence of spice and they can't cope with the detainees. They can't cope to the strength of this stuff that's in the centre at the moment. And it just shows that there is ... It just shows that the centre cannot control the ... Fuck's sake. This really pisses me off when it gets to this time in the evening.

MALE SPEAKER 1: No. I feel like you're there. I feel like you're there. But I think it just is that thought. The place is the centre and control the flow of drugs. Are they stopping it getting in?

CALLUM TULLEY: The place just is not in control of the flow of drugs coming in at the moment. They can't stop it coming in.  
(Inaudible) detainee. He's been in and out of prison for various crimes. He's been in and out of Brook House. He's a heroin addict and he's been released. He's been given opportunities. He's relapsed. He's come back and the cycle's continued and continued. And he's then put on to B Wing. Even he says it himself he doesn't understand why he's been put on to B Wing, the induction wing.  
Sorry, mate, can we just cut that a sec. Can you ...

MALE SPEAKER 1: Rolling.



CALLUM TULLEY: This guy's been in and out of prison. He's been in and out of Brook House. By his own admission he's a heroin user and by his own admission he's a criminal. And -- sorry, what am I saying shit like that? Fuck's sake.

This guy's been in and out of prison. He's been in and out of Brook House. He's a heroin user. And he's been put on the induction wing, to his surprise. He doesn't know why he's been put there. Staff don't know why he's been put there. And yet he's there. He is there. And he's gone to healthcare to get methadone to help him with his heroin addiction. And I wasn't there. I don't know if they gave him the correct amount or not. But he's saying they didn't. And so he's saying he's having to self-medicate by smoking spice. And this guy shouldn't even be on the induction wing. He shouldn't be able to get drugs in the induction wing.

But also staff should be giving detainees the correct medication, if they require it. I'm not saying he did require more methadone. But it's not the first time I've heard of staff, healthcare staff, not treating detainees the way they should be, not giving them the medication they need, not giving them the treatment they need.

And this whole place is just it's not run properly, it's not run right. This is an induction wing where a detainee who's been in and out of the custodial estate on numerous times has been placed. Where someone's been able to smoke spice and, as a result, we can infer that he's been able to buy spice and take it either on the wing or take spice from the association wings on to the wing. It's just ... You can't write this stuff.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Nice. Rolling.

CALLUM TULLEY: The detainee gets taken to E Wing to be monitored. He's put in a bed in one of the rooms. And I'm sat there looking at him and he starts singing in his native language. I'm not sure what he's saying. It's almost as if it's a call to prayer. And one of the managers, Nathan Ring, walks in, stands over him and says, "Stay still you div", calls him a scrotum. And I soon asked Nathan, "What's the best way to deal with this guy?" and Nathan says, "Just leave him. Just leave him there". And staff are stood around mocking him and laughing at him.

And Nathan makes these situations a lot worse. He encourages staff to laugh. He leads the way with the taunts and the mocking. And we've seen this guy make fun of detainees who are trying to commit suicide. We've seen this guy make fun of detainees who are suffering from Brook House's spice epidemic. Because that's what it's going through at the minute, it's a spice epidemic in Brook House right now. And we've seen him forge things on meal lists to say detainees have eaten when they completely haven't, when they may well have started hunger strikes. It's a disgrace that this guy is being given a position in Brook House as a manager.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Tell me about Nathan.

CALLUM TULLEY: Nathan Ring's one of the duty managers. He works on the ...  
Nathan Ring is one of the duty managers. He works on the shop floor, so to speak. And staff find him funny. He's quite a popular bloke. But only with a certain group of staff. There are a lot of guys who find the man quite intimidating. Who would laugh and smile just

because he has the backing of ... Sorry. I don't ... Maybe cut. I don't know.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Okay. Tell me about Nathan.

CALLUM TULLEY: Nathan Ring's one of the duty managers at Brook House. He is known by staff to just swan around and not do much. I very rarely see him working. And it's sort of a running joke really that he just doesn't really do anything within the centre.

And he demonstrates some really concerning behaviour. Some staff are quite disturbed by it but they would never speak out of course. And a lot of staff find him hilarious. He will always attend first responses and medical responses and, if there's a joke to be made, he'll make it, at somebody else's expense.

He is respected by officers and he leads by example unfortunately. People look up to him. And it's not healthy because he will humiliate detainees in front of staff. He will encourage staff to ... Sorry.

MALE SPEAKER 1: I think you're there.

CALLUM TULLEY: Good.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Go ahead.

CALLUM TULLEY: One of the E Wing officers called Gary told me that another E Wing officer called Tom had moved to ... Sorry. One of the E Wing officers, Gary, had told -- sorry. One of the E Wing officers, Gary, told me that another E Wing officer, Tom, has moved to Tinsley House to

work because he has become mentally disturbed by Brook House.  
He can't cope with it mentally anymore and he's had to go, he's had to move. Try that again.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Okay. Tell me about this Romanian detainee.

CALLUM TULLEY: Can we cut there? Sorry.  
So this Romanian. Sorry. This Romanian detainee is in his late forties, early fifties. I'm told by staff that he's committed some pretty horrific crimes. [Sensitive/Irrelevant] is just one of them. He can be quite an intimidating bloke. He's done some very unpleasant stuff. Oh fuck this shit, mate. Can we try that again?

MALE SPEAKER 1: Yes.

CALLUM TULLEY: This Romanian detainee. This Romanian detainee's in his late forties, early fifties. I'm told by staff he's done some pretty horrific crimes. One of them's [Sensitive/Irrelevant] He is intimidating. But he's also got a serious heart condition. He's got some quite serious medical issues. Sorry. It's just --

MALE SPEAKER 1: That's fine. Could you just tell me, he's had a couple of heart attacks.

CALLUM TULLEY: Yes.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Just say that.

CALLUM TULLEY: No. Well shall I just start again?

MALE SPEAKER 1: Sure.

CALLUM TULLEY: This Romanian detainee. This Romanian detainee is in his late forties, early fifties. He's got quite a fierce reputation. I'm told by staff that he's committed some horrific crimes. Sensitive/Irrelevant is just one of them. But he also has some serious medical issues. He's had a few heart attacks and he's had -- fuck this shit, mate.

MALE SPEAKER 1: You know what though but you got it right. I just don't know why you said the end. Last one. Okay.

CALLUM TULLEY: What is it?

MALE SPEAKER 1: So do you know how long you've been working at Brook House exactly as of today?

CALLUM TULLEY: Today I've been working at Brook House for exactly two years as a detainee custody officer.

MALE SPEAKER 1: Happy anniversary.

CALLUM TULLEY: (Laughs) Not a happy anniversary at all. I spent my afternoon watching a detainee fitting, having seizures, vomiting, eyes bulging, mouth frothing. Staff laughing at him. It's just ... It's probably the third worst day I've had at Brook House after my 21st birthday and Christmas Day.