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**Gold Group**

**Phone Hacking**

**Friday 10th September at 1400hrs**

**Room 556 (ACSO Office) – Victoria block, NSY**

**1. Persons present**

|                         |    |
|-------------------------|----|
| AC Yates (Chair)        | JY |
| DAC Osborne             | SO |
| DCS Clive Timmons       | CT |
| D/Supt Dean Haydon      | DH |
| Naz Saleh               | NS |
| Emma Harraway           | EH |
| Sara Cheesley           | SC |
| D/Supt Mark Ponting     | MP |
| DCI Mark Morgan         | MM |
| D/Supt Kevin Southworth | KS |

**2. Future Membership of the Gold Group**

As above

**3. Command structures**

Officer in Overall Command is ACSO  
Cmdr Kavanagh will be Silver for DH's involvement - Op Varec refers.

**4. Terms of reference for the Gold Group and various strands**

The Gold Group will primarily be setting strategic direction for any inquiries made, establishing parameters and ensuring that key stakeholder engagement is managed appropriately.

DH's proposed terms of reference circulated for comment for the enquiries being made by his team. Op VAREC is the operation name.

**Action:** Comments to DH please. DH then to finalise ToRs.

DH also raised the following:

- Tom Watson MP has apparently suggested MP's write to the MPS. Impact for DLS / MPS discussed.

**Action:** DLS to act as Single Point of Contact for letter receipt and responses.

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- Chris Bryant MP (possible evidence he may be in possession of regarding his own phone that may have been subject to hacking)

(See above re correspondence being managed by DLS. Mr Bryant MP has already exchanged letters with DLS some time ago)

- Management of additional requests - FOIA etc

**Action:** KS to liaise with FOIA team SMT re managing responses to these across MPS and ensure consistency. DPA and DLS to assist.

- SCD investigation - Kelly Hoppen and Dan Evans

MP gave overview of this matter. No 'overlap' as such at this stage with the original Caryatid investigation other than the commonality that Ms Hoppen has written in asking if she has been subject to 'hacking'

**Action:** SC to liaise with SCD counterpart and agree consistent lines wrt Op VAREC

- Parliamentary Committees and preparation of material

**Action:** JY to write to the Secretary of the Parliamentary Privilege and Standards Committee re the current police position to inform their decision making.

**Action:** JY's Private Office to establish when HASC next intends to sit

- Other journalists / witnesses that may come forward - as yet unidentified.

(See DH's ToRs)

**5. DSU Haydon's updates;**

- New York Times - material requested
- Sean Hoare - initial contact now made
- Sharon Marshall - meeting to be sought this weekend
- Andy Coulson - awaits outcome of initial enquiries
- Ross Hall \*
- Brendan Montague \*
- Paul McMullan \*

(\* Action to be determined by DH. Initial Gold guidance is that all new witnesses of this nature will need to be approached as part of Op VAREC )

**6. Crown Prosecution Service**

SC updated that consistent press lines have been agreed.

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Aska Hussein and Simon Clements are the appointed CPS reps and have met with the DPP re this matter. David Perry QC and Mark Hayward QC now appointed to give advice on S2 RIPA (the former specifically re Goodman/Mulcaire and the latter in the general sense)

**7. DLS issues**

Timescales for responses to MPs letters to be prompt (exact chronology to be agreed with JY's outer office - KS leading).

Need for accuracy in all responses re-asserted by JY

**Action:** DCS Philip Williams to provide a brief on the victim strategy to date. (Agenda item for next meeting)

**8. Media**

(See earlier points)

**Action:** Cmdr Kavanagh to liase with Cmdr Hewitt re engagement with the Press Complaints Commission

**9. Stakeholder management**

JY has written to Home Office and MPA. Ongoing engagement managed by JY and outer office

**10. AOB**

MP raised need for consistency of approach with DH in terms of how to manage approaches to persons involved - fully agreed.

**11. Next meeting**

Provisionally set for Friday 17th September. Time to be confirmed.