

## Amy Nicholls

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**From:** Exley, Victoria [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 July 2022 17:34  
**To:** Martin Smith  
**Cc:** Amy Nicholls; Laura Singleton  
**Subject:** Dawn Sturgess Inquiry - Preliminary Hearing 15 July 2022  
**Importance:** High

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE

Dear Mr Smith

There have been a number of positive developments since Wiltshire Police (WP) filed their submissions dated 28 June 2022 and I therefore write to provide you with the most up-to-date position ahead of the directions hearing on 15 July 2022.

Most significantly, all of the IT hardware, for which WP is reliant upon NCTPHQ, has now been installed/delivered as follows:

- The CT Holmes equipment documented at para 3b of WP's submissions has been installed and we expect network connection to be imminent.
- The 5 additional NSN terminals stated at para 3c of WP's submissions have been delivered and installed (3 of which still require local IT ports, which is actively being resolved); and
- The "material folder" referred to at para 3d of WP's submissions has been set up and access authorised.

In addition, a VTC has been installed at Devizes HQ which will allow secure conferencing with Op Verbasco and other partners, for which WP are grateful.

This is a big step forward and enables WP to be more self-sufficient within the disclosure process and to finally make progress with the uploading of our scheduled material for consideration by the HMG disclosure team.

Access to the limited number of secure terminals for uploading WP's documents onto the secure system for review by the HMG disclosure team is to be agreed by Operation Verbasco and WP on a rolling basis. An initial date of 19 July 2022 for WP to begin uploading material has been agreed.

Once the material is uploaded, its progression through the process is dependent upon the speed at which HMG disclosure team are able to review it (as explained in WP's submissions at para 3e). We have however recently been in talks with GLD regarding how best to keep each other informed of any uploaded material and its progression through the process. WP is mindful of the pressure on HMG disclosure team, and once WP's material starts being uploaded (at Stage 4) WP will consider any feedback from the HMG disclosure team on how that pressure might be reduced.

WP hope that this update is encouraging.

WP repeats the gratitude expressed to Op Verbasco for their assistance (WP's submissions at paras 3b and 4) and expresses its thanks to NCTPHQ for installing the hardware and setting up the accounts / granting the permissions described above and in WP's submissions.

Should any further information be required, please do let me know.

Kind regards,

Victoria

**Victoria Exley**

Head of Legal Services  
Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner

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## Making Wiltshire Safer

Wiltshire and Swindon

**pcc**

