

OPEN Statement made on behalf of: The Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis

Witness: Deputy Chief Constable Nicholas Baker

Statement No: 1

Exhibits Referred to:

Date Statement Made:

**IN THE FIRST-TIER TRIBUNAL
(GENERAL REGULATORY CHAMBER)
INFORMATION RIGHTS**

**Appeal reference:
EA.2018.0164, 0165,
0166, 0167, 0168, 0169,
0170, 0171, 0172**

Between

Privacy International

Appellant

-and-

Information Commissioner

Respondent

-and-

Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police Service (joined to EA.2018.0164)
Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset (joined to EA.2018.0166)
Chief Constable of Kent Police (joined to EA.2018.0167)
Chief Constable of South Yorkshire Police (joined to EA.2018.0168)
Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire (joined to EA.2018.0169)
Police and Crime Commissioner for Warwickshire (joined to EA.2018.0170)
Police and Crime Commissioner for West Midlands (joined to EA.2018.0172)
Second Respondents

Witness: Deputy Chief Constable Nicholas Baker

Occupation: Police Officer

Address: C/O Directorate of Legal Services, 10 Lamb's Conduit Street, London WC1N 3NR

1. I am Nicholas Baker, the Deputy Chief Constable employed by Staffordshire Police. I am also the National Police Chief Council lead for Technical Surveillance Units and Digital Forensics.
2. The NPCC fully endorse the OPEN statement made by Detective Superintendent Steve Williams of the Metropolitan Police, which has been shared with me, and, in particular, endorse the continued use of a neither nor deny response to queries that seek to interrogate police use of covert tactics and equipment. This suitably protects the unnecessary disclosure of tactics and capabilities information, which is carefully sought by Organised Crime Groups and terrorist networks.
3. We understand legitimate concerns around transparency and accountability but believe that the statutory frameworks that authorise the use of covert tactics and techniques are robust and suitably endeavour to reassure any public interest.

STATEMENT OF TRUTH

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true

Signed..........

Dated.....21/05/2019.....