

28. On 23rd November 2000 DCS McBurney I attended a directional meeting with Chris Mahaffey, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from PONI. My report is at pages 2871 to 2876. In this meeting DCS McBurney outlined his strategy when he dealt with the investigation in 1997. DCS McBurney left the meeting and we discussed an arrest and intrusive surveillance strategy.
29. On 5th December 2000 DCS McBurney and I had a meeting with Chris Mahaffey, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from PONI. My report at pages 2884 to 2889 is my record of that meeting.
30. Later, Raymond Kitson from the DPP's office joined the meeting and we discussed how to use Andrea McKee as a Crown Witness. We needed to get evidence from a key player inside the conspiracy and Andrea McKee was that person. At the meeting we looked at legal issues that we needed to consider if Andrea McKee was going to give evidence for the Crown and how we would properly present her as a witness of truth. We decided as a group at that meeting that we would deal with Andrea McKee and her criminality in the same way as the other suspects and then present her as a witness of truth.
31. I have been asked whether Mr Kitson gave any direction at this meeting as to how to deal with Andrea McKee. He did not. The nature of the DPP's office at that time was to offer advice and direction upon receipt of a crime prosecution file and Mr Kitson made this clear at the meeting. The DPP, as an independent prosecution service, did not get intimately involved in investigations and it was for the police to decide how the investigation should proceed. I have been asked why Mr Kitson came to the meeting. Mr Kitson had been previously involved in consultations about the crime files submitted in relation to the incident and my understanding was that Mr Kitson was a helpful source of legal guidance in respect of the current investigation of Andrea McKee, Robert Atkinson and others.
32. During the meeting on 5th December 2000 I was made aware that Michael McKee had received a threatening letter which included a bullet. This is