

Honeyford raised in my view a valid point by saying 'what on earth was to be gained in not treating him as a suspect if indeed he was a suspect'. During my investigation nothing was uncovered to suggest that Timothy Jameson received any form of protection or favour.

30. Ultimately Reserve Constable **G** did not hear what **P20** had said to the senior officers when they went to Portadown Police station and sadly **P20** because of medical problems was unable to ever recollect telling them anything. McBurney, Irwin and Honeyford all said in interview what was to be gained by not treating Jameson as a suspect and I think to a degree I accept what they say.
31. The handling of Andrea McKee and this part of the investigation does cause concern. McBurney's explanation does not make much sense and Irwin in interview expresses his own disbelief in being asked to do what he was asked to do. Irwin was told by McBurney 'just go and get it, don't challenge it, if she starts to make any admissions take the appropriate action.'
32. I don't think Andrea McKee should have been allowed to make her statement on 29 October 1997; there should have been a separate officer or team to investigate the false alibi evidence. I think McBurney's thinking around this whole issue was flawed.
33. Why Andrea McKee was interviewed and a witness statement taken from her on 20 June 2000 I cannot understand. I was shocked that McBurney had gone down that path without seeking any advice whatsoever. I say that understanding the position of the DPP at that time where advice would only be given upon the receipt of a file of evidence. After the delays involved I am certain a report could have been submitted to have obtained some form of advice.
34. I do not believe that Mr. McBurney should have been the SIO on all the elements involved in the Hamill case. I was unable to find any evidence of control of the investigations by senior officers within the RUC by way of direction or support. The only area where we did find some senior input is with the Chief Constable Sir Ronnie Flanagan. Barra McGrory had questioned the