39279 – 39280]. I have been asked about paragraph 5 of the paper under the heading 'links between officers and defendants'. I provide a suggested response to this for the SoS to use if it is raised. I suggest that she point out that specific allegations are required but that she should offer, with the family's agreement, to pass the information to the Supervising Member for the ICPC Mr. Kevin Murnaghan. I have no memory of actually contacting Mr. Murnaghan (or more probably the staff in the ICPC) and it is more likely that I did not. As mentioned, however, the line for the SoS said that any contact would take place with the families' agreement and I have no recollection of such agreement having been forthcoming (it is not in the minutes) or any document to support that I did make contact. There had been situations over the years where complainants would write to the Secretary of State but would not want any of the information they provided passed on hence I suggested that the Secretary of State should seek specific approval.. .In addition the matter was, of course drawn to the attention off the Chie Constable.

13. Document **39281 – 39283** is a record made by the Private Secretary to the Secretary of State of the meeting held with the Hamill family on 24 November 1997, at which I was present with John Steele to support the Secretary of State. The note was addressed to me and the final paragraph asked that I follow up matters upon which the Secretary of State had undertaken to advise the family. There are handwritten notes on the document [page **39282**] which I recognise as my writing and which I would have inserted from my knowledge of the case.

14. With regard to the handwritten note '*yet they have been told there was no video evidence'*. There was an evident belief from the Hamill family that there was video evidence of the Land Rover at the scene. I believe that I was noting that we had been