

43. On 28 April 1997, I resumed duty at 09.00 and as I recorded in my notebook at page 11105, I was briefed by Detective Sergeant Bradley and Detective Inspector Irwin. This was a Monday morning briefing which was a regular office briefing which dealt with occurrences arising within Portadown Subdivision and also within the Division. The incident involving Robert Hamill and D was discussed and I think that we were given further instructions in respect of recovering any available CCTV footage.
44. I recall that I was accompanied by another officer when I went to retrieve CCTV footage. My notebook at page 11104 records that I called at the Alliance & Leicester and I spoke to a member of staff, Ms Monica O'Reilly. I would have asked Monica O'Reilly for the tapes having looked at the cameras to see the view that they could potentially record. In this case the Alliance and Leicester bank is on the corner and it has a glass front area to it. I was expecting to have CCTV footage of outside of the bank.
45. I received two tapes and labelled them 'MORI' and 'MOR2'. I used Monica O'Reilly's initials [MOR] on the tapes as the origin of the tapes would then be easily recognisable. I noted in my notebook that I had taken possession of these tapes and it would have been recorded on an action sheet.
46. I viewed those two tapes back at the station. I do not recall if anyone else was present when I viewed them. The tapes were black; total darkness. There were internal views nothing on them and no external views. I believe that the cameras were switched off on the Friday or the Saturday after the close of business and therefore there was nothing on the tapes.
47. The procedure for reporting what was on the tapes was, at that time, simply to debrief the SIO. I think in this case I sought direction from DI Irwin and DCI P39 with regards to what we should do with the tapes given that they had nothing on them. It was agreed that they could be returned. It was not force policy at that stage to copy tapes that were of no consequence. I believe that it became force policy in 1997 or later that we would record and keep tapes.