

absolutely no mandatory power to take over an investigation. By contrast to PONI, who now has the power to 'call in' a matter that is creating exceptional public interest, the ICPC had no statutory power to 'call in' of its own volition. For the ICPC to have really undertaken supervision regarding the allegations against RC Atkinson, the least we would have required would have been a complaint about this aspect or a referral from the Chief Constable at that time.

15. The ICPC was only supervising the specific lines of inquiry outlined in the letter from [REDACTED] on behalf of Diane Hamill. This initial letter of complaint and our correspondence with Diane Hamill made the remit of our investigation very clear. The allegations against RC Atkinson were eventually referred to, and initially supervised by, Mr [REDACTED] of the ICPC. But in May 1997, the primary concern of the supervised investigation by the ICPC was the alleged failure of the RUC Officers to prevent the assault on Robert Hamill, or to act as promptly as they could have done, and not the issues of subsequent telephone calls between the Police and suspects.
16. At the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> May 1997 DCS McBurney also set out some background information on the incident of which we were not previously aware, and gave us a substantial file incorporating all the documentary evidence he had gathered to date on the GBH and murder investigations. We took the file away with us after the meeting and it was then my responsibility to review the documentary evidence, analyse and highlight the salient issues and then inform Mr [REDACTED] for follow-up action, if that was appropriate. From the papers that I had received, I prepared a full report on these issues dated 15<sup>th</sup> May 1997 at pages 27253 to 27269, in advance a meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1997.
17. This meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> May 1997 took place at 7pm at Portadown Police Station, and was attended by [REDACTED] DCS McBurney, DCI [REDACTED] P39, DI Irwin, Superintendent Anderson and I. The minutes of this meeting are recorded in File Note 10A dated 20<sup>th</sup> May 1997, at page 27252. A strategy was discussed and agreed between Mr [REDACTED] and DCS McBurney about the progress of the complaint in terms of witnesses and interviews. The minutes outline our views on the investigation to date, raise a number of issues and state the way