

# The Fingerprint Inquiry | Scotland

## TEXT OF LETTER SENT TO THE CORE PARTICIPANTS IN THE INQUIRY ON 17 JULY 2009

### August and September hearings

We are undertaking two separate exercises at the moment.

One is exploring with SPSA and the Crown Office developments in practice since 1997 with particular reference to the non-numeric system and working practices generally. The second is the comparative exercise on Y7 and the part of Q12 attributed to Marion Ross.

There will be a two week hearing in August. That may feature SPSA and Crown Office and will include the first part of the comparative exercise. We'll keep people posted.

So far as the comparative exercise is concerned we are currently ingathering primary contributions from eight people - the four main SCRO witnesses (Hugh Macpherson, Charles Stewart, Fiona McBride and Anthony McKenna) and the people we choose to call the principal contradictors who are Ian Macleod, Geoffrey Grigg, Pat Wertheim and Arie Zeelenberg.

That comparative exercise is done by reference to a common set of images.

Once those primary contributions are received we will then circulate them for comment not only among those who have made primary contributions but also secondary witnesses. The secondary witnesses are Robert Mackenzie, Alan Dunbar, Peter Swann, Martin Leadbetter, John McGregor, Alan Bayle and David Halliday.

If you want any more information concerning these individuals please ask.

The primary and secondary responses will then be analysed with the assistance of the Met and form the basis for the hearings in August and September.

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The Fingerprint Inquiry is an independent public inquiry under the Inquiries Act 2005, chaired by the Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell. All correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary to the Inquiry at the above address.

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The split between August and September is dictated by two considerations: i) the non-availability in August of Zeelenberg and Wertheim and ii) the intention to give the SCRO four the last word.

So that means that in August we are anticipating leading evidence on Y7 and Q12 from Ian Macleod and Geoffrey Grigg, Robert Mackenzie and Alan Dunbar, Peter Swann and Martin Leadbetter.

Evidence from these witnesses beyond the comparative exercise remains to be explored.

The rest of the primary contributors will be in September with a decision to be taken at a future date about whether John McGregor, Alan Bayle and David Halliday require to give oral evidence.

If any of the core participants have comments on this please let us know as soon as possible.

In addition to the exercises referred to above, we have still to obtain witness statements from Allan Bayle, Martin Leadbetter, Richard Luckcraft, John McGregor, Iain McKie, Lynn McNally (nee Nicol), William O'Neill, Peter Swann, Pat Wertheim and Arie Zeelenberg.

If any of the core participants wish to propose that the Inquiry obtain a statement from anyone else, please give us their name and the lines of inquiry to be pursued with them – again as soon as possible.

Finally, as Sir Anthony said in bringing the hearing on Friday 10 July to a close, if there are any emerging issues you suggest that the Inquiry should explore please let us know – again as quickly as possible.

In order that we can advance matters ahead of the August hearing, if you do wish to raise any matters with us it would be helpful if you could do so by close on Wednesday 29 July.

Yours sincerely

Ann Nelson  
Solicitor & Secretary to the Inquiry