

<p>1 Tuesday, 3 July 2018</p> <p>2 (10.00 am)</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, everyone. Welcome to</p> <p>4 today's hearing. We are going to continue in a moment,</p> <p>5 I think, with Mr O'Beirne.</p> <p>6 Is that right, Mr Millett?</p> <p>7 MR MILLETT: Yes, Mr Chairman, we are. Thank you very much.</p> <p>8 If we can please have Mr O'Beirne back to the</p> <p>9 witness table.</p> <p>10 JUSTIN O'BEIRNE (continued)</p> <p>11 Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good morning, Mr O'Beirne.</p> <p>13 THE WITNESS: Morning, sir.</p> <p>14 MR MILLETT: Morning, Mr O'Beirne.</p> <p>15 A. Morning.</p> <p>16 Q. We are going to continue your evidence this morning.</p> <p>17 Just to recap where we were last night when we stopped,</p> <p>18 we were somewhere up in the building, I think between</p> <p>19 the 10th and 11th floors.</p> <p>20 A. No, we were between 11 and 12.</p> <p>21 Q. I was going to ask you, I think a little higher than</p> <p>22 that, and we had stopped, I think, at the point when</p> <p>23 I had asked you about the timing at the foot of page 15,</p> <p>24 when you say that you believe it was around this time,</p> <p>25 somewhere between the 7th and 10th floors, that you</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 1</p>	<p>1 A. I didn't notice them.</p> <p>2 Q. You didn't notice.</p> <p>3 A. If they were hysterical, if they were coughing,</p> <p>4 I would've probably have paid more attention to them;</p> <p>5 therefore, I didn't really pay any attention to them.</p> <p>6 Q. Then in the next paragraph on the same page, you say:</p> <p>7 "When I was standing still having a think on the</p> <p>8 half landing, I heard a scream, or a shout at least."</p> <p>9 About 5 lines down from that, you say:</p> <p>10 "After about 10 seconds I thought the shout sounded</p> <p>11 too clear to have come from behind two closed doors so</p> <p>12 I went up to the landing and opened the door to the</p> <p>13 floor. I believe this was on the 11th or 12th floor."</p> <p>14 So let me see if I can understand physically where</p> <p>15 you start.</p> <p>16 So you were having a think on the half landing; is</p> <p>17 that the half landing between the 10th and 11th floor,</p> <p>18 which I suggested at the start this morning, or is it</p> <p>19 between the 11th and the 12th?</p> <p>20 A. No, that was between floors 11 and 12.</p> <p>21 Q. So the half landing was between floors 11 and 12?</p> <p>22 A. Yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you clock that at the time?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you think, "I am between floors 11 and 12"? How do</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 3</p>
<p>1 heard Mr Dowden saying "make pumps eight". So I'm just</p> <p>2 trying to refocus where we got to.</p> <p>3 If you go then to your statement at page 16, at the</p> <p>4 top, you say:</p> <p>5 "At this point a few people were coming down the</p> <p>6 stairs but it was still very quiet."</p> <p>7 I was about to get on, I think, to ask you what you</p> <p>8 saw of them.</p> <p>9 First of all, you say a few people; can you give us</p> <p>10 a bit more information about how many you saw at that</p> <p>11 stage when you'd stopped on the stairs?</p> <p>12 A. No, I couldn't. It's very hard to remember the amount</p> <p>13 of people that were coming down, if any. I really can't</p> <p>14 remember.</p> <p>15 Q. Do you remember anything about the condition they were</p> <p>16 in? How easy it was for them to breathe?</p> <p>17 A. They weren't noticeably -- you know, at that time,</p> <p>18 I didn't notice that they were overcome with smoke or</p> <p>19 anything or in any sort of distress.</p> <p>20 Q. You say in the second line:</p> <p>21 "They didn't say anything to me and weren't</p> <p>22 hysterical or running. They just kept walking down past</p> <p>23 me."</p> <p>24 I think you just said they weren't showing signs of</p> <p>25 smoke inhalation, or were they?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 2</p>	<p>1 you know you were?</p> <p>2 A. I know I was because after reading the information that</p> <p>3 the London Fire Brigade has produced last week, the lady</p> <p>4 that come out of floor 12 was the lady that I opened the</p> <p>5 door for.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. So the 11th or 12th floor is something you found</p> <p>7 out later?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, I couldn't have told you before the exact floor</p> <p>9 that she come out of, no.</p> <p>10 Q. But at the time you did your statement, how did you</p> <p>11 remember that you believed that this was on the 11th or</p> <p>12 12th floor?</p> <p>13 A. I was only referencing from floor 9 and counting up.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay.</p> <p>15 Do you remember whether you could see, clearly</p> <p>16 visible on the landings in the stairwell, the numbers of</p> <p>17 the floors as you were going up?</p> <p>18 A. No. As I said earlier, I don't have any recollection of</p> <p>19 seeing any numbers on the landings.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 Then you say, as I have just shown you at the top of</p> <p>22 that paragraph, going back to it:</p> <p>23 "... I heard a scream, or a shout at least."</p> <p>24 Then you say in the middle:</p> <p>25 "I believe this was on the 11th or 12th floor."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 4</p>

<p>1 You I think went to investigate, didn't you?</p> <p>2 A. Yes. When I heard the scream, I realised it had come</p> <p>3 from above me. So when I say 11th or 12th, obviously</p> <p>4 I wasn't too sure. When I wrote -- when the police</p> <p>5 statement was getting done, I wasn't aware of the exact</p> <p>6 floor, but what I was aware of is that when I was</p> <p>7 standing on the half landing, the shout or scream came</p> <p>8 from above me.</p> <p>9 Q. Yes.</p> <p>10 Then just below halfway down that paragraph, after</p> <p>11 your reference to 11th or 12th floor, you say:</p> <p>12 "After a few seconds a woman shot out from that</p> <p>13 floor into the stairwell on her hands and knees which</p> <p>14 gave me a bit of a fright."</p> <p>15 You go on to say:</p> <p>16 "She came out quickly as if she knew her life was in</p> <p>17 danger. She didn't say anything to me but appeared</p> <p>18 extremely distressed. "</p> <p>19 Do you remember whether she showed any signs of</p> <p>20 smoke inhalation?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. What signs?</p> <p>23 A. Like mucus from her nose, spit.</p> <p>24 Q. Really?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, she was -- she had taken in a lot of smoke.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 5</p>	<p>1 Q. You say, "I asked her whether there was anyone there";</p> <p>2 did you actually ask her, "Is there anybody in your</p> <p>3 flat?"</p> <p>4 A. I remember asking everybody who was coming out --</p> <p>5 I didn't ask if it was her flat, I said, "Is there</p> <p>6 anyone else there?"</p> <p>7 Q. Right. Did you ask her for her flat number?</p> <p>8 A. No. No, I didn't.</p> <p>9 Q. Then you say in the next paragraph:</p> <p>10 "I quickly looked into the lobby of the floor that</p> <p>11 she had come from and I could see that there was thick</p> <p>12 black smoke from floor to ceiling."</p> <p>13 Can you remember what visibility through that smoke</p> <p>14 was like?</p> <p>15 A. Absolutely zero.</p> <p>16 Q. At that stage, did you radio down and tell Mike Dowden</p> <p>17 what you'd seen?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. Is there a reason why you didn't do that?</p> <p>20 A. There was no reason why I didn't do it, but I didn't do</p> <p>21 it.</p> <p>22 Q. You didn't do it.</p> <p>23 Did you think to call down and ask for urgent BA</p> <p>24 wearers to come up as fast as possible to the 12th</p> <p>25 floor?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 7</p>
<p>1 Q. Right. And she was coming out from the 12th-floor lobby</p> <p>2 into the stairwell?</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 At that point, what did you think -- having seen her</p> <p>6 come out in that condition from that lobby -- was</p> <p>7 happening in the building at that level, level 12?</p> <p>8 A. As I said, just moments before that, I've just realised</p> <p>9 that the fire has been jumping from window to window, is</p> <p>10 what I presumed at the time, and now I thought that the</p> <p>11 12th-floor flat above the fire floor -- the flat above</p> <p>12 the fire flat was on fire.</p> <p>13 Q. So it's now gone up how many floors, eight floors?</p> <p>14 A. I can't remember. Maybe you could refresh -- how many</p> <p>15 floors it's gone up from the original, or ...?</p> <p>16 Q. Well, from the fourth to the 12th is eight.</p> <p>17 A. I thought floor 9, it hadn't affected, but 10, 11 and 12</p> <p>18 it had, and 7 -- well, obviously affected 4, but from 5</p> <p>19 up to 8 that it's affected.</p> <p>20 Q. What happened to the lady after that, do you remember?</p> <p>21 A. I probably wrote it in my statement that she left in</p> <p>22 quite a hurry. I don't know if you want to bring my</p> <p>23 statement up, but I did say to her on the way down, "Was</p> <p>24 anyone in there?" and she just carried on, I presume to</p> <p>25 exit building.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 6</p>	<p>1 A. Not right then, no.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you do it later?</p> <p>3 A. From memory, I think the two guys come down very soon</p> <p>4 after that -- after that lady come out of that door.</p> <p>5 Q. Yes. Well, we'll come to that in a moment.</p> <p>6 Did you have any thoughts at that time about whether</p> <p>7 the advice to stay put in your flat remained safe advice</p> <p>8 to give to residents?</p> <p>9 A. At that time, I just thought that the compartment above</p> <p>10 the original fire floor or the original flat that</p> <p>11 would've been alight -- I didn't think of any other</p> <p>12 flats being affected other than vertical flats.</p> <p>13 Q. Vertical flats?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Did you have any thoughts at that time -- just following</p> <p>16 that up -- about whether you thought the fire was going</p> <p>17 to now continue to spread up above floors 11, 12 and</p> <p>18 upward into 13, 14 and so on up the building, given what</p> <p>19 you'd seen already?</p> <p>20 A. That was the feeling that I was guessing, yeah, when</p> <p>21 I stopped between floors 11 and 12.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. Given that that was the feeling that you were</p> <p>23 getting at that time, did you think that it was</p> <p>24 important for someone, at least, to have a strategy as</p> <p>25 to what to do with the occupants of all the flats above</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 8</p>

<p>1 the level you were on, level 12?</p> <p>2 A. At that time, I was thinking that the fire is jumping</p> <p>3 from window to window, so I got the feeling that now --</p> <p>4 I think I might be answering the wrong -- can you ask</p> <p>5 the question again, please?</p> <p>6 Q. Let me see if I can get at it in a slightly different</p> <p>7 way.</p> <p>8 You're on floor 12, you think, now.</p> <p>9 A. I know I'm on floor 12.</p> <p>10 Q. You know you're on floor 12.</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. You see a lady come out, smoke-affected. You know the</p> <p>13 fire is on level 4. You've seen smoke and been told</p> <p>14 about fire on levels 5 and 6, 7 and 8, 9 was clear --</p> <p>15 A. I wasn't told there was a fire on 8.</p> <p>16 Q. Smoke though.</p> <p>17 A. But I presumed there was.</p> <p>18 Q. Yes, smoke. Level 9, clear, but 10 and 11 affected.</p> <p>19 Now 12 --</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. -- and a lady coming out suffering the effects of smoke</p> <p>22 inhalation.</p> <p>23 In the light of all of that, did you have any</p> <p>24 thoughts along the lines of: well, now we need</p> <p>25 a strategy in order to rescue and remove all the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 9</p>	<p>1 it important to tell those making the decisions about</p> <p>2 what they should do?</p> <p>3 A. At the time, that wasn't my thought, no.</p> <p>4 Q. Can you help us understand why that wasn't your thought?</p> <p>5 A. I would say I was focused on the small area that I was</p> <p>6 in at the time. After seeing a lady coming out, I was</p> <p>7 more focused on that. And then the two guys that come</p> <p>8 down, I was focused on that then.</p> <p>9 Q. Yes. Then going on to that, you say on page 17 in the</p> <p>10 second paragraph:</p> <p>11 "At this time two guys came down the stairs to where</p> <p>12 I was standing. They were both of middle-eastern</p> <p>13 appearance. One of the guys said that his Dad, who was</p> <p>14 bed bound, was on the 16th floor. I can't remember the</p> <p>15 exact floor of the stairwell I was on when I saw the two</p> <p>16 guys but I think it was on 10th/11th floor, although I</p> <p>17 may have walked a bit further down the stairs with</p> <p>18 them."</p> <p>19 Just pausing there, doing the best you can with your</p> <p>20 recollection as you remember it now --</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. You were on the 12th floor, you told us a minute ago,</p> <p>23 and you were pretty confident about that. Where do you</p> <p>24 think you first saw the two men coming down the stairs</p> <p>25 to where you were standing?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 11</p>
<p>1 occupants of the flats above level 12, at least in the</p> <p>2 sixes, so --</p> <p>3 A. Yeah, I guess so.</p> <p>4 Q. -- in that corner of the building?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. You did have a thought? What was your thought?</p> <p>7 A. Sorry, I didn't really have a thought that -- I would</p> <p>8 say that that decision would be for someone above my</p> <p>9 rank, to clear the rest of the building.</p> <p>10 Q. How would somebody above your rank make that decision</p> <p>11 without knowing the information about what was happening</p> <p>12 inside the building?</p> <p>13 A. Well, I wasn't the only firefighter inside the building</p> <p>14 who would've witnessed the conditions. I understand</p> <p>15 that I may have been higher than everybody else at that</p> <p>16 time, but to me at the time, it would've been obvious</p> <p>17 that if the fire is on each compartment on the outside,</p> <p>18 they'll have effects of smoke on the inside.</p> <p>19 Q. Yes. I think you've just confirmed, you were the</p> <p>20 highest firefighter --</p> <p>21 A. Yeah, I said I may have been. Yeah, I think I would've</p> <p>22 been.</p> <p>23 Q. -- in the building. Did you think to yourself at the</p> <p>24 time that that gave you a particular advantage in terms</p> <p>25 of what you'd seen and how much you'd seen so as to make</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 10</p>	<p>1 A. I don't know. I'm quite sure I didn't go up any further</p> <p>2 than floor 12.</p> <p>3 Q. Right.</p> <p>4 A. I may have seen them on floor 12 or I may have walked</p> <p>5 down slightly, maybe one floor, but it wouldn't have</p> <p>6 been very far I walked down when I met them.</p> <p>7 Q. That takes me to my next question, which is: at the</p> <p>8 point that you saw them -- they were coming down to you,</p> <p>9 yes?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. At the point that you saw them, were you planning to</p> <p>12 continue your journey up the building to gather</p> <p>13 information?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Right. So if you hadn't seen them, what would you have</p> <p>16 done?</p> <p>17 A. I don't know.</p> <p>18 Q. Right.</p> <p>19 Had you made a decision, once you'd come to the 12th</p> <p>20 floor and seen the lady come out with the effects of</p> <p>21 smoke, that you were no longer going to continue your</p> <p>22 journey up the building?</p> <p>23 A. I know I didn't go up further than 12. I probably went</p> <p>24 down a floor to listen. That was probably something</p> <p>25 that was sticking in my mind because, obviously, after</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 12</p>

<p>1 hearing someone shouting, I didn't really want to leave</p> <p>2 where I was in case there was someone else that may have</p> <p>3 been in distress or something like that.</p> <p>4 Q. I see. Okay.</p> <p>5 So can I summarise it this way, I hope fairly: you'd</p> <p>6 gone up as far as you had gone, but had heard the</p> <p>7 shouting and decided to go no further at that point, but</p> <p>8 to stay to see if anybody needed assistance?</p> <p>9 A. As I say -- yeah, that's about right, yeah. But as</p> <p>10 I say, I may have been walking down a floor or they may</p> <p>11 have met me there.</p> <p>12 Q. What thoughts did you have for how further information</p> <p>13 could be gained about what was happening inside the</p> <p>14 building above floor 12?</p> <p>15 A. At that -- say that again, please.</p> <p>16 Q. Yes. Having made the decision not to go any further up</p> <p>17 into the building beyond floor 12, did you have any</p> <p>18 thoughts about how further information would be gathered</p> <p>19 about what was happening above floor 12?</p> <p>20 A. In my mind at the time, I thought it was quite clear</p> <p>21 that although -- excuse me, sorry.</p> <p>22 (Pause)</p> <p>23 Let's go again. Yes, excuse me.</p> <p>24 Yes, at that time I felt that it would have been, it</p> <p>25 may be silly to say, but obvious from the outside what</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 13</p>	<p>1 confirmation, and had had no description of what was</p> <p>2 happening on the outside back from him or anybody else</p> <p>3 either?</p> <p>4 A. Yeah, I suppose that could -- yes.</p> <p>5 Q. So you are in a kind of bubble?</p> <p>6 A. It appears I was at the time. For me, at that time, it</p> <p>7 was to see if I can be of any use to anyone up there.</p> <p>8 Q. Right.</p> <p>9 Would it be usual, in your experience, to have</p> <p>10 penetrated so far into a high-rise building in those</p> <p>11 conditions without being able to communicate confidently</p> <p>12 with the fire ground and without receiving any messages</p> <p>13 back from the fire ground outside?</p> <p>14 A. The whole thing wasn't usual, was it? So I shouldn't</p> <p>15 have -- not that I shouldn't have -- I -- yeah, it's</p> <p>16 not -- it's not normal to be there.</p> <p>17 Q. Well, you say the whole thing wasn't usual; that's true</p> <p>18 looking back on it, but at the time --</p> <p>19 A. Yeah, no, that's what I meant. At the time it wasn't --</p> <p>20 I probably shouldn't have gone up there, but I did.</p> <p>21 Q. At the time, in terms of what was usual, can you just --</p> <p>22 we looked at this yesterday -- tell us: at what point</p> <p>23 during your ascent up the tower did you start to think,</p> <p>24 "This is not usual", which floor roughly?</p> <p>25 A. Well, obviously it became increasingly -- I became</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 15</p>
<p>1 the conditions could have been like from the inside</p> <p>2 because of the fire that I thought would've been visible</p> <p>3 from floor 12.</p> <p>4 Q. Did you have any information passed to you about what</p> <p>5 was happening on the outside?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. So you were imagining, were you, what was happening on</p> <p>8 the outside by what you could see on the inside?</p> <p>9 A. When I saw smoke, yeah, I realised that the smoke wasn't</p> <p>10 coming up through the lobbies obviously because of</p> <p>11 floor 9. I then thought that the fire was jumping from</p> <p>12 window to window up to floor 12.</p> <p>13 Q. Right.</p> <p>14 At the stage when you decided to go no further up</p> <p>15 the building but to go down, did you radio down to</p> <p>16 Mike Dowden or anybody else to tell them what you were</p> <p>17 planning?</p> <p>18 A. No.</p> <p>19 Q. Is there a reason why you didn't?</p> <p>20 A. I couldn't give you a reason why I didn't do it, no.</p> <p>21 Q. So would it be fair to summarise your evidence in terms</p> <p>22 of communication in this way: you had essentially gone</p> <p>23 up into the tower, up as far as the 12th floor, seen</p> <p>24 what you'd seen, had thought you'd communicated what</p> <p>25 you'd seen at points down to Mike Dowden but had got no</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 14</p>	<p>1 increasingly aware as I was ascending the building and,</p> <p>2 as I said yesterday, I think the moment when the penny</p> <p>3 dropped was between floors 11 and 12.</p> <p>4 Q. You did say that yesterday afternoon, so at that point.</p> <p>5 Now, at that point you meet these two men coming</p> <p>6 down the stairs, and then you say, four lines down from</p> <p>7 the start of the second paragraph on page 17:</p> <p>8 "I radioed down using my handheld radio and</p> <p>9 requested a BA crew to go to the 16th floor to rescue a</p> <p>10 male there who was bed bound. I'm sure I transmitted</p> <p>11 this message several times over the radio. I don't</p> <p>12 remember if there was an answer but someone obviously</p> <p>13 heard me as a crew of two firefighters in BA came up</p> <p>14 within 2 minutes of me sending this message. I still</p> <p>15 had the two middle-eastern guys there with me when a BA</p> <p>16 crew arrived. The two guys didn't seem to know each</p> <p>17 other but I think the other guy just stayed because</p> <p>18 I was there."</p> <p>19 Now, just starting with your radioing down. Who did</p> <p>20 you radio down to, do you think?</p> <p>21 A. I didn't start the message off with a name; I radioed --</p> <p>22 I just put the message out there to hope that someone</p> <p>23 would hear obviously.</p> <p>24 Q. On channel 1; is that right?</p> <p>25 A. 1, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 16</p>

<p>1 Q. Did you get a confirmation back that your message had 2 been received and understood? 3 A. I'm pretty sure I didn't get a message back. 4 Q. Did that concern you? 5 A. I kept saying it, and I think I stopped saying it when 6 I saw the gloves of firefighters further floors down, 7 holding the handrail going up. 8 Q. Yes, and we go on to look at that in the next paragraph. 9 You say: 10 "I'm sure I transmitted this message several times 11 over the radio." 12 The several times over the radio, is that because 13 you weren't getting confirmation back first time? 14 A. At that time, I thought that from that information that 15 I had, that there was someone's life in danger 16 immediately, I had to keep repeating myself, yeah. 17 Q. Right. You had to keep repeating yourself. Did you 18 learn anything from the fact that you had to keep 19 repeating yourself about whether or not the earlier 20 messages you'd sent to Mike Dowden had successfully got 21 through or not? 22 A. No, I didn't -- no, I ... when I've radioed down the 23 previous floors, this is a message for everybody, 24 I don't expect a reply. And as I said, if there is 25 a fire on the fifth, sixth and the seventh floor, it</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 17</p>	<p>1 actually floor 9. 2 Q. Right. Around floor 9, you think? 3 A. I know I opened the door to floor 9 to check what floor 4 we were on. It probably says it later on in my 5 statement. But I can't -- whether I met the guys as we 6 walked down a floor or not, I can't remember. 7 Q. Let's look at the next paragraph of your statement, 8 which I think gives us a little bit more information. 9 You explain how the BA crew came up, Jamal and 10 Dick -- which is I think Jamal Stern and 11 Richard Hippel -- and you say in the fourth line: 12 "... they didn't have anything to put the fire out. 13 They just had their BA sets on." 14 So is that right? They didn't have water with them? 15 No hose? 16 A. You mean -- yeah, they certainly didn't have water with 17 them, no, but they didn't have hose or anything to put 18 the fire out with from -- no, they didn't have any -- 19 Q. Did that surprise you? 20 A. No. 21 Q. Why didn't it surprise you? 22 A. Because they've come up to rescue someone and they 23 obviously didn't have any hose with them. 24 Q. Given the conditions in all but the lobbies on floor 9 25 that you'd seen of smoke, and given the messages that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 19</p>
<p>1 would be visible from outside. The information that 2 I had there, no one else would've known except for me, 3 and that's why I continuously transmitted that over the 4 radio. 5 Q. Yes. 6 Do you remember telling anybody in your message over 7 the radio that there was a male on the 16th floor who 8 was bed-bound? Did you explain that? 9 A. I'm not too sure whether I used the phrase "bed-bound", 10 but I said I needed BA crews up to the 16th floor. 11 I don't know whether I put the full description in of 12 what to expect when they come up. 13 Q. Do you remember -- if you don't, you don't -- giving the 14 impression or picture that there was somebody in a flat 15 on the 16th floor who couldn't self-evacuate? 16 A. I can't remember right now whether I said that. 17 Q. A line above the end you say: 18 "I still had the two middle-eastern guys there with 19 me when a BA crew arrived." 20 Where were you standing when the BA crew arrived, do 21 you remember? 22 A. If I remember rightly, I believe I was standing with the 23 two guys at the time when they came up. 24 Q. Yes. Whereabouts in the staircase? 25 A. That may have been around -- I think it could've been</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 18</p>	<p>1 you thought you'd sent earlier, did it not surprise you 2 that the first two BA wearers that come up and you 3 encounter had come up without water? 4 A. No, no, it didn't. 5 Q. It didn't. 6 You say: 7 "I said to them 'Up to the 16th floor, there's a guy 8 whose[sic] bed bound' ..." 9 Just on that, do you remember that those were the 10 words you used? 11 A. I believe it would've been, yes. 12 Q. Right. They then asked you, "What floor is this?" and 13 you explain that you went down and opened the lobby door 14 on the floor below: 15 "That floor was clear of smoke therefore I knew that 16 it was the 9th floor. I then went up onto the half 17 landing where they were standing and said to them 'this 18 is 9th you are about to go onto the 10th.'" 19 So you'd come down from the 12th and encountered 20 them between the 9th and the 10th, it looks like. 21 A. I may have even met them on the 12th and walked down 22 a couple of flights with them, I can't remember. 23 Q. Okay. 24 How were those firefighters going to effect a rescue 25 did you think at the time on the floors where there was</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 20</p>

<p>1 smoke without having access to water?</p> <p>2 A. Because they would go in and rescue someone. I don't</p> <p>3 understand the question.</p> <p>4 Q. When they made an entry into a lobby on a floor where</p> <p>5 you had seen smoke but didn't have water, how would</p> <p>6 those firefighters know that it was safe to do so?</p> <p>7 A. They wouldn't have known it was safe to do so; they</p> <p>8 would've gone in to see if it was too hot or ...</p> <p>9 Q. I see. Okay.</p> <p>10 Just in terms of floor numbering, before we leave</p> <p>11 that paragraph, they ask you, "What floor is this?"</p> <p>12 Obviously one can ask them why they asked that question,</p> <p>13 but I am asking you: why did you have to look into the</p> <p>14 lobby on the 9th floor to be able to tell them what</p> <p>15 floor it was?</p> <p>16 A. Because they didn't know what floor they were on.</p> <p>17 Q. I know, but why did you have to look into the lobby on</p> <p>18 the 9th floor as opposed to looking at the numbering in</p> <p>19 the stairwell?</p> <p>20 A. As I said before, I don't recall seeing any numbers on</p> <p>21 the stairwell.</p> <p>22 Q. Do you remember looking for numbers in the stairwell in</p> <p>23 order to be able to answer their question?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 21</p>	<p>1 When you heard that, did you radio down for</p> <p>2 immediate firefighting?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you know whether they did?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you know why you didn't?</p> <p>7 A. At that stage, when they'd come down --</p> <p>8 Q. Yes.</p> <p>9 A. -- it was my objective then to get the two guys that</p> <p>10 I was with out the building.</p> <p>11 Q. Right. Okay. So you turned your attention to the two</p> <p>12 males who had come down --</p> <p>13 A. That's correct, yes.</p> <p>14 Q. -- and thought you'd evacuate them. Okay.</p> <p>15 Did you have any thoughts about what might be</p> <p>16 happening on the 16th floor and what plan there would be</p> <p>17 for effecting firefighting or rescue on the 16th</p> <p>18 floor --</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. -- where one of the male's fathers was bed-bound?</p> <p>21 A. No, I had no thought at that time, no.</p> <p>22 Q. You then go on to say, this is the second paragraph:</p> <p>23 "The crew walked past me and as they were going down</p> <p>24 I said to the two guys 'we have to go down, it's too</p> <p>25 smoky.'"</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 23</p>
<p>1 Then at the bottom of the page you say:</p> <p>2 "CM STERN and FF HIPPEL came back within 5 minutes</p> <p>3 and spoke to me in the half landing where I was still</p> <p>4 standing."</p> <p>5 Can you just confirm for me which that was. Is that</p> <p>6 still the half landing between the 9th and the 10th</p> <p>7 floors?</p> <p>8 A. That's right, yes.</p> <p>9 Q. What were the air conditions like at that point, do you</p> <p>10 remember?</p> <p>11 A. Yeah, I thought they were clear.</p> <p>12 Q. You thought they were clear. Okay.</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. You then say:</p> <p>15 "They said that they were low on air so they had to</p> <p>16 go back down."</p> <p>17 Do you remember them radioing down or communicating</p> <p>18 with anybody in your presence as to what they'd found</p> <p>19 when they'd got up to the 16th floor?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. You go on to say:</p> <p>22 "They also told me that they had reached the 16th</p> <p>23 floor and opened the door to that floor but there was</p> <p>24 thick black smoke in the lobby. They also said it was</p> <p>25 really hot and they had no firefighting equipment."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 22</p>	<p>1 You explain why that was an excuse. You then say:</p> <p>2 "The guy asked me 'What about my father?' I said we</p> <p>3 will have to get another crew up there."</p> <p>4 Having told him that, did you radio down to make</p> <p>5 sure that another crew was going to come up to the 16th</p> <p>6 floor to carry out the rescue, if it was possible?</p> <p>7 A. No. Obviously the conditions in there were getting</p> <p>8 smoky because of the -- I've said that the guy put his</p> <p>9 hood over his face. So, as I said, my main concern was</p> <p>10 to get these two people out and then speak to someone</p> <p>11 downstairs to tell them that there was someone up on the</p> <p>12 16th floor.</p> <p>13 Q. Having heard what you'd heard from Hippel and Stern</p> <p>14 about the conditions on the 16th floor, did you form</p> <p>15 a view at the time about whether there was any point in</p> <p>16 sending firefighters and/or a rescue team to the 16th</p> <p>17 floor?</p> <p>18 A. Well, obviously -- you have to put it to me again,</p> <p>19 please, sorry.</p> <p>20 Q. Having heard what the conditions were like from Hippel</p> <p>21 and Stern on the 16th floor, did you form a view, did</p> <p>22 you have a thought at the time, about whether there was</p> <p>23 any point in calling for firefighting on the 16th floor</p> <p>24 or a rescue team?</p> <p>25 A. I -- I had made my own -- excuse me -- yeah, I thought</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 24</p>

6 (Pages 21 to 24)

<p>1 that the guy may have passed away, yeah.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay.</p> <p>3 Would that be the first time during your trip up the</p> <p>4 tower that you'd had a thought about an actual fatality?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. Was that a significant moment to you?</p> <p>7 A. I suppose so, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. What did it mean to you, in terms of what you could now</p> <p>9 do in terms of evacuation or getting further</p> <p>10 firefighters into the building?</p> <p>11 A. Well, after that, it was obviously my sole purpose to</p> <p>12 get these two gentlemen -- excuse me, I'm sorry ... to</p> <p>13 get these two guys out the building and inform someone</p> <p>14 else in person, and then try and get as many BA crews in</p> <p>15 there -- into the tower as possible.</p> <p>16 Q. I'm sorry to keep pressing this point about</p> <p>17 communication, but did you think it was important to</p> <p>18 communicate with somebody either at the bridgehead or</p> <p>19 outside the tower that you thought that things had</p> <p>20 become so serious higher up in the tower, the 16th</p> <p>21 floor, that you thought there might now be a fatality</p> <p>22 there?</p> <p>23 A. Not via the radio, no. I was -- as I said, I had two</p> <p>24 guys in front of me and I wanted to get them out the</p> <p>25 building.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 25</p>	<p>1 A. There was firefighters in the doorway.</p> <p>2 Q. Right. There were.</p> <p>3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you remember who they were?</p> <p>5 A. There was two firefighters obviously, I don't know who</p> <p>6 the two were, but when Dick and Jamal stopped to speak</p> <p>7 to them, they were also on the half landing outside the</p> <p>8 door, standing over the hose.</p> <p>9 Q. Right.</p> <p>10 Did you have any kind of discussion with them about</p> <p>11 whether it was sensible to prop the fourth-floor lobby</p> <p>12 stairwell door open with a hose because it was allowing</p> <p>13 smoke out into the stairwell?</p> <p>14 A. Well, my main objective was to get these two guys out.</p> <p>15 Q. Sure.</p> <p>16 How seriously compromised with smoke was propping</p> <p>17 the fourth-floor lobby door open making it?</p> <p>18 A. What, at that time?</p> <p>19 Q. Yes.</p> <p>20 A. Do you mean like then the conditions? You want to know</p> <p>21 the conditions?</p> <p>22 Q. Sorry, my question wasn't articulate. Let me try again.</p> <p>23 When you saw the smoke coming out from the</p> <p>24 fourth-floor lobby into the stairwell through the door,</p> <p>25 was that smoke making the conditions in the stairwell</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 27</p>
<p>1 Q. Right.</p> <p>2 Now, you describe in the third paragraph on page 18</p> <p>3 of your statement the journey down the stairs following</p> <p>4 Stern and Hippel. You say in the third line:</p> <p>5 "I think they stopped outside the 4th floor lobby</p> <p>6 where they had run the hose in through the door, as</p> <p>7 there was smoke coming out of the lobby door into the</p> <p>8 stairwell. The smoke wasn't rising and it seemed there</p> <p>9 wasn't enough air circulating in stairwell. I could</p> <p>10 still see but the conditions were uncomfortable to be</p> <p>11 in."</p> <p>12 Now, you say that there had been a hose run onto the</p> <p>13 fourth floor. We heard some evidence before, last week,</p> <p>14 about the hose being run up from the third floor to the</p> <p>15 fourth floor, which you weren't involved in necessarily,</p> <p>16 but was that hose the one that had been set into the</p> <p>17 third floor and run up into the fourth-floor lobby?</p> <p>18 A. I don't know. It could be from the third, it may have</p> <p>19 gone up from the fourth, I don't know.</p> <p>20 Q. Where was that hose coming from, did you see?</p> <p>21 A. I couldn't remember the exact floor that it was coming</p> <p>22 up, but there was hose.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. Did you seek to remove the hose?</p> <p>24 A. No.</p> <p>25 Q. Did you seek to get the fourth-floor lobby door to shut?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 26</p>	<p>1 noticeably worse?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. And because it was making the conditions in the</p> <p>4 stairwell noticeably worse, did you not think to have</p> <p>5 a conversation with the other firefighters about</p> <p>6 shutting that door so as to stop smoke coming into the</p> <p>7 stairwell?</p> <p>8 A. No. As I say, the two guys stopped just before the</p> <p>9 smoke started to get heavy -- there was like a wall of</p> <p>10 smoke, so -- and I pushed them through that to go down</p> <p>11 the stairs. I didn't have time to speak to them about</p> <p>12 the policy of bringing hose through doors, going</p> <p>13 upstairs and into other doors, because obviously that is</p> <p>14 the high-rise procedure.</p> <p>15 Q. Yes. You mention policy just now, just remind me about</p> <p>16 what you mean by that. It is against policy to use</p> <p>17 hoses to prop doors open because of the risk of smoke</p> <p>18 leaking out from the lobbies into the stairwells?</p> <p>19 A. No, they would've brought the hose in from the third</p> <p>20 floor up to the fourth, so the doors are propped open.</p> <p>21 Q. But keeping the doors propped open --</p> <p>22 A. It's not a great --</p> <p>23 Q. -- is that in accordance with policy or contrary to</p> <p>24 policy?</p> <p>25 A. That's what you should do. That's according to policy,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 28</p>

<p>1 yes.</p> <p>2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: And is that because there's only one</p> <p>3 hose outlet on each floor?</p> <p>4 A. Some buildings have alternate floors.</p> <p>5 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: But I mean, when you've got a dry</p> <p>6 riser, as we know there was here, would you expect there</p> <p>7 to be only a single hose connection at each level?</p> <p>8 A. On that building, yes. I can't think of any other</p> <p>9 building that would have two outlets on each floor.</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: No, right. Thank you.</p> <p>11 Yes, thank you.</p> <p>12 MR MILLETT: You go on in your statement to say:</p> <p>13 "The two BA crew seemed to think it was OK to stop</p> <p>14 there at this door but the smoke was even a bit too much</p> <p>15 for me and I was concerned about my health."</p> <p>16 You say even for you; you weren't wearing BA at all.</p> <p>17 A. Probably badly worded, that was.</p> <p>18 Q. So what do you mean?</p> <p>19 A. Yes, it was -- the smoke was bad.</p> <p>20 Q. Right. So do you think it was so bad that you couldn't</p> <p>21 breathe it without BA?</p> <p>22 A. Definitely, yes.</p> <p>23 Q. Right, okay.</p> <p>24 Do you remember, how high up in the stairway did the</p> <p>25 smoke reach at that point?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 29</p>	<p>1 Mr Daniels and Mr Wahbi exiting the tower at 01.38.40</p> <p>2 and 01.38.49, and those, we think, are the two</p> <p>3 individuals who came down.</p> <p>4 A. Right.</p> <p>5 Q. If it was them that you were talking to and following</p> <p>6 down the tower, does that help you pin down the time</p> <p>7 that you exited the tower?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay.</p> <p>10 Now, on page 19 you describe the conversation -- and</p> <p>11 this is in the first paragraph on that page, third</p> <p>12 line -- you had with Mr Loft. You say:</p> <p>13 "So I was telling SM LOFT about one person the 16th</p> <p>14 floor but he probably had bigger problems to worry</p> <p>15 about. However at that time, I thought if I give him</p> <p>16 that information then I don't have to worry about it</p> <p>17 anymore and I can find something else to do. I said to</p> <p>18 him, 'There's a guy on the 16th floor, he's bed bound.</p> <p>19 The crew can't get to him because it's too hot and too</p> <p>20 smoky up there.' I didn't wait for a response, as I had</p> <p>21 given him the information and there were other things</p> <p>22 I needed to do. Things such as this, which are quite</p> <p>23 serious, go past my rank and are not a problem that a</p> <p>24 firefighter would deal with."</p> <p>25 First of all, do you remember using those words to</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 31</p>
<p>1 A. It must have started to get -- as I said, when I -- on</p> <p>2 the ninth floor, it was starting to get smoky, which</p> <p>3 I noticed when the guy put his top over his face.</p> <p>4 I think -- I'd have to only guess, really, but it must</p> <p>5 have been around the fifth floor that it started to get</p> <p>6 heavy. So it was just before -- it was a bit before</p> <p>7 where the hose went into the doors.</p> <p>8 Q. Right. Okay.</p> <p>9 You go on to describe how you got out of the tower.</p> <p>10 That's in the last paragraph on page 18. You say there:</p> <p>11 "Once I got outside I saw SM Brett LOFT. He is</p> <p>12 quite a big guy, which is probably why I noticed him.</p> <p>13 SM LOFT was standing where our fire engine was parked</p> <p>14 talking to someone else in a white helmet. They were</p> <p>15 the only people I could see in white helmets and</p> <p>16 I didn't realise it was such a dynamic incident at the</p> <p>17 time therefore I assumed he was in charge."</p> <p>18 Now, we have him -- just to get this in time --</p> <p>19 booking status 3, so arriving at the incident, at</p> <p>20 01.32.08. That's according to the short incident log.</p> <p>21 We also have a Mr Samuel Daniels exiting the tower at</p> <p>22 01.38.40 and Mr Hamid Wahbi at 01.38.49 according to the</p> <p>23 CCTV cameras. So that's giving a time --</p> <p>24 A. Okay, could you repeat those times again for me, please?</p> <p>25 Q. So Brett Loft booked status 3 at 01.32.08, and we have</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 30</p>	<p>1 him, do you think?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Did you think at the time that he had sufficiently</p> <p>4 registered those words?</p> <p>5 A. I don't know.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you happen to know what Station Manager Loft then did</p> <p>7 about what you told him?</p> <p>8 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>9 Q. Did you know who the incident commander was at about</p> <p>10 this time?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. You then go on in your statement, in the next paragraph,</p> <p>13 to say:</p> <p>14 "After speaking to Brett I went straight back into</p> <p>15 the building and went straight up to the bridgehead on</p> <p>16 the 2nd floor to get stuck in and see how I could help."</p> <p>17 Are you able to estimate when you arrived at the</p> <p>18 bridgehead?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. Was it long after you left the building or a short time?</p> <p>21 A. It would've been a very short time.</p> <p>22 Q. Then you describe in that paragraph your arrival at the</p> <p>23 bridgehead, and you say in the fourth line:</p> <p>24 "I thought that it was on this floor [third floor]</p> <p>25 because I took some photos of the bridgehead before we</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 32</p>

<p>1 moved, which I will detail later, where a '3' can be 2 seen printed on the wall." 3 We'll come to look at those in a moment, but let me 4 just ask you this: you say a "3" printed on the wall; 5 was that the place where there, at the time, were 6 chinagraphed details being placed on the wall by 7 firefighters or by bridgehead crew? 8 A. Sorry, say that again, please. 9 Q. Do you remember, when you saw the "3" being printed on 10 the wall, whether people were using chinagraph pencils 11 to put details of flats and floors on the wall? 12 A. Yes. The "3" that I was looking at was a "3" that was 13 stencilled on, and apparently it was the old numbering 14 system. 15 Q. So if I can ask you then -- perhaps we'll do this now -- 16 to look at your exhibits and go to exhibit JOB/4, which 17 is MET00015625. It's probably easier to do it this way 18 rather than me asking you to remember. 19 Is this the photograph that you're referring to 20 here? 21 A. That is a photograph with the "3" in it, yes. 22 Q. And where in relation to the lifts is that "3", do you 23 remember? 24 A. That wall is opposite the lift. 25 Q. Okay.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 33</p>	<p>1 "When I got to the bridgehead Alex DE ST AUBIN was 2 doing the initial BA board." 3 What do you mean by that? 4 A. He had the first BA board and he was taking the tallies 5 off BA wearers. 6 Q. Okay. You say: 7 "I knew we would need more than 1 BA board running 8 so I picked up another and started a second board. 9 I didn't bring board into the building but someone else 10 must have brought another one up." 11 Then you say: 12 "You are supposed to wear a jerkin (chequered bib) 13 when doing this role but I just got straight on with the 14 task so I didn't put one on." 15 What were you doing? What is the task that you had 16 taken on for yourself? 17 A. Well, by the sounds of it, I actually must have got a BA 18 board off of one of the trucks and brought it in myself. 19 I didn't realise I did, I forgot I did. And getting on 20 with the task was just doing exactly what Alex was doing 21 by taking tallies off BA wearers. 22 Q. Okay. 23 At the bottom of page 19 and over the top of page 20 24 you say: 25 "I decided to get stuck in and find a job for myself</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 35</p>
<p>1 At the time you took that photograph, do you think 2 that that's where the bridgehead was, or not? 3 A. I'm looking at Firefighter De St Aubin leaving with a BA 4 board, so we were leaving that floor and I think we were 5 going up one floor. 6 Q. Okay. 7 You say later, on page 24, just so we have 8 a reference to it, last paragraph on 24 -- there's no 9 need to go to it because we'll come to it in a moment -- 10 that's where you say that you took those photographs at 11 3.08 hours on 14 June. 12 Can you confirm that? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Right. What did you take those photographs with? 15 A. A phone I had, my personal phone. 16 Q. Now, we'll come back to those in a moment because I want 17 to ask you one or two detailed questions about it, but 18 just to continue with your story. 19 If you go to page 20, you describe the role that you 20 had taken on. Can you just tell us at that stage what 21 it was you were doing. 22 A. At what time was that? 23 Q. Well, let's just see if I can make it easier for you. 24 At the bottom of page 19, you say in the second-last 25 paragraph:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 34</p>	<p>1 so I took on this task." 2 Is that the task that you just described? 3 A. Of being entry control officer? Yes, it was, yes. 4 Q. That's a task that you obviously volunteered yourself 5 for; you weren't instructed to do that by anybody? 6 A. I don't think anyone asked me to do it, no. 7 Q. You say: 8 "This was still only about 15 minutes after 9 I arrived on scene so possibly 0115 to 0120 ..." 10 A. I was at least half an hour out then. 11 Q. I was going to ask, you think about half an hour out? 12 A. Well, I'd say so. 13 Q. Certainly out. 14 A. Yes. 15 Q. Right. You said half an hour, so you think you would 16 put that around about 1.40 to 1.45? 17 A. I -- 18 Q. You can't know. 19 A. There must be a photograph of me outside coming in, if 20 they've seen me coming in with a BA board around that 21 time. 22 Q. Well, we can track that down. 23 Do you remember whether, at that stage, firefighters 24 were being briefed by anybody at the bridgehead before 25 they were being deployed?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 36</p>

<p>1 A. I don't remember.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you remember whether any firefighters were coming</p> <p>3 back to the bridgehead and describing what they'd seen</p> <p>4 higher up the building?</p> <p>5 A. I cannot remember that, no.</p> <p>6 Q. Do you remember whether there was any debriefing between</p> <p>7 firefighters and entry control or the watch manager</p> <p>8 running the bridgehead at that time?</p> <p>9 A. Not -- is this -- how long --</p> <p>10 Q. At the time you were at the bridgehead setting up --</p> <p>11 A. When I was setting up, no, I don't remember people</p> <p>12 coming down.</p> <p>13 Q. After that?</p> <p>14 A. Later on I remember people coming down and obviously</p> <p>15 being debriefed.</p> <p>16 Q. Let me try and be a bit more specific: once you'd set up</p> <p>17 and got your BA entry control running, at that point --</p> <p>18 let's take a period of time of, I don't know, half</p> <p>19 an hour or so after that -- do you remember the pattern</p> <p>20 of events?</p> <p>21 So in terms of the pattern of events, was there</p> <p>22 a debriefing system whereby returning firefighters would</p> <p>23 debrief with entry control about what they'd seen in the</p> <p>24 building?</p> <p>25 A. I couldn't tell you if there was a pattern of it, no.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 37</p>	<p>1 A. If I remember rightly, it was clear of smoke.</p> <p>2 Q. Just to go back to my question: at that stage, when you</p> <p>3 got your BA board set up in the second-floor lobby, was</p> <p>4 there a system in place by then for tracking fire</p> <p>5 survival guidance calls being taken by control and the</p> <p>6 results being fed back to the bridgehead?</p> <p>7 A. I can't remember when that started, no.</p> <p>8 Q. Was there a system that came into place later during the</p> <p>9 night?</p> <p>10 A. I believe that photo that was taken with the printed "3"</p> <p>11 on the wall, I believe that was the system that was</p> <p>12 adopted.</p> <p>13 Q. That was at 3.08, so that's at least an hour after you'd</p> <p>14 started setting up your entry control board.</p> <p>15 A. The photo is taken at that time, but I don't know when</p> <p>16 that started, writing on the wall with the chinagraph.</p> <p>17 Q. Do you remember who was in charge of that system?</p> <p>18 A. I think Watch Manager De Silvo was doing the writing, or</p> <p>19 I know she was at least doing the writing -- some of it.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay.</p> <p>21 Let me just ask you about the system. If you could</p> <p>22 go to JOB/4, I just want to ask you about this</p> <p>23 photograph.</p> <p>24 Let's put it up on the screen, please, Mr Documents</p> <p>25 Director, and we'll have a look at it. If you can just</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 39</p>
<p>1 Q. Do you remember whether any dedicated team was being</p> <p>2 allocated to the rescue of vulnerable people in the</p> <p>3 building, people with mobility issues or children or</p> <p>4 anything like that?</p> <p>5 A. I don't know.</p> <p>6 Q. Was there any discussion at the bridgehead about what to</p> <p>7 do with people --</p> <p>8 A. I didn't hear any discussion about that.</p> <p>9 Q. -- who were disabled or elderly or children?</p> <p>10 A. No.</p> <p>11 Q. When you arrived at the bridgehead to start this system,</p> <p>12 as you've just explained, do you remember who was in</p> <p>13 charge of the bridgehead?</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Was there a system in place, did you see, for tracking</p> <p>16 fire survival guidance calls?</p> <p>17 A. When I first got there, I put the BA board up at the</p> <p>18 bottom of the stairs and was getting hit by the</p> <p>19 cylinders of the BA crews going in, so we moved around</p> <p>20 to the lobby shortly after. I don't know who said to</p> <p>21 move, but I moved my board around.</p> <p>22 Q. Into the lobby on the second floor?</p> <p>23 A. Into the lobby -- yes. That was shortly after I'd</p> <p>24 arrived with the BA boards, yes.</p> <p>25 Q. What were the conditions like at that stage?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 38</p>	<p>1 enlarge it as far as you can.</p> <p>2 First of all, we know, as you've told us, that this</p> <p>3 was taken at 3.08 in the night.</p> <p>4 When did this writing start to go onto this wall</p> <p>5 here?</p> <p>6 A. I don't know.</p> <p>7 Q. Where was this wall in relation to the second-floor</p> <p>8 bridgehead?</p> <p>9 A. That's the wall opposite the lifts and my back would've</p> <p>10 been to the lift doors, BA board in front of me, and</p> <p>11 then that would've been in between Alex and myself.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. Who started writing these numbers on the wall?</p> <p>13 A. I don't know.</p> <p>14 Q. Was that system of writing numbers on the wall there</p> <p>15 before you arrived at the bridgehead or did it start</p> <p>16 after you arrived at the bridgehead?</p> <p>17 A. I don't know.</p> <p>18 Q. You don't know or you don't remember?</p> <p>19 A. No, I don't know. It could've been started before the</p> <p>20 BA board was there, I don't know.</p> <p>21 Q. What was this system? What's happening here?</p> <p>22 A. I wouldn't like to speculate. I mean, I have an idea,</p> <p>23 but maybe you would be better off asking someone who</p> <p>24 wrote it.</p> <p>25 Q. When you were operating the bridgehead entry control</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 40</p>

<p>1 board you were operating, did you have any input into</p> <p>2 the information that was being placed on the wall?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. So if I was to ask you, for example, when you look at</p> <p>5 23 --</p> <p>6 A. Yes.</p> <p>7 Q. -- and then a ring round 205 with a line through it,</p> <p>8 then a ring round 204 and a line through it, if I was to</p> <p>9 ask you what that meant, could you tell me?</p> <p>10 A. I wouldn't like to speculate, no. But --</p> <p>11 Q. I don't want you to speculate --</p> <p>12 A. Well, then, no.</p> <p>13 Q. -- I want your knowledge, if you have it.</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. Let me see if I can ask you just one or two other</p> <p>16 questions before we look in more detail at these</p> <p>17 photographs.</p> <p>18 Do you remember from your time at the bridgehead</p> <p>19 whether firefighters were encountering difficulties in</p> <p>20 locating residents to rescue?</p> <p>21 A. I think so.</p> <p>22 Q. You think so. Can you be a bit more specific?</p> <p>23 A. Could you ask me that question again, please?</p> <p>24 Q. Yes.</p> <p>25 During your time at the bridgehead, do you remember</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 41</p>	<p>1 4 persons."</p> <p>2 Do you know who wrote that there?</p> <p>3 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you know where this information -- "12 floor, R/H</p> <p>5 wall, 3rd flat, 4 persons" -- would have come from?</p> <p>6 A. No.</p> <p>7 Q. What about the other information that we see there which</p> <p>8 we looked at on the earlier photograph, with 23, 205,</p> <p>9 204, do you know where that information would've come</p> <p>10 from?</p> <p>11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Right.</p> <p>13 Can I ask you to look at some photographs you took</p> <p>14 at 2.17. Just to focus you on your statement, you'll</p> <p>15 find this in your statement on page 24 in the third main</p> <p>16 paragraph on that page. I'll show you the statement</p> <p>17 first and then we'll look at the photographs.</p> <p>18 You say:</p> <p>19 "Later on a crew of four firefighters from Soho</p> <p>20 arrived and despite the fact that I had two BA boards</p> <p>21 running, we ran out of room to put their tallies in the</p> <p>22 boards. In order for the crew to be committed inside</p> <p>23 the tower, I wrote their details in china graph on the</p> <p>24 wall to the right of the right hand lift. I recording</p> <p>25 who they were, their call sign, where they were going</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 43</p>
<p>1 whether firefighters were encountering difficulties</p> <p>2 locating residents to rescue them?</p> <p>3 A. You mean like because of the smoke? Finding doors?</p> <p>4 Q. You tell me.</p> <p>5 Let me see if I can get at it a different way.</p> <p>6 When you were at the bridgehead, do you remember</p> <p>7 firefighters coming back down to you saying, "We can't</p> <p>8 find someone in a particular flat on a particular</p> <p>9 floor"?</p> <p>10 A. No, I don't remember hearing that.</p> <p>11 Q. Did you have a system of, when you dispatched</p> <p>12 firefighters to a particular flat or a particular floor,</p> <p>13 checking off with them whether they'd been successful in</p> <p>14 their missions?</p> <p>15 A. That didn't go through me when they come back, no.</p> <p>16 Q. Did it go through anybody?</p> <p>17 A. I would say so, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. Who?</p> <p>19 A. I wouldn't like to say. Maybe Watch Manager De Silva</p> <p>20 but, as I say, you'd have to ask the ...</p> <p>21 Q. Okay. Can I just ask you then to look at -- perhaps you</p> <p>22 can try and interpret this for me. The next photograph</p> <p>23 is JOB/5, which is MET00015629.</p> <p>24 On this one, I think it's just a bit clearer. On</p> <p>25 the left side you say, "12 floor, R/H wall, 3rd flat,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 42</p>	<p>1 and the time they went in. I made sure these details</p> <p>2 were definitely correct and I also took 4 photos of the</p> <p>3 wall where I had recorded this information at the time</p> <p>4 I did it, 0217 hours on 14/06/2017, using my phone."</p> <p>5 And there are four of these, you say, and you</p> <p>6 exhibit them JOB/8 to 11. I just want to look at the</p> <p>7 photographs and see if we together can get more</p> <p>8 information out of them.</p> <p>9 So JOB/8, first of all. This is MET00013074.</p> <p>10 Mr Chairman, I'm looking at the clock. It's</p> <p>11 11 o'clock and we've been going an hour.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.</p> <p>13 MR MILLETT: I think I might be able to complete this line</p> <p>14 of questions within 15 minutes.</p> <p>15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, if you can, that would be very</p> <p>16 convenient.</p> <p>17 MR MILLETT: If it's convenient and the witness is --</p> <p>18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Are you okay to keep going,</p> <p>19 Mr O'Beirne?</p> <p>20 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.</p> <p>21 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much. Well, we'll do</p> <p>22 that and get through it more quickly.</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: Perfect, thank you.</p> <p>24 MR MILLETT: So just looking, then, first of all, at JOB/8,</p> <p>25 which we have there. This is your writing, as you say.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 44</p>

<p>1 A. Most of it is, yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Can you just explain to us, take us through very slowly,</p> <p>3 what we see here?</p> <p>4 A. From the left-hand side, from "Soho" downwards, I would</p> <p>5 say that that's the name of the crews that were going</p> <p>6 in.</p> <p>7 Q. Right. So just pause there, you put "Floor 9" and then</p> <p>8 "65" in a ring. This is in the left-hand box.</p> <p>9 A. So I think that they've gone up to search floor 9,</p> <p>10 flat 65. That is Soho's crew of four. That's their</p> <p>11 names, and I think that might be the time that they've</p> <p>12 gone in at, 2.05.</p> <p>13 Q. When you wrote "Floor 9, 65", where did you get that</p> <p>14 information from?</p> <p>15 A. They gave me the information as they were giving me the</p> <p>16 tally of what floors they were going on.</p> <p>17 Q. So it is the BA crews who told you where they were</p> <p>18 going; is that right?</p> <p>19 A. They were coming up to me and telling me where -- yeah,</p> <p>20 where they would be.</p> <p>21 Q. Did you know at the time where they were getting that</p> <p>22 information from?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. And this is still second-floor bridgehead, is it?</p> <p>25 A. Yes, it is, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 45</p>	<p>1 If you go down to "BA Time Line (3)", you can see</p> <p>2 that there is against number SDBA 1271:</p> <p>3 "SOHO (1st wear). Saunders, Jonathan."</p> <p>4 Tally out time of 02.04.27. That Saunders,</p> <p>5 I think -- is this right? -- corresponds with what</p> <p>6 you've written on the wall.</p> <p>7 If you go back to the picture --</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. -- there's Saunders.</p> <p>10 There's no need to go back to the telemetry data,</p> <p>11 but we also have Nelson, who happens to be from</p> <p>12 West Hampstead, tallying out at 2.04.</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Does that help you pin that down in terms of timing?</p> <p>15 You say 2.05, roughly that time.</p> <p>16 A. I would say that that was the time that they -- I wrote</p> <p>17 down.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. So you then have on the right-hand side -- you</p> <p>19 can see it says "Floor 5", and then a box underneath it,</p> <p>20 "Clear, Johnson/Roots", then, "14/4 floor Soho pump 3".</p> <p>21 Can you interpret that for us?</p> <p>22 A. I'm not 100 per cent sure. To me, it looks like those</p> <p>23 two guys, and they've searched floor 14 -- no, would</p> <p>24 that be 14, floor 4? And that's clear. Then they've</p> <p>25 gone up maybe to 161, floor 19.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 47</p>
<p>1 Q. You can just see, I think, a lift number just in the top</p> <p>2 left-hand corner of the photograph, which looks like the</p> <p>3 lift is on floor 10. So presumably that is just by the</p> <p>4 lifts; is that right?</p> <p>5 A. That's right, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And you write "Floor 9, 65". That's where you're</p> <p>7 sending Soho crew 4 and there are four individuals.</p> <p>8 Then underneath that it looks as if you've written</p> <p>9 "205". Is that right?</p> <p>10 A. Yes, it looks like that, yes, 205.</p> <p>11 Q. Can you help us, what does that signify?</p> <p>12 A. I think that was the time that they gave me their tally</p> <p>13 at.</p> <p>14 Q. Right. Okay. Let's see if I can just double-check</p> <p>15 that.</p> <p>16 We can chase that up in the telemetry data to some</p> <p>17 extent. You think that was the time?</p> <p>18 A. Yes. It won't be on the telemetry data because there</p> <p>19 wasn't enough room in the BA boards.</p> <p>20 Q. Yes, I see. But do you think you might have got some of</p> <p>21 them?</p> <p>22 Well, let's see what we can do. If you go to the</p> <p>23 telemetry data, which is tab 1 of the bundle, if we can</p> <p>24 just flip across to that and see if we can nail this</p> <p>25 down.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 46</p>	<p>1 Q. Okay. Again, this information is being passed to you by</p> <p>2 those firefighters, is it? Or by somebody else?</p> <p>3 A. It may have been passed to me by Watch Manager De Silvo.</p> <p>4 Q. Okay.</p> <p>5 Underneath it there's a ring. I'm not sure I can</p> <p>6 read that. Could you interpret that for us?</p> <p>7 A. The writing -- the names look like my writing, I think.</p> <p>8 But I don't --</p> <p>9 Q. It looks like "23rd" and then underneath "201" and</p> <p>10 "205". Could you help me with what else it might say?</p> <p>11 A. I'd like to think ... This isn't the place to</p> <p>12 speculate, I'm sure, but to me it looks like three names</p> <p>13 of BA wearers going up to the 23rd floor to search</p> <p>14 flats, maybe 201 and 205. That might be "Wandsworth</p> <p>15 pump ladder 3". That doesn't really look like my</p> <p>16 writing there.</p> <p>17 Q. Right. Well, I'll tell it to you from the telemetry</p> <p>18 data. We have a crew from Wandsworth going up called</p> <p>19 Wright and Bell at about 2.10, and firefighter called</p> <p>20 Alassad from Wandsworth as well. Does that help?</p> <p>21 A. Yeah, so -- what's the -- where are the station from</p> <p>22 the -- Wright and Bell, where are they from?</p> <p>23 Q. Yes, we have three firefighters tallying out at about</p> <p>24 that time.</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 48</p>

<p>1 Q. A Wright, a Bell and an Alassad.</p> <p>2 A. Right, okay.</p> <p>3 Q. Bell and Wright are from Wandsworth, and Alassad is also</p> <p>4 from Wandsworth -- in fact, all three are from</p> <p>5 Wandsworth.</p> <p>6 A. Okay, so their call sign was pump ladder 3, and as</p> <p>7 I say, that to me tells me that they were assigned to</p> <p>8 get to the 23rd floor and search flats 201 and 205.</p> <p>9 Q. Right, okay. So you're then putting on the wall</p> <p>10 information as to where particular firefighters have</p> <p>11 gone.</p> <p>12 Did you record anywhere what those firefighters did</p> <p>13 when they came back down?</p> <p>14 A. Other than where it says "clear", which I can only --</p> <p>15 I'm not too sure why I would have wrote "clear" on that.</p> <p>16 Maybe someone's told me that they've cleared flat ...</p> <p>17 yeah, I can't remember writing it. This would have</p> <p>18 obviously been on the wall opposite as well though,</p> <p>19 I would've thought.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you remember a system -- I've asked you this before</p> <p>21 in relation to an earlier photograph, but just looking,</p> <p>22 for example, at the system you got here of writing the</p> <p>23 names and floors and flats of firefighters who had been</p> <p>24 sent up into the building down on the wall, was there</p> <p>25 a system for collecting from those firefighters and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 49</p>	<p>1 that represent?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. You'll see next to "21" a tick. Do you know what the</p> <p>4 tick represents?</p> <p>5 A. I'm going to say no. It could be the thermal imaging</p> <p>6 camera, but no, I don't.</p> <p>7 Q. When I say tick, it's a graphic tick.</p> <p>8 A. Sorry?</p> <p>9 Q. You don't know what that represents?</p> <p>10 A. In the top right-hand corner?</p> <p>11 Q. No, sorry, we're at cross-purposes, you're quite right.</p> <p>12 "TIC" in the top right-hand corner, but next to "21" --</p> <p>13 do you see "21"? -- there's a tick, as in a teacher's</p> <p>14 tick.</p> <p>15 A. No, I don't know.</p> <p>16 Q. Okay. And then next to "18", you see a tick, "Mother +</p> <p>17 child, no flat [number]."</p> <p>18 A. I can't -- I don't know.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you know what that means?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. There's "152" in a ring next to it. Can you tell us</p> <p>22 what that might be?</p> <p>23 A. No.</p> <p>24 Q. No. Okay.</p> <p>25 A. I don't know.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 51</p>
<p>1 recording how successful their mission was?</p> <p>2 A. That would've been on the wall opposite.</p> <p>3 Q. On the wall opposite?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. So let's go back to that, if we can, and go back</p> <p>6 to JOB/4. It's probably the best one to look at.</p> <p>7 I don't mind, we can look the JOB/5 as well. They're</p> <p>8 both I think the same for this purpose.</p> <p>9 So here, are you saying that -- although this</p> <p>10 photograph was taken at a later time -- this set of</p> <p>11 information represented the results of the deployments</p> <p>12 of BA wearers into the tower?</p> <p>13 A. Yes.</p> <p>14 Q. So looking at the top one, "23", for example, you see</p> <p>15 a ring around "205" and a ring around "204".</p> <p>16 First of all, what does the ring represent?</p> <p>17 A. I couldn't comment.</p> <p>18 Q. I should have asked you an earlier question: did you</p> <p>19 write this on the wall?</p> <p>20 A. No.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you know who did?</p> <p>22 A. As I say, it may have been Watch Manager De Silvo.</p> <p>23 Q. You did say that before. So you don't know what the</p> <p>24 ring represents around "205" or "204".</p> <p>25 What about the line through each of those, what does</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 50</p>	<p>1 MR MILLETT: Okay, thank you. You can put those photographs</p> <p>2 away, I think.</p> <p>3 Could I ask you to look at page 23 of your</p> <p>4 statement.</p> <p>5 Mr Chairman, I have about probably 5 or 10 minutes</p> <p>6 more questions for this witness, I am just looking at my</p> <p>7 notes.</p> <p>8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, if he's content -- if you are</p> <p>9 content to carry on --</p> <p>10 THE WITNESS: I'm very happy to stay.</p> <p>11 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: -- I think the sensible thing is --</p> <p>12 MR MILLETT: It's sensible to finish it off and then have</p> <p>13 a break.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Then we'll have a break, yes, of</p> <p>15 course.</p> <p>16 MR MILLETT: Mr O'Beirne, if you go to page 23 of your</p> <p>17 statement, you can see at the top of the page you say:</p> <p>18 "I believe it was also around this time when FF HILL</p> <p>19 went missing. A red light began flashing on my board,</p> <p>20 which meant that his automatic distress signal unit</p> <p>21 (ADSU) was going off on his BA set. All I knew was that</p> <p>22 he was assigned to go to the 22nd floor."</p> <p>23 You go on to explain what happened.</p> <p>24 When you say "All I knew was that he was assigned to</p> <p>25 go to the 22nd floor", how did you know that?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 52</p>

<p>1 A. That was some of the information I retrieved from him 2 before he went with another crew member up to the 22nd 3 floor. 4 Q. Right. You say it was the information you got from him; 5 did you keep that in your head or did you -- 6 A. No. 7 Q. -- record that anywhere? 8 A. No, I recorded it on the BA board. 9 Q. Right. When you did your statement, did you have that 10 BA board information in front of you? 11 A. The BA board -- the information continuously gets wiped 12 off when more members come up. 13 Q. So when you did your statement, how did you know that 14 he, as you say in your statement, had been assigned to 15 go to the 22nd floor? 16 A. Because I had it written down on the board and then 17 realised his ADSU was going off. 18 Q. You say you had it written down on the board, but is 19 that something you had in your -- 20 A. Sorry, I remembered after, yes. 21 Q. You remembered after. 22 I am just trying to work out how you remembered that 23 because, so far as I can see, I don't see that in your 24 contemporaneous notes. 25 So when you did your statement, how did you remember</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 53</p>	<p>1 Q. Right. 2 On page 23, continuing with it, you go on to say -- 3 I'll summarise it -- that it triggered a firefighter 4 emergency but shortly afterwards he was found. 5 Was there a debriefing with Firefighter Hill once he 6 was located? 7 A. I don't know. 8 Q. Do you know whether anybody took any information from 9 Firefighter Hill about what he'd found when he'd gone up 10 into the tower? 11 A. I don't know. 12 Q. If you go to page 24 and look at the last paragraph, 13 this is where we found earlier your reference to the 14 photographs we looked at, which you took at 3.08, and 15 you say: 16 "Later we moved bridgehead, up to the 5th floor. 17 Before we left 2nd floor, I also took 4 more photographs 18 on my phone of the FSG calls written on the wall, at 19 0308 hours on 14/06/2017." 20 Those are what we looked at as JOB/4 to 7. 21 Just in terms of timing, how soon before the 22 bridgehead was moved from the second floor to the fifth 23 floor did you take those photographs? 24 A. I took the photos of the wall opposite the lifts on the 25 way out of the second floor, on the way up to the fifth</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 55</p>
<p>1 that Firefighter Hill in particular had been sent to the 2 22nd floor? 3 A. I'm telling you now when I don't exactly know what floor 4 it was. At the time I wrote that, I was quite sure it 5 was, but it was written down on with the BA board in 6 chinagraph, and obviously once he was found, then it was 7 wiped off. 8 Q. Right. I think Mr Hill's recollection is that he had 9 been sent to the 12th floor. 10 A. Okay. 11 Q. We obviously may need to explore that with him. 12 Can you comment on that, whether in fact it might 13 have been the 12th floor and not the 22nd floor? 14 A. Possibly, but it was quite -- I was writing a limited 15 amount of information down on the board. I was trying 16 to write exactly what I heard as opposed to guessing 17 what they've said, so I was quite sure he would've said 18 22nd floor, but ... 19 Q. Yes. You see, we don't, I don't think, have any 20 contemporaneous documentation or photographs which show 21 Firefighter Hill being dispatched to the 22nd floor and 22 I just wondered how it was that you could remember that 23 so clearly. 24 A. Obviously I was quite sure at the time, but I'm sure 25 that other officers would know the floor.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 54</p>	<p>1 floor. 2 Q. So while you were on the move? 3 A. Yes. In one of the photos you see Firefighter 4 De St Aubin with the BA board leaving, so he was going 5 up to the fifth floor and I was following him. 6 Q. Then you went up to the fifth floor, and at the top of 7 page 25, you say: 8 "The reason we moved to the 5th floor was that 9 people were running out of air. Firefighters couldn't 10 get high enough using the standard duration breathing 11 apparatus sets. The idea was to move up from 2nd floor 12 to 5th floor and then work your way up rescuing people 13 while they were putting the fire out. " 14 Then you say: 15 "I don't remember much about being up on the 5th 16 floor, as we weren't there for very long before moving 17 down again, however when we moved down we set up the 18 bridgehead on the ground floor." 19 Just one or two questions about that. 20 What were the conditions like on the fifth floor 21 when you arrived there to set up the bridgehead? 22 A. I can't really remember up there, but it would've been 23 clear, but not for long, obviously, because they moved 24 back down again. But as I say, that period of that 25 night is very vague, being on the fifth floor.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 56</p>

<p>1 Q. Okay. Why did it move down to the ground floor, do you 2 remember?</p> <p>3 A. I believe it was because of the conditions of smoke.</p> <p>4 Q. Also on page 25, paragraph 4, you say:</p> <p>5 "I think at this point the stay put policy may have 6 changed or been withdrawn. I think because when we got 7 down the ground floor GM Pat GOLDBOURNE[sic] told me to 8 get all the firefighters out of the building. He came 9 up to me and said 'get everyone out. Radio it from me 10 and get everyone out now.'"</p> <p>11 First of all, did you pass that message on? Did you 12 radio it?</p> <p>13 A. I first pushed the evacuation buttons on the two boards 14 that I had and then I got on my radio.</p> <p>15 Q. Why did you think that the message that Group Manager 16 Goulbourne was giving you to get all of the firefighters 17 out of the building meant that the stay-put policy had 18 been changed?</p> <p>19 A. Because it seemed like everyone was evacuating.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you get an impression of how long before 21 Pat Goulbourne told you to get all the firefighters out 22 that the stay-put policy had changed?</p> <p>23 A. You'll have to re-word that, sorry.</p> <p>24 Q. Did you get any idea of how long before Pat Goulbourne 25 gave you that message the stay-put policy might have</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 57</p>	<p>1 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much indeed. 2 (11.23 am)</p> <p>3 (A short break)</p> <p>4 (11.40 am)</p> <p>5 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, Mr Millett.</p> <p>6 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, as a result of the break -- or 7 break for some -- I have received a number of questions 8 which I have examined and we feel we do need to ask this 9 witness. It won't take too long.</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: No.</p> <p>11 MR MILLETT: But if we could have him back, please.</p> <p>12 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right. Well, we'll ask him to 13 come back in.</p> <p>14 (Pause)</p> <p>15 Mr O'Beirne, I'm afraid there are a few questions 16 that need to be asked.</p> <p>17 THE WITNESS: Okay.</p> <p>18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Not, I hope, too many.</p> <p>19 MR MILLETT: I hope not to detain you too much longer.</p> <p>20 A. That's not a problem.</p> <p>21 Q. Can I start with the subject of floor numbers and 22 changes in floor numbers.</p> <p>23 Grenfell Tower had been on your patch for many 24 years. Were you ever aware, or did there come a time 25 when you became aware, that the floor numbers in the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 59</p>
<p>1 been changed?</p> <p>2 A. I was only making an assumption there that if we're 3 getting all the firefighters out, I presume it may have 4 changed.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you actually ever hear yourself on the fire ground 6 on the night that the stay-put policy had changed?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, I've come to the end of my 9 questions. I think it's time for a break, but I can see 10 there may be some further questions which have been 11 provided to me as follow-ups by core participants which 12 I want to just check over, if I can. If the witness 13 doesn't mind not being released immediately and coming 14 back after the break --</p> <p>15 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We'll give you a decent break now. 16 Do you mind waiting on in case there are any more 17 questions?</p> <p>18 THE WITNESS: That's fine, sir.</p> <p>19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: You leave us now and we'll resume at 20 11.40. Don't talk to anybody about your evidence or 21 anything else.</p> <p>22 THE WITNESS: Of course not. Cheers, thank you.</p> <p>23 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: And then we'll see if there are more 24 questions.</p> <p>25 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 58</p>	<p>1 building had themselves changed?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. During the course of the night, did you notice anything 4 about whether the numbers of floors in the stairwells 5 were clearly visible?</p> <p>6 A. I don't remember seeing any numbers on the floor -- in 7 the stairwell.</p> <p>8 Q. Okay, let me just examine that. You say you don't 9 remember seeing numbers in the stairwell; do you mean 10 that you remember not seeing any numbers or that you 11 can't remember one way or the other?</p> <p>12 A. From my memory, I didn't see any floor numbers in the 13 stairwell.</p> <p>14 Q. At all?</p> <p>15 A. At all.</p> <p>16 Q. Right.</p> <p>17 To the best of your recollection, did the fact that, 18 as you saw it, there were no floor numbers in the 19 stairwell affect the ability to transmit information to 20 the bridgehead about where people were?</p> <p>21 A. I'm not saying that there wasn't numbers on the stairs, 22 I just didn't see any. So if you're asking about other 23 people being able to transmit, as I say, I don't know 24 whether there was numbers on the stairs. But from my 25 recollection, I didn't see any.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 60</p>

<p>1 Q. Were you aware on the night of any difficulties 2 encountered by other firefighters or incident commanders 3 as a result of difficulties understanding what floor you 4 were on because of numbering in the stairwell? 5 A. On that night, no. 6 Q. New topic. 7 The evacuation by Firefighters Hippel and Stern, 8 I just want to look at that with you. 9 They were trying to evacuate an individual we think 10 is Joseph Daniels -- 11 A. Yes. 12 Q. -- while others were being told to remain. 13 Did you have a view at that time about why it was 14 that those individuals were being evacuated but other 15 people were being told to stay put? 16 A. I didn't know when I was standing in the stairwell that 17 people were being told to stay put. 18 Q. That's a very fair answer because I should've put that 19 to you first, but I think you've given me the answer. 20 A. Okay. 21 Q. Do you remember whether you told anybody at the 22 bridgehead when you came down that firefighters were 23 evacuating residents? 24 A. I don't think I spoke to anyone at the bridgehead; 25 I went straight out to speak to an officer outside.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 61</p>	<p>1 A. As I say, I'm not too sure whether the guy gave me that 2 information of the particular flat. 3 Q. Do you have any recollection about whether any 4 information was passed by radio by either you or other 5 firefighters about somebody needing rescuing in 6 flat 135? 7 A. I wasn't aware of that via radio. 8 Q. What about in person? Do you remember whether or not -- 9 A. As I say, I'm not too sure whether I had the information 10 of flat 135, so I'm not too sure whether I gave that 11 information over. 12 Q. Just still on the subject of Stern and Hippel, in your 13 statement at pages 17 and 18 -- if I can just ask you to 14 look back at that, please -- you describe at the 15 bottom -- we looked at this before -- that you had 16 a conversation with Stern and Hippel, who had come back 17 down to you, and you say they came back within 18 5 minutes. 19 Were you waiting for 5 minutes on the landing while 20 they went up and came back down? 21 A. Obviously I've proved that my guesstimation in time 22 hasn't been very exact, but I moved away from the two 23 guys, I went up to the half landing, waiting for them, 24 but I moved away from them so I could listen to see if 25 I could (a) hear them down or (b) hear anything else.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 63</p>
<p>1 Q. Do you recall speaking to one of the two individuals who 2 was coming down with you out of the tower from higher up 3 about which floor his father was on? 4 A. Sorry, did I -- 5 Q. Do you remember having a conversation with one of those 6 individuals? 7 A. Who said that his father was on the 16th floor? 8 Q. Yes. 9 A. Yes, he told me his father was on the 16th floor. 10 Q. Just building on that, do you remember whether or not he 11 told you which flat number he was in? 12 A. If it was in my notes after, I can't remember. 13 Q. Do you remember whether you told the firefighters that 14 there was somebody in flat 135? 15 A. On that night, no, I can't remember whether I told the 16 firefighters what flat he was in. 17 Q. Does the number flat 135 ring a bell with you at all? 18 A. Recently it does, yes. At the time, as I say, I can't 19 remember. 20 Q. When you say "recently it does", just explain what you 21 mean. 22 A. As in the last two weeks, that flat number. 23 Q. Do you have any independent recollection, standing there 24 today, of on the night being told about somebody needing 25 rescuing from flat 135?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 62</p>	<p>1 Q. You say you moved away from the two guys; where did they 2 stay or stand? 3 A. I believe they were standing on the ninth-floor landing. 4 I didn't ask them to leave because I was hoping that the 5 BA crews were going to come down with someone and we 6 could all help to bring somebody out. 7 Q. Yes. 8 Finally, can I just ask you to look at JOB/8, which 9 is MET00013074, which is one of the four photographs you 10 took at 02.17. Can we just look at something I should 11 have asked you about and didn't. 12 First of all, in the box on the right, where you see 13 "Clear, Johnson/Roots", there is a second half of the 14 box. If we just examine that closely, it says: "161/19 15 floor", then above it there's an arrow and then there's 16 something which looks like it's been scribbled out. 17 Can you just interpret that for us? 18 A. I could tell you what I think it means, I don't 19 100 per cent know, but I would say that it looked like 20 Lambeth's crew was going to go in there to check 161, 21 floor 19, and I think they've obviously not done it or 22 whatever has happened, and I've got the arrow down. It 23 looks like Soho's crew are going up to flat 161, 24 floor 19. 25 Q. So we've got an arrow going into what you think is</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 64</p>

1 Lambeth and an arrow coming down from Soho pump 3.
 2 **A. To me, if I was -- I wouldn't say it's a guess, but**
 3 **I would say that the two BA crew have searched and**
 4 **cleared flat 14 on floor 4, and now they have been**
 5 **assigned to check 161 on floor 19.**
 6 Q. Right.
 7 Does the name Lamprell ring a bell with you?
 8 **A. No.**
 9 Q. Can I just ask you about something else on that
 10 photograph of that wall.
 11 Below the box on the right and to the right of the
 12 information in the ring, which we looked at earlier, you
 13 can see at an angle it says, "113" and then underneath
 14 it "14 floor" and then something next to the "113".
 15 Could you tell us what that is, please.
 16 **A. I'm quite sure that that's not my writing.**
 17 Q. Oh, I see. Whose writing might that be, do you think?
 18 **A. I don't know.**
 19 Q. You don't know the writing. Do you know what that is
 20 about? Can you help us with --
 21 **A. No, I don't, no.**
 22 MR MILLETT: Mr O'Beirne, thank you very much.
 23 Mr Chairman, I have no further, further questions
 24 for this witness.
 25 Mr O'Beirne, thank you very much for your evidence

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1 and thank you for coming here and assisting us with our
 2 investigations. We're very grateful to you.
 3 THE WITNESS: Cheers, thank you.
 4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much indeed from me.
 5 I'm sorry it took longer than you were probably led to
 6 believe. I hope it hasn't been too disagreeable, but
 7 your evidence has been very helpful, so we're very
 8 grateful to you for coming.
 9 THE WITNESS: That's great. Cheers, thanks very much.
 10 (The witness was released)
 11 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, thank you very much.
 12 If we may, I'd like to press on with our next
 13 witness, Daniel Egan.
 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Good, thank you.
 15 MR MILLETT: He is ready to be called.
 16 DANIEL EGAN (sworn)
 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much, Mr Egan. Good
 18 morning.
 19 Now, are you comfortable giving your evidence
 20 standing up? You can sit if you prefer to.
 21 THE WITNESS: I am, sir. If I could stand, please.
 22 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, of course. You might need to
 23 lift the microphone -- push it up, that's it -- to catch
 24 your voice better, I think.
 25 Good, thank you.

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1 Yes, Mr Millett.
 2 Questions by COUNSEL TO THE INQUIRY
 3 MR MILLETT: Mr Egan, good morning.
 4 **A. Good morning.**
 5 Q. First of all, can I say thank you very much for coming
 6 to give evidence to the inquiry. We're very grateful
 7 for your doing so.
 8 If there's any question that I ask you that you
 9 don't understand or you want me to repeat, I'm very
 10 happy to do so, and if you need a break at any point,
 11 just say. Of course, if you want to sit down at any
 12 point, also just feel free.
 13 **A. Cheers.**
 14 Q. Can I start by asking you to give us your full name.
 15 **A. Daniel Egan.**
 16 Q. Now, you made a statement, which we have here, made on
 17 20 October 2017, which is MET00007515. I have it there
 18 up on the screen.
 19 You should also have it in front of you in a blue
 20 file if you want to refer to it in paper form.
 21 **A. Okay.**
 22 Q. It's tab 7A of that file. But we're going to work on
 23 the basis of what's on the screen because it's usually
 24 easier for witnesses and the chairman.
 25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: There's a little screen to your

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1 right. I don't know which you find easier to read.
 2 **A. I'll go that way, I think.**
 3 MR MILLETT: We've bombarded you with information.
 4 First of all, this statement, do you remember making
 5 this statement?
 6 **A. Yes, I do, yes.**
 7 Q. Have you read it recently?
 8 **A. I have just read it, yes.**
 9 Q. Can you please confirm for us that its contents are
 10 true?
 11 **A. They are true, yes.**
 12 Q. And there are a number of notes and exhibits. The notes
 13 are DEG/6, and that's MET00005263 -- I'll just read
 14 these into the record, if I can, so people can find them
 15 later -- and there are five photographs, DEG/1 to 5, and
 16 these are: MET00015642, MET00015639, MET00015598,
 17 MET0001636 and MET00015634.
 18 Your witness statement, as I say, was made on
 19 20 October 2017.
 20 Have you discussed the contents of that statement or
 21 your evidence with anybody before coming here today?
 22 **A. No.**
 23 Q. You also made, as I say, some contemporaneous notes,
 24 which are at MET00005263 or DEG/6. Can I just show you
 25 those, I just want to ask you about when you made them.

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17 (Pages 65 to 68)

<p>1 There they are as appendix A.</p> <p>2 Do you remember making these notes?</p> <p>3 A. I do remember. I think I made them that day, or I may</p> <p>4 have made them the next day. I think I made them that</p> <p>5 day, to be honest.</p> <p>6 Q. That was my question.</p> <p>7 Did you type them up or write them out in longhand</p> <p>8 and give them to somebody to type?</p> <p>9 A. No, I typed them up.</p> <p>10 Q. On the computer?</p> <p>11 A. Yeah.</p> <p>12 Q. Very good.</p> <p>13 Can I just start properly, then, by asking you about</p> <p>14 your role in the London Fire Brigade. I think you</p> <p>15 joined the London Fire Brigade in January 1992.</p> <p>16 A. Yes, that's correct.</p> <p>17 Q. Some 25 years before Grenfell Tower fire.</p> <p>18 A. That's right, thank you for reminding me.</p> <p>19 Q. Can you just give us a brief summary of your career up</p> <p>20 to June 2017.</p> <p>21 A. So I joined the Brigade in January 1992. I was posted</p> <p>22 to Knightsbridge fire station. I then went through</p> <p>23 a series of promotions: leading firefighter at West</p> <p>24 Hampstead, sub-officer at Dagenham fire station, I then</p> <p>25 went to a station officer in Enfield fire station, and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 69</p>	<p>1 Now, turning to the night of 14 June, I want to ask</p> <p>2 you first of all about your mobilisation.</p> <p>3 You say, I think, that you were paged at about 1 am</p> <p>4 with the information that there was a six-pump fire?</p> <p>5 A. That's right, yes.</p> <p>6 Q. We have in the LFB logs and records -- I don't need to</p> <p>7 take you to them -- the information that the call to</p> <p>8 make pumps six was made from Grenfell Tower at 01.13.19,</p> <p>9 or at least that's when the message was confirmed by</p> <p>10 Brigade control, so just to fix that in your mind.</p> <p>11 Does that help identify the timing?</p> <p>12 A. Yes, that's more specific for me, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Thank you.</p> <p>14 When you were first mobilised, what information did</p> <p>15 you receive regarding the scale of the fire at Grenfell?</p> <p>16 A. So as an officer -- so I was at home, I'm camping out</p> <p>17 from Dagenham fire area. My pager went off to say that</p> <p>18 I was to be mobilised to a six-pump fire as a fire</p> <p>19 safety officer. I turned on my handheld radio, which</p> <p>20 has got the main scheme radio for the Brigade, so you</p> <p>21 can hear what's going on to try and get a feel for the</p> <p>22 situation, and I was trying to get through to control,</p> <p>23 but control was really busy. The radio was extremely</p> <p>24 busy; there was messages coming through not just from</p> <p>25 that incident, but from other incidents that were going</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 71</p>
<p>1 I eventually made it to station manager in 2013 as</p> <p>2 temporary, and fully promoted in 2015, where I moved</p> <p>3 into fire safety.</p> <p>4 Q. What was your rank in June 2017?</p> <p>5 A. Station manager.</p> <p>6 Q. And what was your role in June 2017?</p> <p>7 A. For the fire or for just in general?</p> <p>8 Q. In June 2017, you were --</p> <p>9 A. In June, I was a station manager, which is</p> <p>10 operational -- attend operational incidents, but my sort</p> <p>11 of day job was to deal with fire safety for East London.</p> <p>12 Q. That day job, fire safety, can you give us an idea of</p> <p>13 what that role involved?</p> <p>14 A. My role as a fire safety team leader, I have</p> <p>15 approximately 10 officers, inspecting officers,</p> <p>16 underneath me, and we arrange premises to be inspected</p> <p>17 under the Fire Safety Order 2005, where we identify our</p> <p>18 highest risk or where we deem to be our highest risk</p> <p>19 premises.</p> <p>20 Q. At June 2017, when you were in your fire safety role,</p> <p>21 where geographically were you based?</p> <p>22 A. Based at East Ham fire station.</p> <p>23 Q. East Ham?</p> <p>24 A. East Ham.</p> <p>25 Q. Right.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 70</p>	<p>1 on.</p> <p>2 I eventually managed to get through to control and</p> <p>3 I said to them who I was, why I was responding to them.</p> <p>4 It was clear to me that I think it had gone up to --</p> <p>5 I can't remember the exact -- but it was make pumps six</p> <p>6 on my pager, on my radio I think it went to eight, then</p> <p>7 it went to 10 before I could get through to control, it</p> <p>8 was sort of that quick.</p> <p>9 My thought process, rather than to find out specific</p> <p>10 things of are there any railways around, will it affect</p> <p>11 any schools, which we're trained to do, to get from</p> <p>12 control, or the number of calls, I made an assumption</p> <p>13 that it was obviously a really big fire and I just need</p> <p>14 to be getting on my way, because it was a long way for</p> <p>15 me to go. So I booked status 2, mobile to the incident,</p> <p>16 and I said I'll pick the messages up as I go.</p> <p>17 Q. Right.</p> <p>18 Just focusing a little bit on one or two things</p> <p>19 you've just said, you said you turned on your handheld</p> <p>20 radio, which had the main scheme radio for the Brigade.</p> <p>21 Which channel was that?</p> <p>22 A. So it was on channel -- I think it was on channel 4.</p> <p>23 Q. Channel 4, yes. If you look at your statement, first</p> <p>24 page, third paragraph, fourth line down, you do say:</p> <p>25 "I turned to Channel 4, which covers North of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 72</p>

<p>1 the river."</p> <p>2 Just give us an idea of what that channel does, what</p> <p>3 it covers? We've heard about channel 1, the fire</p> <p>4 ground, and channel 6, which is communications to the</p> <p>5 bridgehead. Channel 4 is what?</p> <p>6 A. So this is a different radio frequency. Channel 1 and</p> <p>7 channel 6 are your handheld fire ground radios that all</p> <p>8 firefighters have. This is like a main scheme radio,</p> <p>9 a bit like what you see the police carry, and it talks</p> <p>10 to our control, so you can communicate with them. And</p> <p>11 channel 4 is for, like, incidents and stations that are</p> <p>12 north of the river, and I'm sure it's channel 2 -- it is</p> <p>13 channel 2 -- for anything that's south of the river. So</p> <p>14 you would change the channel to where you were mobilised</p> <p>15 to.</p> <p>16 Q. So channel 4 north of the river, channel 2 south of the</p> <p>17 river?</p> <p>18 A. Yes, that's right.</p> <p>19 Q. Following that up, would there be a time when you,</p> <p>20 because of the traffic involved in a big incident, want</p> <p>21 to borrow capacity from channel 2 to use it for</p> <p>22 channel 4? Or use it for communications?</p> <p>23 A. Not that way inclined. So this is what the appliances</p> <p>24 listen to as well, what they're mobilised on, they will</p> <p>25 be on that channel. If there is -- which it may have</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 73</p>	<p>1 Romford.</p> <p>2 Q. You were still at home?</p> <p>3 A. I was, yes.</p> <p>4 Q. So you weren't yet status 2?</p> <p>5 A. I don't believe so, no.</p> <p>6 Q. What did you think when you heard that, having</p> <p>7 originally been paged for a six-pump fire, it had now</p> <p>8 gone through 8 and was now at 10?</p> <p>9 A. So me, personally, I'm being paged as a fire safety</p> <p>10 officer, so that's where I think I'm going to be going</p> <p>11 initially, but once the calls started to go up that</p> <p>12 quickly, I was 99 per cent certain that when I arrived</p> <p>13 at the incident, I wouldn't be dealing with fire safety,</p> <p>14 because there will be more operational roles that</p> <p>15 I should be performing.</p> <p>16 Q. Right. What would fire safety as a role have involved</p> <p>17 if you had been called out to perform that role?</p> <p>18 A. Which you do -- so sometimes you attend and you ask</p> <p>19 them, the officer in charge -- you know, you make</p> <p>20 yourself known to them -- is that okay? Is that what</p> <p>21 you mean? So I would turn up and they would say, "We'd</p> <p>22 like you to undertake the role of fire safety officer,</p> <p>23 are there things in the building that could help the</p> <p>24 fire crews or is there plans for the building, could you</p> <p>25 get hold of them for us and try and look into them,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 75</p>
<p>1 done for Grenfell, where there is so much radio traffic</p> <p>2 that's going on, the Brigade can use channel 1, and</p> <p>3 sometimes they will divert traffic to that and they'll</p> <p>4 move people to just channel 1 to deal with and leave</p> <p>5 channel 4 for the rest of the Brigade, if that makes --</p> <p>6 does that make sense?</p> <p>7 Q. Yes, it does. I may come back to that.</p> <p>8 A. That's fine.</p> <p>9 Q. That's helpful.</p> <p>10 You say -- as you've just told us, indeed -- in your</p> <p>11 statement, three lines up from the bottom of page 1:</p> <p>12 "As I was preparing to leave I could hear that the</p> <p>13 fire was escalating from six pumps to eight to ten to</p> <p>14 twelve."</p> <p>15 You say 12; is that your recollection or --</p> <p>16 A. No, I just knew it was going quick, it was just -- it</p> <p>17 was -- I think it went 6, 8, 10, or 6, 8, 12 or</p> <p>18 something. It just went up -- it's unsurprising --</p> <p>19 well, it is surprising that it went that quick. Usually</p> <p>20 it doesn't go that quick on an incident.</p> <p>21 Q. Just trying to gauge your reaction, when you heard it go</p> <p>22 6, 8 to 10 -- first of all, where were you, do you</p> <p>23 remember, when you heard it go 10?</p> <p>24 A. So I believe when it went to 10, I was on the phone to</p> <p>25 control. So I was just in my house in Dagenham -- well,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 74</p>	<p>1 investigate them, see if there's safe routes out for</p> <p>2 people, where the dry risers or things like that are</p> <p>3 in".</p> <p>4 Q. That's very helpful.</p> <p>5 You say that given that it was now a 10-pump fire,</p> <p>6 you were 99 per cent certain that when you arrived at</p> <p>7 the incident, you wouldn't be dealing with fire safety</p> <p>8 because you would be doing more operational roles.</p> <p>9 What did you think you would be doing if not fire</p> <p>10 safety?</p> <p>11 A. As I was driving in and I was listening to the radio,</p> <p>12 I was thinking I'll be probably a sector commander</p> <p>13 somewhere, a support for other officers that were there.</p> <p>14 Q. Right.</p> <p>15 Now, according to the short incident log, we've got</p> <p>16 you status 2 at 01.19.36, and on scene -- ie status 3 --</p> <p>17 at 01.58.39. I don't need to take you back to the short</p> <p>18 incident log, but do those times correspond with your</p> <p>19 recollection of events?</p> <p>20 A. Yes, I would say so.</p> <p>21 Regarding the booking in time, I may have been there</p> <p>22 before that, due to radio traffic -- I can't actually</p> <p>23 recall booking in. So for me, what I would do is when</p> <p>24 I -- or senior officers, when they book in, they arrive,</p> <p>25 and then on their handheld radio you then contact</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 76</p>

<p>1 control and you tell them that you're status 3. But 2 that pushing that button, it just puts you into a queue, 3 so there will be other machines that would've put 4 their -- they would've requested to talk as well, so you 5 could be 20th in the queue and control have to 6 eventually get to you. 7 Q. I see. 8 Let's see if we can just nail that down on the short 9 incident log, because that's very interesting. 10 If you go to bundle of documents, tab 23, which is 11 the short incident log, and have a look at page 13. The 12 second half of that page is a list of officers with 13 their call signs, name, assign, mobile, on scene and 14 available, and your name appears as the fifth down, 15 "OF67 Egan, Daniel". That's you, I assume? 16 A. Yes. 17 Q. And that's your call sign, is it? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. You were assigned, it says, at 01.15.28, mobile at 20 01.19.36 and on scene at 01.58.39. 21 Just in terms of what that log is telling us, just 22 explain to me, that log is telling us that you were -- 23 A. So -- 24 Q. That's when it clocked you as available, or when you got 25 there in the queue?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 77</p>	<p>1 thereabouts the actual time. 2 Q. Do you remember whether you waited long from after 3 pushing button 7 to speaking to somebody? 4 A. No, I'm sorry, I can't remember. When you asked me that 5 earlier, I was trying to think, and I can't remember if 6 I had to wait a long time, sorry. 7 Q. When you first arrived, if you turn back to your 8 statement on page 2, paragraph 2, in the last four lines 9 you describe how you put on your personal safety 10 equipment. You say: 11 "I could see hundreds of people in the street. It 12 looked like a film. People were shouting and screaming. 13 They were panicking and wanting people to help. I could 14 see that the tower was on fire and my first thoughts 15 were that we needed to get everybody out. I could hear 16 the roar of the fire." 17 Do you see that? 18 A. Yeah. 19 Q. Did you share those thoughts with anybody at that time? 20 A. No, I didn't, no. 21 Q. Is there a reason why you didn't share those thoughts 22 with anybody at that time? 23 A. To be honest, it was honest -- it was obvious, not 24 honest. It was obvious. As I attended, as I come round 25 the corner -- and you could see it from sort of nothing,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 79</p>
<p>1 A. So 01.15 is when I was told about it, 01.19 is when 2 I eventually got through to control to book status 2, 3 and that's saying 01.58 is when I got there and booked 4 in at status 3. 5 Q. Is that 01.58 the moment when you yourself pressed the 6 button to book in on scene or when the system recognises 7 you as on scene? 8 A. That would be once control spoke to me. So I must have 9 spoke to them at 01.58. 10 Q. In order to go status 3, do you actually physically 11 speak to somebody? 12 A. You do, yes. 13 Q. Who do you speak to, how does it work? 14 A. So on the handheld radio, you press button 7, which then 15 puts you into a queue. This is where I'm saying it may 16 be a few minutes out either way -- well, not any later, 17 if that makes sense. Then control go through calling up 18 all other officers, all other appliances that have 19 pushed their permission to talk button, and eventually 20 it will come to me and then I will say to them, "Can you 21 just show me status 3". 22 Q. Okay. 23 A. So sometimes it can take 4 or 5 minutes by the time 24 control can go through the motions, but I did travel 25 a long way to get there and that is probably there or</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 78</p>	<p>1 it was just horrendous. And then by the time I then had 2 to manoeuvre myself again and go and park up and get 3 rigged, and getting rigged and you could just hear 4 people screaming and ... it was just so obvious, sorry. 5 Q. Okay. 6 Now, we've got your status 3 time at just before 7 2 am. Standing here and casting your mind back, can you 8 remember what parts of the tower were on fire at the 9 moment you first arrived? 10 A. So what I'd say was that the front of the tower, so it 11 would be the right-hand side -- so there was parts of 12 the front that was quite high was alight, and then from 13 the right-hand side was alight as well. 14 Q. I see. 15 A. It seemed more -- if I recall, it was more the 16 right-hand side that was just going like a train. 17 Q. You say some of the front. 18 A. Yeah. 19 Q. Some of the front. Whereabouts on the building? The 20 top, middle, bottom? 21 A. I think it was probably middle. At the front, it was 22 the middle. On the right-hand side, it was a few floors 23 up and it was just going straight up. 24 Q. Right. 25 A. Just straight up.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 80</p>

<p>1 Q. Had you ever seen anything like that before?</p> <p>2 A. I haven't seen anything to that scale. What really did</p> <p>3 surprise me was the smoke travel. Usually the tower</p> <p>4 blocks, like, they create their own sort of wind around</p> <p>5 it and you see the smoke sort of blowing around; this</p> <p>6 just seemed to be hugging the building and just</p> <p>7 following it straight the way up. That made it even --</p> <p>8 in my opinion, it just made it a bit eerier.</p> <p>9 Q. What does that tell you about how the fire was behaving?</p> <p>10 A. Fires that I've seen previously that have had external</p> <p>11 fire on it haven't reacted that severe. To me, my</p> <p>12 opinion was: you cannot put that out. We're not going</p> <p>13 to have the resources to put that out.</p> <p>14 Q. No.</p> <p>15 A. You know, from what we've got in that initial stages,</p> <p>16 we're going to need a hell of a lot more.</p> <p>17 Q. I'm going to come back to that answer, if I may, in</p> <p>18 a moment.</p> <p>19 Before I do, can I just examine with you your</p> <p>20 experiences of exterior fires.</p> <p>21 In your experience -- your long experience -- in the</p> <p>22 London Fire Brigade, do you have, or did you have as</p> <p>23 at June 2017, experience of exterior fire spread?</p> <p>24 A. I have had, yeah. I've been to fires that have spread</p> <p>25 externally, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 81</p>	<p>1 about the knowledge available in the London Fire</p> <p>2 Brigade. So I'll put the question in a slightly</p> <p>3 different way.</p> <p>4 As at June 2017, were you aware of any training or</p> <p>5 any intelligence or information available in the London</p> <p>6 Fire Brigade, or even mess table talk, about the risks</p> <p>7 to high-rise buildings that exterior cladding systems</p> <p>8 posed?</p> <p>9 A. No, I'm not aware of that.</p> <p>10 Q. Had you heard of a fire at Shepherds Court?</p> <p>11 A. I haven't, no.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay.</p> <p>13 Go back, then, to your answer that you gave earlier</p> <p>14 on, when you said -- and I am paraphrasing -- that you</p> <p>15 didn't think you could put it out.</p> <p>16 What thoughts did you have about what should be done</p> <p>17 instead at that point?</p> <p>18 A. My initial thoughts were that we need to get people out</p> <p>19 the building.</p> <p>20 Q. Just pick that up in your statement. On page 2, I've</p> <p>21 shown you the last line of the first paragraph on that</p> <p>22 page. You then proceed in the next paragraph on the</p> <p>23 same page to describe the fire, and you say in the last</p> <p>24 sentence:</p> <p>25 "I could hear the residents but I felt I could not</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 83</p>
<p>1 Q. Can you give us some examples?</p> <p>2 A. Well, there's been fires in Mile End where it's came out</p> <p>3 onto the balcony and it's caught the floor above and the</p> <p>4 floor above that.</p> <p>5 There was one recently after this fire where there</p> <p>6 was external fire spread in Knightsbridge and it just</p> <p>7 went up the side of the building.</p> <p>8 And the issues are is if it's staying on the</p> <p>9 cladding, as we all know what it is now, if it stays on</p> <p>10 the cladding, that's probably not as dangerous; it's</p> <p>11 when it starts to spread out and then it affects the</p> <p>12 windows, doesn't it, so the windows aren't going to</p> <p>13 accept that heat.</p> <p>14 Q. As at June 2017, were you aware of any training or</p> <p>15 education or intelligence within the London Fire Brigade</p> <p>16 about the dangers posed to high-rise tower blocks by</p> <p>17 cladding structures on the exterior?</p> <p>18 A. No. My understanding is that the cladding exterior is</p> <p>19 to be zero-rated. So it shouldn't take a flame. But</p> <p>20 then I'm led to believe that that's only -- the test is</p> <p>21 they test the front of the panel.</p> <p>22 Q. Can I just go back to the question. I think my question</p> <p>23 was actually --</p> <p>24 A. Sorry.</p> <p>25 Q. -- not about the materials or testing; my question was</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 82</p>	<p>1 look at them in case anyone fell and just felt 'all</p> <p>2 these people need to get out.'</p> <p>3 Now, just breaking that down, you say "I could hear</p> <p>4 the residents". Could you just explain or describe for</p> <p>5 me what you mean there.</p> <p>6 A. You could hear just screaming. It was unbelievable.</p> <p>7 There was screaming and you could -- I couldn't say it</p> <p>8 was that particular flat from where I was, but you could</p> <p>9 pick it up that it was coming from that direction,</p> <p>10 whereas on this side you had sort of hundreds of people</p> <p>11 just screaming and shouting and demanding that we try</p> <p>12 and help them.</p> <p>13 Q. So that I'm clear, when you say, "I could hear</p> <p>14 residents", and you describe screaming, was that coming</p> <p>15 from inside the tower or from the people on the ground?</p> <p>16 A. When I initially turned up, this was from the residents</p> <p>17 that were outside.</p> <p>18 Q. I see, okay. Right. Could you hear any residents</p> <p>19 inside the tower at their windows?</p> <p>20 A. Not at that particular moment, not until I got to the</p> <p>21 tower.</p> <p>22 Q. Right.</p> <p>23 Then you say:</p> <p>24 "... [I] felt 'all these people need to get out.'"</p> <p>25 Did you have any thoughts about how you would do</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 84</p>

<p>1 that, how you would evacuate the building?</p> <p>2 A. Yeah, I have my thoughts, if it was my responsibility to</p> <p>3 do that, how I would get them out.</p> <p>4 Q. And how? How would you do that?</p> <p>5 A. You'd have to do it in a controlled manner. You'd have</p> <p>6 to control the crews going into the building. They</p> <p>7 would have to have breathing apparatus. The amount of</p> <p>8 fire that was there, we're not going to be able to</p> <p>9 supply water to the firefighters on every single floor</p> <p>10 to protect their exit, so they would've had to have been</p> <p>11 asked to go into a floor without any firefighting</p> <p>12 extinguisher.</p> <p>13 By no situation would it have been a simple task to</p> <p>14 do; it would've taken a lot of control. You'd have</p> <p>15 needed a lot of officers to try and control the</p> <p>16 firefighters that would've been more than willing, I'm</p> <p>17 sure, to do everything that was necessary. But it</p> <p>18 would've had --</p> <p>19 Q. So -- I'm sorry.</p> <p>20 A. Sorry.</p> <p>21 Q. I don't mean to stop you. I'm just trying to get</p> <p>22 a picture. You're standing there, looking at the tower.</p> <p>23 You can hear residents screaming. You think to</p> <p>24 yourself: "We're not going to be able to fight this</p> <p>25 fire, we need to get everybody out."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 85</p>	<p>1 intentions, you know, in case they slam -- because they</p> <p>2 do slam shut, some of these doors, and that's</p> <p>3 frightening for the children. But some of them just</p> <p>4 break, and we've found over time that these perhaps</p> <p>5 don't get replaced.</p> <p>6 So when I saw the tower, my vision was and my</p> <p>7 thought process was that if it's gone from there, it's</p> <p>8 missed out that flat and it's gone into that flat there,</p> <p>9 there must be a compartmentation breach. So I'm</p> <p>10 thinking there must be a door open there and a door open</p> <p>11 there.</p> <p>12 Q. Did you know how many routes of escape there were</p> <p>13 available to residents --</p> <p>14 A. No.</p> <p>15 Q. -- in the tower when you had those thoughts?</p> <p>16 A. No.</p> <p>17 Q. You didn't.</p> <p>18 So in terms of your thought, "all these people need</p> <p>19 to get out", in terms of what method you would apply to</p> <p>20 get everybody out, did you have any idea about what</p> <p>21 method that would be? How would you do it?</p> <p>22 A. By having a stronger level of control on the commitment</p> <p>23 of the BA crews, it had to be more structured, and then</p> <p>24 we'd have to just commit -- this is just in my thought</p> <p>25 process, but it was -- to me I just thought we had to</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 87</p>
<p>1 Standing there, what factually did you know about</p> <p>2 the means of escape and the other fire safety measures</p> <p>3 present within Grenfell Tower yourself?</p> <p>4 A. I've never been to Grenfell Tower; I just made</p> <p>5 an assumption on what I know on the building</p> <p>6 construction of it, being that each flat should be</p> <p>7 a compartment and that should be an hour fire-resisting</p> <p>8 from the next compartment.</p> <p>9 But what you could see quite clearly was that the</p> <p>10 fire was going from one side and affecting a flat on</p> <p>11 another side. So not that I was up there, but I knew</p> <p>12 that that means that the fire must have jumped through</p> <p>13 the corridor, so the compartmentation has broken down,</p> <p>14 so you need to get the people out.</p> <p>15 Q. So you thought the compartmentation had broken down.</p> <p>16 Broken down internally?</p> <p>17 A. Internally.</p> <p>18 Q. Did you think it had broken down just in parts or did</p> <p>19 you have a thought about whether compartmentation</p> <p>20 breakdown was more widespread?</p> <p>21 A. There's a concern -- in my fire safety role, there's</p> <p>22 a concern with myself and some of my inspecting officers</p> <p>23 with regards to the self-closers on people's front doors</p> <p>24 in their flats, and we know that they get broken, we</p> <p>25 know that sometimes they get removed, with the best</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 86</p>	<p>1 get them out, and I vocalised that.</p> <p>2 Q. You then say in the next paragraph:</p> <p>3 "I went to the Command Unit and I booked myself in</p> <p>4 as Senior Fire Safety Officer ..."</p> <p>5 You then say:</p> <p>6 "The Fire Safety Officer looks at means of escape</p> <p>7 and advises the Incident Commander of ways to assist the</p> <p>8 situation, such as Automated Vents and the Smoke System.</p> <p>9 However I knew that there would be far more urgent tasks</p> <p>10 to be done. I spoke to the Incident commander (Group</p> <p>11 Manager GM) Richard Welch, and he started to brief me</p> <p>12 and I asked what he needed me to do."</p> <p>13 Was there ever a time when you did look at the means</p> <p>14 of escape and advise the incident commander of ways to</p> <p>15 assist the situation, as you put it?</p> <p>16 A. Not at that time, I didn't -- when I presented myself to</p> <p>17 Richard Welch, who I believe to be the incident</p> <p>18 commander at the time, I present myself as -- which I do</p> <p>19 know Richard Welch, I said, "Hi, guv, I'm here as fire</p> <p>20 safety, but what do you want me to do?" And he sort of</p> <p>21 took three seconds to sort of compute and then he just</p> <p>22 said that he wants me to deal -- take over fire survival</p> <p>23 guidance.</p> <p>24 Q. Just going back a little bit, you say at the beginning</p> <p>25 of that paragraph:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 88</p>

<p>1 "I went to the Command Unit and I booked myself in 2 as Senior Fire Safety Officer ..." 3 Do you remember what the command unit was? Was it 4 a CU or was it the incident command pump at the time? 5 A. It was a CU. 6 Q. Do you remember which number it was? 7 A. I think it was -- no, I don't, no. 8 Q. So just to be clear, it wasn't G271, the North 9 Kensington pump ladder? 10 A. No, it was definitely a command unit that I went to. 11 Q. And is it normal that the senior fire safety officer 12 reports directly to the incident commander? 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. Okay. 15 Are you familiar with the policy requirements on 16 a fire safety officer to advise the incident commander 17 what facilities may be in the building and whether those 18 facilities may assist with operations? Are you familiar 19 with that as policy? 20 A. I am familiar with that. 21 Q. You told me what you did know about the facilities at 22 Grenfell Tower; did you learn later about what they were 23 during the night? 24 A. No, I did try to get plans for the building and to see 25 if there was any information on our ORD system, but that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 89</p>	<p>1 A. He just told me. 2 Q. Right. And what he told you, is that what you just told 3 us? 4 A. Yes, it is, yes. 5 Q. Right. What did you think about that when he told you 6 that the ORD didn't have any plans and wasn't updated? 7 A. I was a bit gutted because I thought we could use the 8 information, but it was something that I was familiar 9 with on other premises. There's a lot of information 10 that goes on there and there isn't really probably a lot 11 of -- to be honest, there probably isn't a lot of 12 training in how to do it in a succinct and best practice 13 way. 14 Q. To the best of your recollection, was the information 15 that was on the ORD helpful at all on the night of the 16 Grenfell Tower fire? 17 A. Not from what I wanted, where I wanted the plans of the 18 building, and it was just a comment that Tony said 19 that -- which I'm sure was Tony. 20 Q. Just so I can get a basic idea of this, how basic is 21 it -- let me start again. 22 The plans to a building, is that really the basic 23 building blocks of a fire safety officer's information 24 about a building? 25 A. For a fire safety officer?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 91</p>
<p>1 wasn't updated. 2 Q. Right. Let's follow that up. 3 You did try to get plans; how did you try to get 4 those plans? 5 A. So I tried to get plans -- I believe I asked somebody to 6 go to the tower to see if there was a girder box that 7 may have the plans on there. 8 Q. A girder box, is that like a premises information box? 9 A. Premises information box, yeah. 10 Q. Okay. 11 A. Which operates with a girder key. But there wasn't one 12 there. And then I asked one of the command unit staff 13 to check on the ORD to see if we had any plans, because 14 where we was trying to do the fire survival guidance, to 15 see if we could work out where the flats were. 16 Q. The result of that look at the ORD was what? 17 A. The feedback I got back was that it wasn't updated with 18 any floor plans, and I believe it also said that the 19 building was only 20 floors high as well. 20 Q. Who did you ask to look at the operational risk 21 database, the ORD? 22 A. It was one of the command unit staff. I think it might 23 have been Tony Peckham. 24 Q. Right. Did you see him examine the ORD or did he just 25 tell you what he'd found?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 90</p>	<p>1 Q. Yes. 2 A. Yeah, if you attend an incident as a fire safety 3 officer, one of the first things you'll do is try and 4 find plans for the building and then try and find if 5 they've got any automated systems for smoke extraction 6 or sprinklers, try and find out where the sprinkler main 7 valve is, any communications going throughout the 8 premises. They are sort of your basic things that you 9 would try and get straight away. 10 Q. Right. Thank you. 11 How difficult is it to proceed with amassing 12 information about a building in the course of 13 an incident if you don't have the plans? How difficult 14 does it make it? 15 A. It really does depend on the building, to be honest. 16 A block of flats is a block of flats, so once you can 17 identify where the dry riser is or the wet riser is and 18 then the lifts -- you know, the crews have already been 19 in there. It's nice to have later on, the plans, where, 20 you know, you might be able to -- in this incident, you 21 might be able to work out where the -- if there's two 22 corridors, for example, you can work out where the flats 23 are. In this situation I believe it was only a central 24 core anyway. 25 Q. Did there come a time when you became aware that there</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 92</p>

<p>1 was supposed to be an automated smoke vent system?</p> <p>2 A. Yes, there was, yes.</p> <p>3 Q. You knew that, did you?</p> <p>4 A. I knew when I went into the tower.</p> <p>5 Q. What about the fact that there were no sprinklers, when</p> <p>6 did you find that out?</p> <p>7 A. When I was in the tower. It was -- yeah.</p> <p>8 Q. Right. What about the fact that there was only a single</p> <p>9 staircase?</p> <p>10 A. Once I went into the tower, I found that out.</p> <p>11 Q. What did you think about the fact that there were no</p> <p>12 sprinklers and only a single staircase?</p> <p>13 A. No sprinklers in a block of flats is quite common. Even</p> <p>14 though we're pushing for it, it's still quite common.</p> <p>15 With regard to the single staircase, similar thing,</p> <p>16 the only thing that that meant to me was that to get</p> <p>17 people out and to get fire crews up is going to, you</p> <p>18 know, be a lot harder and a lot more difficult than, you</p> <p>19 know, if we had two staircases.</p> <p>20 Q. Just going back to your statement, when you went to the</p> <p>21 command unit and booked in, you say you then spoke to</p> <p>22 Welch and he started to brief you. He told you -- we</p> <p>23 see this at the top of page 3:</p> <p>24 "... I want you to take charge of the Fire Survival</p> <p>25 Guidance Calls."</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 93</p>	<p>1 qualifications and experience --</p> <p>2 (Fire alarm)</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Will you all follow the ushers and</p> <p>4 others who will guide you out.</p> <p>5 (12.36 pm)</p> <p>6 (The short adjournment)</p> <p>7 (2.00 pm)</p> <p>8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Welcome back. I'm sorry about the</p> <p>9 interruption to the proceedings a little earlier, but to</p> <p>10 all of those of you who were here when that occurred,</p> <p>11 thank you very much for an orderly and I think pain-free</p> <p>12 evacuation. Certainly as far as this particular room is</p> <p>13 concerned, I can't speak for any other room, but thank</p> <p>14 you very much.</p> <p>15 I think we are now ready to go on, Mr Millett, are</p> <p>16 we?</p> <p>17 MR MILLETT: Yes, Mr Chairman. Thank you. If we could</p> <p>18 please have the witness.</p> <p>19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: If we could have Mr Egan back,</p> <p>20 please.</p> <p>21 (Pause)</p> <p>22 Well, Mr Egan, I'm sorry about that interruption to</p> <p>23 your evidence, but we are now ready to go on.</p> <p>24 THE WITNESS: That's okay, thank you.</p> <p>25 MR MILLETT: Mr Egan, just before we broke I was asking you</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 95</p>
<p>1 Then you say:</p> <p>2 "I asked for the details of what we already had, and</p> <p>3 spoke to Watch Manager Norman Harrison (WM) who was one</p> <p>4 of the Command Unit Staff. He was writing what</p> <p>5 information they had up on the board. He started to</p> <p>6 brief me about which residents they knew of and what</p> <p>7 floors they were on."</p> <p>8 Now, you had this conversation with him; first of</p> <p>9 all, did you share with Group Manager Welch your view</p> <p>10 that the building should be evacuated as you've told us?</p> <p>11 A. Not at that stage, I didn't, no.</p> <p>12 Q. Is there a reason why you didn't?</p> <p>13 A. Because at the moment, my role is to go there, he's</p> <p>14 given me fire survival guidance, I'm going to make</p> <p>15 an assumption that the officer in charge has got this in</p> <p>16 control.</p> <p>17 Q. Right.</p> <p>18 A. They would've considered it already.</p> <p>19 Q. Just going back, though, to the bottom of page 2 of your</p> <p>20 statement, you say, three lines down:</p> <p>21 "The Fire Safety Officer looks at means of escape</p> <p>22 and advises the Incident Commander of ways to assist the</p> <p>23 situation ..."</p> <p>24 Although he had given you the fire survival guidance</p> <p>25 task job to do, did you not think that because of your</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 94</p>	<p>1 a question about whether you had shared your view about</p> <p>2 the need to evacuate Grenfell Tower with Group Manager</p> <p>3 Welch, and your answer was "Not at that stage, no".</p> <p>4 Did there come a stage when you did share your view</p> <p>5 about the need to evacuate Grenfell Tower with Group</p> <p>6 Manager Welch?</p> <p>7 A. I did speak to Group Manager Welch when he was in the</p> <p>8 base of the tower later on during the incident and</p> <p>9 I voiced my concerns that we need to be getting people</p> <p>10 out, but when I first met him on the command unit, the</p> <p>11 role that he gave me straight away was the upmost</p> <p>12 priority for him, and that's what I dealt with.</p> <p>13 Q. If, instead of being given that role -- which we'll</p> <p>14 discuss in a moment -- you had carried out your function</p> <p>15 as fire safety officer, what advice do you think you</p> <p>16 would have given Group Manager Welch about evacuation of</p> <p>17 the tower?</p> <p>18 A. It's only from what I know now, after being in the</p> <p>19 tower, that I could've given him any information with</p> <p>20 regards to the stairwell, the number of people in the</p> <p>21 premises and the means of escape once they've come down</p> <p>22 to the ground-floor level. But I couldn't have given</p> <p>23 him any information at the time that would have aided</p> <p>24 his decision-making in how to get the people out of the</p> <p>25 tower.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 96</p>

<p>1 Q. Exploring that just a little bit more, if, in your role 2 as fire safety officer, had you been left in it, you 3 were carrying out your function under policy to advise 4 the incident commander on what facilities may be in the 5 building and on the operation of the facilities, at the 6 time and on the basis of what you knew at that moment, 7 what advice would you have given him?</p> <p>8 A. From what I knew at that time, I couldn't give him any 9 advice because I didn't know what the premises was, what 10 systems it had -- I couldn't give him any information.</p> <p>11 Q. Now, at the top of page 3 you say: 12 "He just stopped and said 'I want you to take charge 13 of the Fire Survival Guidance Calls.' (FSG)." 14 When he said that, did you know what he wanted you 15 to do?</p> <p>16 A. I believe so, yes. He did give me a little bit more 17 information -- he gave me a bit of brief of -- that the 18 guy Norman was there, he was from the command unit that 19 I was to go onto. He said that Norman's got a list of 20 all the fire survival guidance calls that we've had so 21 far and that he just wanted me to take control of it and 22 start liaising with the bridgehead.</p> <p>23 Q. Would it normally be part of your role as a fire safety 24 officer to handle fire survival guidance calls?</p> <p>25 A. Not as -- not -- so where initially I was ordered as</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 97</p>	<p>1 responsibilities, it was quite obvious that he wanted me 2 to deal with the fire survival guidance on a separate 3 command unit that would leave that command unit to deal 4 with the operations itself.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you ask Group Manager Welch about whether search and 6 rescue was underway in the tower?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. So would that also mean that you didn't ask him about 9 what search and rescue methods were being used?</p> <p>10 A. No. My intention was to get the information, make 11 contact with the bridgehead to find out what structures 12 they've got in place and what personnel they've got 13 ready to deal with it.</p> <p>14 Q. So I think, in light of everything you've just been 15 telling us, you saw your role as really one of 16 structuring the communications rather than addressing 17 yourself to the actual advice that was being given to 18 callers.</p> <p>19 A. Yes.</p> <p>20 Q. Would that be a fair summary?</p> <p>21 A. Yes.</p> <p>22 Q. Thank you. 23 If we go on in paragraph 1 of page 3, you say: 24 "I asked for the details of what we already had, and 25 spoke to Watch Manager Norman Harrison (WM) who was one</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 99</p>
<p>1 a fire safety officer, when I attended that incident, in 2 effect that was taken from me, because he didn't want me 3 to perform that role; he wanted me to perform the role 4 of a station manager in charge of fire survival 5 guidance. So my whole thought process then is: right, 6 what do I need to do? What sort of policy do I have to 7 follow?</p> <p>8 Q. When he gave you that instruction, "I want you to take 9 charge of the fire survival guidance calls", did you ask 10 him what advice was being given at that time by Brigade 11 control to callers?</p> <p>12 A. No, I didn't, no.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you ask him even about the nature of the conditions 14 in the building that those at Brigade control were 15 finding out about?</p> <p>16 A. No, I didn't. I didn't, no.</p> <p>17 Q. Did you discuss with Group Manager Welch the kind of 18 tactics or strategy that those on the ground would be 19 adopting in order to work with what information was 20 coming to Brigade control on those fire survival 21 guidance calls?</p> <p>22 A. No, it was so dynamic, and as I did mention, I do know 23 Richard Welch and I've worked with him in the past. So 24 where sometimes you would give a lengthy sort of 25 handover of what you wanted doing, roles and</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 98</p>	<p>1 of the Command Unit Staff. He was writing what 2 information they had up on the board." 3 Just pausing there, where was this board?</p> <p>4 A. The board was on the initial command unit, the initial 5 command vehicle. There's just like a whiteboard there, 6 so he was writing stuff on it. It had flat numbers and 7 floors.</p> <p>8 We did actually have -- which I don't know was 9 mentioned -- a plaque off of the tower that had the 10 floors and the flat numbers as well, so we had a bit 11 more structure into what we -- where we could identify 12 people were.</p> <p>13 Q. When you say he was writing what information they had on 14 the board, you say flat numbers and floors, any other 15 information?</p> <p>16 A. I believe it was numbers of persons as well.</p> <p>17 Q. Numbers of persons. 18 Was there any information that you saw at that time 19 that he was writing about what deployments had been made 20 to those flats or those floors of BA wearers?</p> <p>21 A. No, there was no structure as to what crews have been 22 sent from the bridgehead to the people.</p> <p>23 Q. We're going to explore this in some detail later, but 24 just for the present, you say he was writing up what 25 information they had.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 100</p>

<p>1 First of all, where, to your knowledge at the time, 2 was that information coming from into the command unit? 3 Where was it coming from? 4 A. That information, I believe, should've been coming from 5 control. Control should've been contacting the incident 6 command vehicle and passing fire survival guidance 7 information through to them. 8 Q. What was the mechanism by which that information was 9 communicated from control to the command unit? 10 A. So the command unit would answer the radio and then they 11 would get details of the person's name, if known, what 12 floor they're in, what flat they're in, why they can't 13 get out, are there mobility issues, have you got young 14 children in there? Where is the smoke-logging; is it 15 out in the hallway or is it coming into the flat? 16 Information like that would have been asked by 17 control, and that information would've been passed to 18 the incident command vehicle, who would record that on 19 a form, and then that form would be -- one would be kept 20 with the command unit and another one would be taken to 21 the bridgehead. 22 Q. Just breaking that answer down. 23 First of all, in terms of the type of information, 24 you say that that would happen and you set out a list of 25 very detailed information.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 101</p>	<p>1 unit, which I think was CU7, so that we didn't miss or 2 drop anybody's names or anybody's flats out of it. What 3 we had is what we had, from one unit to another unit. 4 MR MILLETT: Just to go back to my question again, in terms 5 of -- 6 A. Sorry. 7 Q. It's okay. Just in terms of when you say "What we had 8 was what we had", was what you had sufficiently detailed 9 in terms of conditions in the flat, people in the flat, 10 conditions perhaps outside the flats, to be able to give 11 the BA wearers good information to act on? 12 A. On some of the forms there was information about where 13 the smoke was in the hallway, why they couldn't get out, 14 but the majority of the forms that were coming in that 15 I seen after -- and there was so many ... 16 Q. I know, okay. 17 Just in terms of mechanics, can I just ask you about 18 the mechanics of the communication. 19 Would you like to have a break, do you think? 20 A. No, I'm okay, thank you. 21 Q. Just in terms of the mechanics, the information comes 22 into the CU. 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. I think it's CU8. It comes in from the control room. 25 How does that come in? By radio, through the Vision log</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 103</p>
<p>1 To your recollection, was that kind of detailed 2 information actually what Norman Harrison himself was 3 writing up? Was that available, that information? 4 A. When I got onto the command unit, and Norman was writing 5 up -- he was writing things on the board, what he then 6 had to do was then transfer that onto a bit of paper to 7 make sure that he didn't have anything on the board that 8 he didn't have on his bit of paper, yeah? Because we 9 was going to take all that information to another unit. 10 And when I looked at the papers, which I then stop him 11 outside in the street -- because I didn't want to go 12 walking off to the other command unit and then we leave 13 some of the stuff behind, I wanted to take it all with 14 us, and I did get a bit official with him and a bit -- 15 not angry, I just wanted to make sure we had the 16 things ... Sorry. 17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Just take a moment. 18 A. Sorry. 19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: No, that's all right. If you'd like 20 to sit down for a minute, that would be perfectly all 21 right. 22 A. Thank you. 23 So we just -- I just wanted to make sure that 24 anything that was on that command unit, we had in hard 25 copy so that we could take it on to the new command</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 102</p>	<p>1 onto a screen or what? 2 A. So that's coming through the main scheme radio. So the 3 main scheme radio is going through from control to the 4 command unit, and then they'll record them details. 5 Because of the amount of calls that were coming in, 6 I think -- well, I know from when I was on the other 7 command unit and when I was at the front of the tower, 8 you know, I was saying to the crew, sometimes we don't 9 need all that information, you know, because there was 10 like a backlog of calls coming in; we needed to just get 11 the names, where they were, what flat they was in, what 12 floor they was in and why they couldn't get out, and so 13 we could then make some sort of priority list. 14 Q. In CU8 -- I think it's CU8 at this time when you 15 joined -- was there like a radio operator, somebody on 16 the end of a radio and a pen in the other hand writing 17 down the details on these forms? 18 A. I didn't see the other operator. All I saw -- as I got 19 to the stairs of the command unit, walked up the stairs, 20 and then Richard Welch just, as I said, turned round and 21 said, "I just need you to do fire survival guidance". 22 Norman was there with a whiteboard that he had 23 started to write stuff down, and all we've done is make 24 sure that that information he already had, he had all 25 his paper, we took the aluminium sign, and we took that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 104</p>

<p>1 to CU7 to then start writing it all up in a logical</p> <p>2 fashion.</p> <p>3 Q. Do you remember how many FSGs, if I can call them that,</p> <p>4 were being dealt with when you were given responsibility</p> <p>5 by Group Manager Welch for being in charge of FSGs?</p> <p>6 A. I couldn't really put a number on it. There was</p> <p>7 just ... there was just a wad of paper, it was -- if I'm</p> <p>8 trying to picture, you know, what he had in his hand and</p> <p>9 when we started writing them up, what he had at that</p> <p>10 moment, between 20/30 FSGs.</p> <p>11 Q. At that stage, was there a system in place, when you</p> <p>12 started and you had this initial briefing with Group</p> <p>13 Manager Welch, to verify or check whether the flats were</p> <p>14 clear after an FSG had been acted upon?</p> <p>15 A. So once I got onto CU7, and then introduce myself to the</p> <p>16 other guys and explain to them what we're here for and</p> <p>17 what I'm doing, Norman then tells me that -- he's got</p> <p>18 some fire survival guidance forms that have come into</p> <p>19 the command unit. He then tells me that there is</p> <p>20 another vehicle at the base of the tower that is taking</p> <p>21 fire survival guidance calls because control have had to</p> <p>22 contact other people. He said he believes that they're</p> <p>23 passing that information from the base of the tower into</p> <p>24 the tower.</p> <p>25 So I knew that information was getting to the tower,</p> <p>Page 105</p>	<p>1 "GM Richard Welch informed me that Command Unit 7</p> <p>2 (CU7) would be assigned to Fire Survival Guidance and he</p> <p>3 told me to go there and set it up."</p> <p>4 Then you explain what happened next.</p> <p>5 Then you say in the last sentence:</p> <p>6 "WM Norman Harrison and I left the Command Unit to</p> <p>7 make our way over to CU7 which was about 200 yards</p> <p>8 away."</p> <p>9 Just so I'm clear, you had been in CU8, I think, and</p> <p>10 you went to CU7 200 yards away. Where was CU7 in</p> <p>11 relation to the tower?</p> <p>12 A. So CU7 was actually on the approach road, so it was</p> <p>13 a lot nearer the tower. So, in effect, 100 yards from</p> <p>14 the base of the tower.</p> <p>15 Q. Can you remember whereabouts -- you say on the approach</p> <p>16 road.</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. To the southeast of the tower?</p> <p>19 A. So at the front of the tower -- I'm sorry, I don't know</p> <p>20 the names of the roads -- so at the front of the tower,</p> <p>21 I believe it's the road that approaches it, and then we</p> <p>22 was parked on the right-hand side, and then as the door</p> <p>23 opens, you could see the tower and what was going on.</p> <p>24 Q. In the next paragraph, you say that you asked Norman</p> <p>25 Harrison, "How many people have we got?" and you say he</p> <p>Page 107</p>
<p>1 but I just needed to go and find that structure and find</p> <p>2 out who was responsible for it.</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: That information was actually just</p> <p>4 bypassing your command unit?</p> <p>5 A. I think, yes, because -- because I think initially, when</p> <p>6 the incident would've kicked off, there would've been</p> <p>7 a fire engine, a pump, would've been taking the FSG</p> <p>8 calls. What would then happen is when there's more</p> <p>9 resources turn up, the command unit will then try and</p> <p>10 take that off of them, and it was at that sort of</p> <p>11 changeover. So you still had the pump getting some</p> <p>12 calls, and then you also had the command unit getting</p> <p>13 some calls as well.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes, that's helpful, thank you.</p> <p>15 MR MILLETT: At that early stage, when you were talking to</p> <p>16 Group Manager Welch about the system you were being</p> <p>17 given, did he give you any indication of how, if at all,</p> <p>18 FSG information was being given to other commanders on</p> <p>19 the ground?</p> <p>20 A. As I said, I don't remember Richard Welch actually</p> <p>21 saying it to me, but when I got on the other command</p> <p>22 unit and Norman gave me a brief of what information he</p> <p>23 had, he must have had a conversation with Richard.</p> <p>24 Q. So that then I think takes us to the next paragraph of</p> <p>25 your statement:</p> <p>Page 106</p>	<p>1 tells you.</p> <p>2 Then you say:</p> <p>3 "I said to WM Norman Harrison 'Make a list of</p> <p>4 everything we have got'. I was officious -- I just</p> <p>5 wanted it done. We needed to get a starting point and</p> <p>6 to put a structure in place ... we needed to prioritise</p> <p>7 the people we had to help and also avoid duplication."</p> <p>8 What did Norman Harrison then do in response to that</p> <p>9 command?</p> <p>10 A. It gave him a structure -- he didn't waffle, he just</p> <p>11 gave me a structure. I asked him how many people --</p> <p>12 I want to know how many people he had. I didn't want</p> <p>13 anything else, other information. My thought process</p> <p>14 was I want to know how many people we've got and then</p> <p>15 find out where they are, and then cross-reference</p> <p>16 everything to make sure we had the right number of</p> <p>17 people in the right flats.</p> <p>18 Q. Then you say in the next paragraph:</p> <p>19 "WM Norman Harrison and I went in to CU7 where we</p> <p>20 met Watch Managers Dan Meyryk and Tony Peckham. They</p> <p>21 were CU staff taking FSG calls."</p> <p>22 So just pausing there, do you know how long they had</p> <p>23 been taking FSG calls from Brigade control?</p> <p>24 A. No, I'm sorry, I don't.</p> <p>25 Q. So your way of thinking, did you see essentially two</p> <p>Page 108</p>

<p>1 places on the fire ground, on the incident ground, 2 receiving FSG calls from Brigade control: CU8, where 3 you'd just been, and CU7, where you're now arriving? 4 A. On CU7, Dan Meyryk was on the phone, on the Brigade 5 mobile phone, and he was either writing it down or he 6 was saying it aloud and Tony Peckham was writing down 7 what information it was. 8 Q. Right. 9 A. That's what I mean with the fire survival guidance 10 calls. 11 Q. How long did it take you to go from CU8 to CU7? 12 A. Not long. A minute maybe, less than a minute. 13 Q. Right. And was there a system whereby Brigade control 14 were going to stop sending FSG messages to CU8 and start 15 sending them to CU7? 16 A. No, we needed to -- from me taking it over and moving to 17 a different command unit, the FSG calls were still going 18 to that base pump that was at the base of the tower, so 19 information was still going through, and then it's only 20 once we had CU7 up that when we was speaking to control, 21 I asked Dan Meyryk to just let them know that we was 22 dealing with the fire survival guidance. 23 Q. But you and Norman Harrison had now left CU8 but, is 24 this right, they were still taking FSG information from 25 Brigade control even though you'd left?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 109</p>	<p>1 message? How would that be processed? 2 A. They would have recorded -- the radio operator would 3 record it on the form, the casualty form, and then that 4 would've been brought to CU7, if that would've happened. 5 If command unit 8 would've received a call, they 6 would've passed that information on to CU7. 7 Q. When you got to CU7 and set up your system, did you 8 actually then receive any paper messages from CU8 of FSG 9 calls they had received? 10 A. Not that I'm aware of. 11 Q. Looking back at the paragraph which says Norman Harrison 12 and I went to CU7, you say Watch Managers Dan Meyryk and 13 Tony Peckham were CU staff taking FSG calls. 14 Do you know how long they'd been taking FSG calls 15 for before you arrived? 16 A. No, I don't. 17 Q. Do you know how many calls they'd taken, just roughly, 18 in terms of volume before you'd arrived? 19 A. No, I couldn't -- honestly, I couldn't put a number on 20 it. I just -- they -- I'm going to put a number on it, 21 aren't I? 22 Q. No, just many, few -- 23 A. It could've been 10 calls. They were stressed. They 24 knew what was going on. And they also knew that once we 25 said this base pump has got the fire survival guidance</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 111</p>
<p>1 A. Yeah. Well, I'm not 100 per cent sure. I don't know if 2 they was taking -- the radio operator on CU8 I'm 3 assuming got some information from fire survival 4 guidance calls and put it on to CU -- gave it to Norman. 5 Q. Before you left CU8, did you take any steps, or did 6 anybody take any steps, to tell Brigade control to stop 7 sending FSG to CU8 and start sending them to CU7 8 instead? 9 A. No. 10 Q. So is it possible that, in fact, Brigade control was 11 still sending FSG messages to CU8, even though you, who 12 were now in charge of FSG calls, had left to go to CU7? 13 A. That is possible, that they still would've sent the 14 messages to CU8. I'm not aware of any though. 15 Q. Who would be handling those messages at CU8 once you'd 16 left to set up CU7? 17 A. Whoever -- there would've been a radio operator on CU8 18 that I didn't see, but they would've sent it to CU8. 19 And control, if they couldn't get a response from CU8 on 20 the radio, they would call up another appliance or 21 another command unit to pass that information on to. 22 Q. Right. 23 What would happen, to the best of your knowledge, if 24 an FSG message was sent to CU8 after you'd left to go 25 and set up your system? What would happen to that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 110</p>	<p>1 calls, they were aware of that. 2 Q. Right. So -- 3 A. So it wasn't just a case of, oh, we've got 30 fire 4 survival -- they knew that there was absolutely loads of 5 them. 6 Q. When you say base pump, do you mean G271, which had been 7 the incident command pump initially? 8 A. There was appliances at the base of the tower. One of 9 them appliances was taking fire survival guidance calls, 10 and the driver of that vehicle was giving it to a watch 11 manager, who was leaning over the car bonnet, writing it 12 down, checking it, and when I went to see him, which is 13 a bit later on, he had so much paperwork where they'd 14 taken so many calls. I think in my contemporaneous 15 notes I do know his name, but I didn't when I wrote my 16 statement, if that makes sense. 17 Q. We are going to come to that. At the moment I'm just 18 trying to get a handle on what the channels of fire 19 survival guidance calls were from Brigade control. So 20 we've got them going into CU8, we've got them going into 21 CU7, it looks like at the same time, and you've now 22 mentioned a third appliance. 23 Can I see if I can pin that down with you. 24 A. Right. 25 Q. If you go to the ORR, Mr Documents Director, please, and</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 112</p>

<p>1 go to page 60, I just want to show you an entry in this 2 document.</p> <p>3 Now, Mr Egan, this document is a report put together 4 by the London Fire Brigade of the first hour of the 5 fire. It was put together this May based on a whole lot 6 of information, so you won't be familiar with it.</p> <p>7 Can I just show you something against the time stamp 8 01.35.54 at the bottom of the page:</p> <p>9 "Golf 261 Acton's Pump Ladder interrupt the CRO 10 attempting to pass the radio message to Golf 271, North 11 Kensington's Pump Ladder, saying they will take the 12 'priority' message on behalf of Golf 271, North 13 Kensington's Pump Ladder, who have not responded."</p> <p>14 Now, this is, I think, before you arrive, but at any 15 time did you learn that Golf 261, Acton's pump ladder, 16 was taking FSG information in place of the incident 17 command pump?</p> <p>18 A. No, I didn't know the station's pump ladder; I just knew 19 that there was a pump or pump ladder at the base of the 20 tower that was taking fire survival guidance calls.</p> <p>21 Q. At the bottom of page 60, it says:</p> <p>22 "Golf 261 Acton's Pump Ladder are still on there way 23 to the incident and they state that they will pass on 24 the information to Golf 271 ..."</p> <p>25 And then you can see in the next paragraph:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 113</p>	<p>1 phone, which isn't the correct policy; it should be all 2 done by the fire ground radio. So I think it's just -- 3 my opinion is control would've phoned up CU7 to try and 4 find out what's going on, is anyone else -- and they've 5 passed information while they're there.</p> <p>6 Q. So when you got to CU7, what did you do next?</p> <p>7 A. So I got to CU7, I introduced myself, said to them what 8 our priorities were. I said to -- Norman had all the 9 information. I said what we need to do is we need to 10 transpose all of that information onto a whiteboard. We 11 can work out the floors, we can work out the flat 12 numbers because we had the sheet. We need to start 13 prioritising who we've got.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you do that?</p> <p>15 A. Yes, we did, yeah. So we started doing that, and then 16 I think my timeline gets a bit weird, because I then 17 make a decision to go down to where the base pump is and 18 to find out where this communication is going, so at 19 least I can see people and I can visualise who I'm 20 talking to.</p> <p>21 So I go to the base and that's where I meet a watch 22 manager on a car bonnet that is taking fire survival 23 guidance calls.</p> <p>24 Q. Before we look at that, can I just ask you: you decide, 25 you say, to go to the base pump.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 115</p>
<p>1 "During the phone conversation that OM Norman had at 2 01:35:24 with CU 8, the CRO can be heard sending the 3 information to Golf 261 Acton's Pump Ladder ..."</p> <p>4 And it says:</p> <p>5 "There have now been two methods by which the FSG 6 Calls information has been passed to the incident 7 ground."</p> <p>8 And the two methods look like CU8 and 261.</p> <p>9 My question, having shown you that, is: when you 10 were at CU8, or indeed when you arrived at CU7, did 11 anybody tell you that in addition to FSG information 12 going to CU8, FSG information was going to Acton's pump 13 ladder 261?</p> <p>14 A. I knew information would be going to a pump, to a base 15 pump, but I didn't know what pump name or number. 16 I knew it would be going to a pump.</p> <p>17 Q. So when you come into CU7, you can see CU7 staff taking 18 FSG calls, as you say on page 3 of your statement in the 19 third paragraph down, if we go back to it.</p> <p>20 So does that mean that, at that point, there were 21 three destinations on the fire ground for FSG calls: 22 CU8, Acton's pump ladder 261 and CU7, all at the same 23 time?</p> <p>24 A. Yes, it would appear like that, like I say, but with 25 regards to CU7, the operator was taking the calls on the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 114</p>	<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Did anybody tell you at that time that there was a base 3 pump below the tower taking FSG information or --</p> <p>4 A. I'm sure Norm said that there is one at the base of the 5 tower where it is, but even still, I would know that 6 there would be a machine at the base of the tower or 7 where the main seat of fire is, because they would've 8 been getting fire survival guidance calls. Somebody 9 there, just by looking around, I would've found somebody 10 that was dealing with it.</p> <p>11 Q. Why would you think that there would be, in the normal 12 course of things, a pump close to the seat of the fire, 13 as you say, dealing with FSG calls, in circumstances 14 where there was already at least one and now two command 15 units on the fire ground?</p> <p>16 A. Because pumps get there before the command units, so 17 it's the pumps that get passed that information. 18 A command unit will be -- the pumps and the pump ladders 19 will be sent on the initial; when there's further calls, 20 then we decide to send the command unit. So they're 21 en route and the pumps are there.</p> <p>22 So it's a bit like on that -- is it the CRO you 23 showed? And it says Acton's intercept this message. 24 Because even though they're still en route, they're 25 helping them out, they're saying, "Well, they're</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 116</p>

<p>1 obviously really busy, I can take that information</p> <p>2 because I'm going to be there in a moment". So they can</p> <p>3 write it down en route.</p> <p>4 Q. Would it be normal to have FSG calls still going to</p> <p>5 a pump which had arrived early in the incident once</p> <p>6 a command unit was in place?</p> <p>7 A. It was unprecedented, weren't it? Yeah?</p> <p>8 Q. Okay.</p> <p>9 A. So normally you might get three or four probably maximum</p> <p>10 fire survival guidance calls, and they would go to the</p> <p>11 pump, and then the command unit would come in place and</p> <p>12 then you'd put a command unit that would deal with fire</p> <p>13 survival guidance. We'd send a message to control to</p> <p>14 say, "We're now dealing with the fire survival</p> <p>15 guidance". This was -- one machine could not handle the</p> <p>16 number of calls for fire survival guidance. So control</p> <p>17 done a great job to spread the calls out so at least</p> <p>18 somebody somewhere was writing that down and they got</p> <p>19 that information together in one single place.</p> <p>20 Q. I understand.</p> <p>21 Okay.</p> <p>22 You go on, then, at the foot of page 3, to say:</p> <p>23 "At around 1:30 am, as I was approaching the tower I</p> <p>24 could see a Watch Manager working on a car bonnet."</p> <p>25 First of all, that time there; do you think that's</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 117</p>	<p>1 sometimes two or three casualty report forms.</p> <p>2 Q. I see. I follow.</p> <p>3 So the fire survival guidance call that that driver</p> <p>4 was collating with the watch manager was fire survival</p> <p>5 guidance information coming to that pump, was it?</p> <p>6 A. Yes, and from control to that pump.</p> <p>7 Q. Right. From anywhere else or just that pump?</p> <p>8 A. No, just from there.</p> <p>9 Q. I see, okay.</p> <p>10 Did the driver physically bring the forms in his</p> <p>11 hand to the watch manager?</p> <p>12 A. He did, yes.</p> <p>13 Q. Was he going back and forth?</p> <p>14 A. He was, yes.</p> <p>15 Q. What was the watch manager physically doing with these</p> <p>16 pieces of paper on the car bonnet, do you remember?</p> <p>17 A. So the watch manager was trying to split the forms up so</p> <p>18 there would be one to go to the bridgehead and one to</p> <p>19 stay with himself, or later on so that I would then take</p> <p>20 it. But that information, when I spoke to him, he was</p> <p>21 then -- he was giving that information to, he</p> <p>22 believed -- I think it was Watch Manager De Sousa[sic]</p> <p>23 who was at the bridgehead.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. What was the role of these forms? You describe</p> <p>25 these forms that were being filled in or brought by the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 119</p>
<p>1 right, that time?</p> <p>2 A. It's probably not, no, I apologise.</p> <p>3 Q. "... I was approaching the tower I could see a Watch</p> <p>4 Manager working on a car bonnet. I cannot recall his</p> <p>5 name."</p> <p>6 You explain you went up to him and he was collating</p> <p>7 information on a car bonnet.</p> <p>8 "There were papers everywhere and I could see a lot</p> <p>9 of activity."</p> <p>10 You say:</p> <p>11 "I told him who I was and that I was there to</p> <p>12 support him. He told me what he was doing: he was</p> <p>13 receiving information from his driver, who was filling</p> <p>14 in carbonated casualty forms based on information from</p> <p>15 the control room, received over the main radio."</p> <p>16 You go on to describe what was happening.</p> <p>17 Could you just clarify for us where you thought that</p> <p>18 watch manager was getting the information from?</p> <p>19 A. The watch manager was getting the information off of</p> <p>20 a firefighter that was coming out of the driver's</p> <p>21 position on the vehicle.</p> <p>22 Q. On which vehicle?</p> <p>23 A. Of the pump, of the pump ladder that was there.</p> <p>24 A firefighter was getting off of the machine, out of the</p> <p>25 driver's seat and walking around to this car bonnet with</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 118</p>	<p>1 driver to the watch manager.</p> <p>2 A. So the forms would say what flat number they're in, what</p> <p>3 floor they're in, how many people are there, and quite</p> <p>4 a few of the forms would say if there was any mobility</p> <p>5 or vulnerability issues, if there was small children in</p> <p>6 there.</p> <p>7 So, you know, on the whole, that's just information</p> <p>8 that it's five people in that flat, but what we had to</p> <p>9 do later on, which was hard, was to prioritise.</p> <p>10 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Just pause for a second.</p> <p>11 MR MILLETT: Take your time.</p> <p>12 Mr Egan, would you like a break?</p> <p>13 A. No, I'm okay, thank you.</p> <p>14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Do indicate if you would.</p> <p>15 A. Yeah, I will. Thank you very much.</p> <p>16 We had to prioritise, didn't we? So where it was</p> <p>17 five people, we then had to, you know, if it was small</p> <p>18 children, you know, babies, they were the priority</p> <p>19 because of respiratory. If they were vulnerable with</p> <p>20 mobility issues, then we would use that because they --</p> <p>21 they wouldn't be able to get out under their own</p> <p>22 resources, would they? So that's how I was</p> <p>23 prioritising --</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25 A. -- what we did.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 120</p>

<p>1 Q. Just to ask you a boring paper question, if I can, can 2 I ask you to look at policy bundle, tab 5. I want to 3 show you what is a standard form control information 4 form and just see whether that's what you're talking 5 about, if I can. 6 If you go, please, to appendix 2, which is on 7 internal page 8 of policy 790, fire survival guidance 8 calls, is that the form that you saw the watch manager 9 handling on the car bonnet? 10 A. Yes, it is, yes. 11 Q. Okay, so this is, is it, what the driver was physically 12 bringing to the watch manager? 13 A. Yeah, yeah. 14 Q. And the driver had filled those in, had he? 15 A. The driver had filled them in, and to be honest, yes, 16 that form looks quite pretty and neat and there's spaces 17 to write names and things -- they weren't that neat and 18 tidy. It was quite bullet pointy, this is what we've 19 got, and as far as I was concerned, that was fine. 20 Q. Right. Thank you. 21 And then the watch manager did something with those 22 pieces of paper. What did he do, do you remember? 23 A. So the watch manager was splitting them. So I think it 24 says there where they -- well, it says the different 25 colours -- but I think there's a key at the bottom that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 121</p>	<p>1 A. That's what happened on the night. 2 Q. Yes, on the night. 3 A. Yeah. But can I just add that that -- 4 Q. Please do -- 5 A. -- in real terms -- in a smaller incident, you wouldn't 6 have so many people involved in handling that piece of 7 information. It's just that -- same thing, the guy that 8 was taking that information -- so the driver's just busy 9 writing, isn't he? He would usually just take that to 10 the bridgehead and give that information in to whoever 11 was doing the fire survival guidance. 12 There was so much information, he couldn't get away 13 from the radio, so he had to give it to someone else to 14 collate it. That person's now got that information, and 15 they're trying to talk to -- and I couldn't remember, 16 but it's Louisa De Silvo, but she's now got -- I'm 17 assuming she's got other things to do as well, 18 committing BA crews, briefing, trying to control the 19 scene up there. So there's another element of somebody 20 getting all that information off of him, because it 21 wasn't safe to keep -- they couldn't just get a form and 22 get into the tower; it took a little while to manage to 23 get in. 24 So normally we wouldn't have that many people in the 25 chain, but for that situation, there was so much coming</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 123</p>
<p>1 says where they're supposed to go. So he was trying to 2 split them up, but because there was so many of them and 3 it was difficult to get into the tower, he was passing 4 information on to -- I believe it was the watch manager, 5 Watch Manager De Sousa, and there was either a crew 6 manager or a watch manager as well that was at the base 7 of the tower so I believe the crew -- Watch Manager De 8 Sousa was at the bridgehead, and he was passing -- so 9 the pump outside, Golf 261, for example, passed that 10 information into the tower, and then that information 11 was being passed to the bridgehead. 12 Q. Okay. So let me see if I've got this right. Tell me if 13 I have any of this wrong, because I'm not here to tell 14 you what happened; it's the other way round. 15 So the information comes from control to the pump, 16 the driver writes it down onto the form, the driver 17 takes the form and takes it to the watch manager on the 18 car bonnet. 19 A. Yes. 20 Q. The watch manager on the car bonnet then gives it to 21 a crew manager or watch manager, and he then takes it to 22 Louisa De Silvo at the bridgehead. 23 A. Louisa De Silvo. 24 Q. I don't want to put words in your mouth. Have 25 I summarised what you've told us?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 122</p>	<p>1 through, they tried to at least hand it over in small 2 chunks for people to deal with rather than, "Watch 3 Manager De Silvo, we've now got 15 fire survival 4 guidance calls", boom boom boom, it would've just been 5 overload. 6 Q. Now, in terms of collation of the information that the 7 watch manager on the car bonnet was doing, he was 8 getting the information from the driver in the pump, and 9 then what was he doing with it? Was he prioritising it? 10 A. I don't think he was prioritising it; I think he was 11 trying to keep the forms in a structured way. So it was 12 like by what floor they was on. So when he handed it 13 over, there would be -- rather than just flicking 14 through the whole lot, there would be some sort of 15 structure in there. 16 Q. Did you see him do that? 17 A. I seen him trying to fiddle with the forms, and I said 18 to him, "Just get the information to the tower". I was 19 going to go into the tower to find out if I could see 20 what was going on and so that people could see me, and 21 then I would then come out, and then once that chain of 22 command had been -- they knew that I was now taking over 23 fire survival guidance, I could then relieve these guys 24 of doing the -- you know, from the pump and writing it 25 down, because we had a command unit.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 124</p>

<p>1 Q. Did you have a conversation with the watch manager at 2 the car bonnet about -- 3 A. At the car bonnet, I did, yes. 4 Q. What was the upshot of that conversation? 5 A. The watch manager, to be honest, and the driver were 6 more than happy to hand it over. They just wanted to 7 get sets on. Those were their words to me. They wanted 8 to do something. Even though, you know, I said they 9 were good at what they were doing ... so I spoke to 10 them ... 11 Q. Okay. Take your time. 12 A. You know, they done a good job, but, you know, they 13 wanted to be more hands-on. So once the walk through, 14 communicate with the people that were there -- I didn't 15 get up to Watch Manager De Sousa when I went into the 16 tower. I called her on the radio and there was no 17 response. The radio was manic. 18 MR MILLETT: Mr Egan, thank you. We are going to take 19 a break now, I think, for you for a few minutes. 20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: That would suit you, Mr Millett, 21 will it? 22 MR MILLETT: It's important that the witness has a break, 23 I think. 24 I'm in your hands, Mr Chairman, 5 or 10 minutes -- 25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I think it would be sensible.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 125</p>	<p>1 A. No, I'm unaware if anyone was actually taking control of 2 the fire survival guidance. 3 Q. Did anybody tell you that Brett Loft, a station manager 4 called Brett Loft, had been operating the fire survival 5 guidance -- 6 A. No. 7 Q. -- system until then? 8 A. No, I was unaware of that. 9 Q. Right. So can I take it that there was no handover from 10 Mr Loft to you? 11 A. Yes, no, there was no handover. 12 Q. Going back to your description of this chain of 13 communication of fire survival guidance material from 14 the car bonnet to the bridgehead, just explain to me 15 precisely how that was happening. I think you said 16 there was a crew manager or watch manager running it 17 into the tower. 18 A. No. So the information -- so from the car bonnet, they 19 were collating all the information, so the watch manager 20 was there. The watch manager was then on the radio to 21 a crew manager or a watch manager that was at the base 22 of the tower, inside the tower. Yeah? 23 Q. Right. Okay. 24 A. So actually inside the building, and that person was 25 then passing the information onto the bridgehead.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 127</p>
<p>1 MR MILLETT: -- for the witness to clear his head. 2 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We shall all have a break, Mr Egan, 3 that'd be a good idea. 4 So we'll stop for 10 minutes and come back at 2.55. 5 All right? 6 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 7 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you very much. 8 (2.45 pm) 9 (A short break) 10 (2.55 pm) 11 MR MILLETT: If we could have the witness back, please. 12 Thank you. 13 (Pause) 14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right to go on, Mr Egan? 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, thank you. 16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Now, we can have another break any 17 time you think it would be helpful. 18 THE WITNESS: That's fine. 19 MR MILLETT: Thank you, Mr Egan. 20 Mr Egan, can I just take a step back a moment in 21 time slightly and go to the time when you were 22 instructed by Group Manager Welch to take over the FSG 23 role. 24 Who had been running the FSG function before that, 25 do you remember?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 126</p>	<p>1 Q. Okay. So that's the bit I didn't get. So from the car 2 bonnet to just inside the tower -- 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. -- that's a radio connection, is it? 5 A. Yes. 6 Q. I see. Which radio channel was it, do you know? 7 A. No. I think it was -- I'm assuming it was probably 8 channel 1. I changed it to -- I believe I changed it 9 all to channel 3, in the end, because of radio traffic. 10 Q. You say that in your contemporaneous notes, in fact. 11 Would there have been difficulties in communicating 12 even that short distance by radio on channel 1 at the 13 time? 14 A. There would've been. The radio traffic was huge. Every 15 firefighter has got to -- and everyone wants to help 16 each other and they're calling each other up, so you've 17 got to find a space to jump in. 18 Q. With this system -- the car bonnet system, if I can call 19 it that -- in relation to the information coming from 20 Brigade control to that pump and then into the tower 21 through that system, do you remember whether there was 22 any information that came back to the watch manager on 23 the car bonnet from inside the tower? 24 A. There wasn't any information that came back from the 25 tower. He was just passing that on. I do remember</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 128</p>

<p>1 asking, you know, "What have we got back? Whose come 2 out?" He was unaware of what information -- I'm sure he 3 said, "Whoever comes out has to come past me anyway". 4 It was that -- you know, so he wasn't really that 5 worried that nothing had come back because he was 6 saying, "Oh, I'll catch them when they come past".</p> <p>7 Q. So if a deployment in response to an FSG message which 8 had gone into the tower was, for example, unsuccessful, 9 was there at that stage a system whereby that 10 information would be passed back to Brigade control via 11 the car bonnet and the pump?</p> <p>12 A. No. So in a typical scenario, the information would be 13 given to a BA crew to go to flat X. They would then go 14 there, and then that information -- you know, if they've 15 got the person out, that information would then go back 16 to the person that was dealing with fire survival 17 guidance so that they could tick them off that that flat 18 is now completed.</p> <p>19 Through the whole incident, we didn't get any 20 information back.</p> <p>21 Q. So how would Brigade control be able to monitor the 22 success or failure of FSGs and the quality of the 23 information or advice that they were giving to callers?</p> <p>24 A. So control -- my understanding is control stay on the 25 line whilst the line is still live and that they can</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 129</p>	<p>1 to the flat in question. But that wouldn't have taken 2 place because we didn't have -- there was so many calls 3 coming in that we couldn't say that -- and then we 4 didn't know what information was being sent from the 5 bridgehead, which crews were going to which flat.</p> <p>6 Q. Can I ask you just to look at policy, since you mention 7 it. Can I ask you to be shown policy 790, which is in 8 policy bundle, tab 5, and to look at paragraph 9, 9 communication with control. It's internal page 5.</p> <p>10 If I can just ask, paragraph 9.1 to be highlighted, 11 it says:</p> <p>12 "It is vital that control is kept informed of the 13 actions being taken to resolve each FSG call. The fact 14 that control is aware of the actions being carried out 15 on the incident ground will greatly enhance the advice 16 given to FSG callers."</p> <p>17 Then 9.3:</p> <p>18 "The outcome of every FSG call must be communicated 19 to control."</p> <p>20 Now, Mr Egan, in the light of that policy, what, if 21 any, steps were being taken in relation to the car 22 bonnet system which we're focusing on at the moment to 23 ensure that control was being kept informed of actions 24 being taken to resolve the FSG calls that were being 25 sent into the tower through that system?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 131</p>
<p>1 hear people at the other end. I don't know how that 2 works with regards to the number of calls, so the number 3 of lines they've got coming in, and when the lines go 4 quiet or if the line -- I think if the line goes dead 5 then they have to just leave that call. If it drops 6 out -- you know, if it was a mobile phone and it dropped 7 out of signal or something, they would then leave that 8 call.</p> <p>9 I don't know -- because control have got their own 10 procedures of how they deal with things, I don't know if 11 they would then re-contact that number, I don't know.</p> <p>12 But with regards to control, they give us the 13 information, we send a crew, they go and get the person, 14 they bring the person out, we then tell control that 15 we've now cleared that flat.</p> <p>16 Q. Was there a system at that point whereby information was 17 being communicated back to control that the message that 18 had been sent to the bridgehead had gone to the 19 bridgehead and a deployment had been made?</p> <p>20 A. No. No, but we wouldn't send that message anyway. We 21 wouldn't take the call from control and then tell them 22 that we're now sending someone there.</p> <p>23 I'm not 100 per cent sure now, actually. Just 24 thinking about it now, I think the policy says that we 25 should send a message to say that we've deployed crews</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 130</p>	<p>1 A. Control were not kept up-to-date as to what action was 2 being taken. The number of calls that were coming in -- 3 they would pass us the information. They knew that we 4 was being snowed under with the number of calls that we 5 had. No information that I'm aware of went back to 6 control to say that we sent a specific crew to a certain 7 flat.</p> <p>8 Q. Would it follow then that, similarly, the outcome of 9 every FSG call wasn't being communicated to control?</p> <p>10 A. Not via main scheme radio. When I was on the command 11 unit 7, there was a telephone call with control and 12 I did say to them, you know, we're prioritising what 13 we've got, we've given that to the bridgehead and 14 they're committing crews.</p> <p>15 I think it was just a given that all efforts were 16 being made -- if you gave us an FSG, all efforts were 17 being made to get to that person.</p> <p>18 Q. I understand.</p> <p>19 Now, if you follow your statement, over to the top 20 over page 5 -- I'm going to summarise it -- you went 21 back to the car bonnet watch manager and you told him 22 that everything would now go through CU. That's 23 effectively what you say in that paragraph.</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. What would that mean for communication of FSG advice?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 132</p>

<p>1 Let me put the question in a slightly different way: 2 how would pushing it all through the CU improve matters? 3 A. Purely because we would've had the staff on there to 4 deal with that, to be able to log it, and then we'd 5 communicate it through, whereas, you know -- it just 6 seemed -- that was the dedicated machine that was going 7 to deal with that information, and it would be sort of 8 right and proper that you'd have a command unit dealing 9 with fire survival guidance calls. 10 Q. What did that watch manager do in response to your 11 telling him that everything would now go through the CU? 12 A. As I mentioned earlier, they were really pleased. He 13 gave me all the information that he had in his hands, we 14 made sure nothing was left behind, and they went off 15 to -- I'm sure they just went off to get sets. 16 Q. Do you know whether Brigade control were told to stop 17 sending FSG messages to the pump, the driver from which 18 was sending these messages to the car bonnet? 19 A. No, I did ask for the command unit to contact control to 20 confirm that we're dealing with the fire survival 21 guidance. 22 Q. To the best of your recollection, did that succeed? 23 A. To the best of my knowledge, it did, yes. 24 Q. Did you have any radio communications with the 25 bridgehead at that stage; in other words, at the stage</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 133</p>	<p>1 first main paragraph: 2 "At that point the advice from the control room to 3 callers was the standard 'Stay Put Advice'. 4 Then you describe what that advice was. 5 How did you know that the advice being given by the 6 control room to callers was stay put at that stage? 7 A. Because that is the procedure, that's what we do, that's 8 how we deal with incidents. We have a stay-put policy 9 in place and the fire survival guidance is, you know, 10 that you stay where you are, we will send crews to come 11 and get you and to bring you out. 12 Q. Okay. 13 A. Perhaps I made an assumption that, you know, if it 14 wasn't in place then we wouldn't be sending crews 15 because we'd be putting crews at risk then while people 16 are coming out. 17 Q. So my question was -- I think you've answered my 18 question, but another way of asking it was: did anybody 19 tell you at the time that the advice being given by the 20 control room to callers was stay put? 21 A. No, not in that early stage. 22 Q. Now, we talked about Group Manager Goodall a moment ago. 23 If you go to page 5 of your statement again, we pick 24 up the story where you've come back to CU7 and you say: 25 "I gave the pictures I had taken to them and they</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 135</p>
<p>1 when you started operations up in the CU? 2 A. No, I tried to get through on the radio a couple of 3 times -- or more than a couple of times, numerous 4 times -- and there was no response. There was so much 5 radio traffic. 6 Q. Right. 7 Once you'd started up on CU7, what happened to FSG 8 calls which had been coming in on CU8, do you remember? 9 A. I can't remember any calls -- once we was on command 10 unit 7, I don't remember any paperwork coming from CU8 11 saying, "This is a fire survival guidance call". 12 Q. There was a firefighter called Thomas Goodall who 13 I think was involved in fire survival guidance calls. 14 A. Yes, he's the group manager, so he was ordered to take 15 over from me. So it was a higher level of command. 16 Q. On which CU? 17 A. On CU7. 18 Q. That was when, later? 19 A. That was a little bit later, yeah. 20 Q. We may have to come back to that. 21 Going back, if I can, in your statement a little bit 22 to paragraph 2 on page 4, this is at the time -- I'm 23 sorry to go back in time but I just wanted to see if 24 I could put a time on it -- when you are describing the 25 car bonnet watch manager. You say at the end of the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 134</p>	<p>1 started writing it up on the white boards -- putting 2 down all the flat numbers and what we knew about them." 3 I just want to ask you about those pictures. 4 Can I ask you to be shown, please, exhibit 5 of your 5 exhibits, which is, Mr Documents Director, MET00015634. 6 Is what we've got on the screen there one of the 7 photographs that you're referring to? 8 A. Not there, no. That's a photo from later on. 9 Q. That's a photo from later on. Right. 10 A. It's like a yellowish one. 11 Q. Okay. Can I ask you to be shown DEG/4 which is 12 MET00015636. 13 Is that one of the photographs? 14 A. No. 15 Q. Okay. 16 A. It is one of my photos, but not -- 17 Q. Okay. 18 So I think, then, by process of elimination by me, 19 we're going to be left with one set of photographs I can 20 take you to and these are the photographs you took of 21 the wall at the bridgehead. 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. It's my fault for confusing myself. That, I think, is 24 DEG/1. Can we just look at that. 25 Is that what you're referring to?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 136</p>

<p>1 A. Yes, that was inside the tower on the ground floor.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Now, I'm going to come back to the detail of what</p> <p>3 these show later, but just in terms of those</p> <p>4 photographs, you say you had:</p> <p>5 "... started writing it up on the white boards --</p> <p>6 putting down all the flat numbers and what we knew about</p> <p>7 them."</p> <p>8 Just in terms of looking at that information on the</p> <p>9 screen, and I know it's invidious to take flat numbers</p> <p>10 and floors at random, but let's start with the top one,</p> <p>11 could you just read across what we have there?</p> <p>12 A. So we have a BA with a teacher's tick, F205, so</p> <p>13 I presume a flat number, 205 and on the 23rd floor.</p> <p>14 Q. Then what?</p> <p>15 A. And "UK".</p> <p>16 Q. What does that mean?</p> <p>17 A. I don't know.</p> <p>18 Q. Right. Then there's something on the right which</p> <p>19 I don't think the photograph captures. Do you know what</p> <p>20 that might be?</p> <p>21 A. No.</p> <p>22 Q. There's another picture, which isn't terribly good,</p> <p>23 which might help.</p> <p>24 If you go to exhibit 2, which is MET00015639,</p> <p>25 Mr Documents Director, you may be able to see it better</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 137</p>	<p>1 this was the flat numbers and what floor they was on,</p> <p>2 but if you go back to the other one, other photo, that</p> <p>3 says the BA and ...</p> <p>4 Q. Yes.</p> <p>5 A. So I said to him, "Well, what have we done about it</p> <p>6 then? So have we -- we've got their BA, a tick, to</p> <p>7 flat -- so have we been there?" And his answer was he</p> <p>8 didn't know.</p> <p>9 So I said to him, "You've got ones there without</p> <p>10 a tick; does that mean that we've sent BA there and the</p> <p>11 one with a tick means that we've sent BA there and we've</p> <p>12 cleared it?" But he just didn't know. He just had that</p> <p>13 information that was being passed through from the car</p> <p>14 bonnet.</p> <p>15 Q. Right. So I was going to ask you that.</p> <p>16 First of all, just to be very clear, this photograph</p> <p>17 was taken by you.</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. You say in the last paragraph on page 4 in the middle</p> <p>20 that you took a photo of the wall. That wall is I think</p> <p>21 in the foyer, you say, on the ground floor; is that</p> <p>22 right?</p> <p>23 A. Yes.</p> <p>24 Q. This is not the bridgehead?</p> <p>25 A. No, it's not the bridgehead, no.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 139</p>
<p>1 or worse, I don't know. It may be better.</p> <p>2 A. Okay.</p> <p>3 Q. We can see there this is now FSG at 2.15, where you have</p> <p>4 this "UK", and then can you help us about what that</p> <p>5 says? Is that "[something] @ door"? What does that</p> <p>6 say? I mean, this isn't your handwriting.</p> <p>7 A. No, it isn't, no.</p> <p>8 Q. "FR", it looks like, "@ door 0213, flames @ window 0215,</p> <p>9 people on roof 0216".</p> <p>10 Can you help us interpret that? To the best of your</p> <p>11 recollection, does that reflect what was happening?</p> <p>12 A. No, I'm unaware -- I think those comments didn't -- when</p> <p>13 I asked the person that was standing there with the</p> <p>14 other information, they weren't aware of what these</p> <p>15 comments were.</p> <p>16 Q. Right.</p> <p>17 Where did you take these photographs?</p> <p>18 A. So when I went into the base of the tower the first</p> <p>19 time, these were on the wall.</p> <p>20 Q. Yes.</p> <p>21 A. So I couldn't get in touch with the person at the</p> <p>22 bridgehead, the watch manager, so I spoke to the crew</p> <p>23 manager or it could've been a watch manager that was</p> <p>24 doing temporary, and I tried to find out what</p> <p>25 information he knew. So as far as he was concerned,</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 138</p>	<p>1 Q. And who was writing that up on the wall?</p> <p>2 A. The crew manager that was standing there.</p> <p>3 Q. Is that the crew manager who was in radio contact with</p> <p>4 the car bonnet man?</p> <p>5 A. With the car bonnet man.</p> <p>6 Q. Right. So the information that was being written up on</p> <p>7 the wall had come from the car bonnet, as it were --</p> <p>8 A. I believe so, yeah.</p> <p>9 Q. Right, and had not come from the bridgehead.</p> <p>10 A. No, no. That information there would've been radioed</p> <p>11 through to the guy that was standing at the base of the</p> <p>12 tower, and he would've recorded the very basic</p> <p>13 information that was there, so flat 205 on the 23rd</p> <p>14 floor.</p> <p>15 Q. Right.</p> <p>16 A. Then that information should be then passed to the</p> <p>17 bridgehead, and I think the idea behind it is that where</p> <p>18 the BA is, they committed BA to them, or he believes</p> <p>19 that they committed BA to there, and I'm then going to</p> <p>20 make an assumption that the tick means that he got</p> <p>21 feedback to say that -- or whoever done the original</p> <p>22 drawing got feedback to say that the BA team have been</p> <p>23 there.</p> <p>24 Q. You may not know the answer to this, but let's see how</p> <p>25 far we get: the feedback tick, whether it's cleared or</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 140</p>

<p>1 whatever it means, by which route had that come to that</p> <p>2 watch manager or crew manager? Had it come from the</p> <p>3 bridgehead direct back down to him, or had it gone from</p> <p>4 the bridgehead to Brigade control, back round to the</p> <p>5 pump, back to the car bonnet and back by radio to the</p> <p>6 foyer?</p> <p>7 A. The assumption is that the information would've been</p> <p>8 passed from the base of the tower to the bridgehead.</p> <p>9 The bridgehead would've then confirmed whether they'd</p> <p>10 sent BA or not and the guy at the bottom would've ticked</p> <p>11 it.</p> <p>12 Q. Stop there. Where would he have got the information</p> <p>13 from?</p> <p>14 A. From the bridgehead.</p> <p>15 Q. Direct from the bridgehead, do you think?</p> <p>16 A. Yes.</p> <p>17 Q. Right. How would that have been communicated?</p> <p>18 A. It would've been communicated by radio, but this is all</p> <p>19 hypothetical, because when I asked him what did that</p> <p>20 mean, he didn't know. So when I go back to the command</p> <p>21 unit, I have to treat all those flats as live, as if</p> <p>22 we've got to go to it.</p> <p>23 So I think the process was a good idea, but we lost</p> <p>24 some sort of communication in it.</p> <p>25 Q. Right. Got it. Even though what you are describing is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 141</p>	<p>1 the premises. The one with the grid's on the next</p> <p>2 picture.</p> <p>3 Q. It is. So it is from the latter stages of the incident,</p> <p>4 you're right --</p> <p>5 A. That is the latter stages of the incident. And --</p> <p>6 Q. But did your initial whiteboarding, as it were, look</p> <p>7 like that?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Oh, I see. Right.</p> <p>10 A. No, sorry. Where we found information of where people</p> <p>11 were, that's the flats and the people we got.</p> <p>12 Q. So you then say, in the same paragraph:</p> <p>13 "Group Manager (GM) Tom Goodall then came over and</p> <p>14 informed us he was taking over Fire Survival Guidance."</p> <p>15 How long after you had been at CU7 did that happen,</p> <p>16 do you think?</p> <p>17 A. It felt like forever, to be honest. But I don't -- it</p> <p>18 probably wasn't, but because I -- you know, we set</p> <p>19 something up, I've gone to the tower, came back, I think</p> <p>20 I went back to the base of the tower again and then</p> <p>21 I came back, and then I think that's when Tom Goodall</p> <p>22 was there to take over.</p> <p>23 Q. Yes.</p> <p>24 Now, we have Tom Goodall on scene at about 2.04 am.</p> <p>25 You also go on to say that in the next paragraph that</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 143</p>
<p>1 difficult, I think you've been very clear so far in what</p> <p>2 you've described to us.</p> <p>3 A. Thank you.</p> <p>4 Q. So we then go back to page 5, CU7, and the pictures that</p> <p>5 you have taken you give to the CU7 staff and you say</p> <p>6 they start writing it up on the whiteboards, and we've</p> <p>7 got some photographs of those now.</p> <p>8 I think those photographs of the whiteboards are</p> <p>9 where I wanted to take you earlier DEG/5; is that right?</p> <p>10 A. Sorry, can I just interject?</p> <p>11 Q. Yes.</p> <p>12 A. The one that you're going to show with all the grid --</p> <p>13 Q. Yes.</p> <p>14 A. -- okay, isn't initially what I had the crews doing.</p> <p>15 I had them sort of doing a list form of the floors and</p> <p>16 the flats, and it's when Group Manager Tom Goodall come</p> <p>17 up, he was the one that said, "Right, let's get this</p> <p>18 grid format, we'll put all the flat numbers on there and</p> <p>19 visually it will be a lot better to see".</p> <p>20 Q. Let me see if I can just put that in pictorial form. If</p> <p>21 you could be shown DEG/5, which is MET00015634, is that</p> <p>22 the list that you started making on the whiteboards in</p> <p>23 CU7 based on what information --</p> <p>24 A. That's a photo in the latter stages of the incident,</p> <p>25 when we was working out who we'd rescued or who had left</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 142</p>	<p>1 Station Manager Pete Wolfenden turned up, and we have</p> <p>2 him on scene at about 2.12 am.</p> <p>3 So in terms of this discussion, did this discussion</p> <p>4 happen around about that time or later than that, do you</p> <p>5 think?</p> <p>6 A. Yeah, so when Tom Goodall came up -- this is where your</p> <p>7 mind plays tricks on time. You know, so Tom Goodall's</p> <p>8 turned up and Pete Wolfenden -- as Tom Goodall was</p> <p>9 talking, Pete Wolfenden is walking down towards the</p> <p>10 tower. So they may have turned up at the time that you</p> <p>11 said, but there is still that delay in them getting</p> <p>12 briefed of what's going to happen. But they sort of</p> <p>13 were about the same time.</p> <p>14 Q. Do you recall that the fire was declared a major</p> <p>15 incident?</p> <p>16 A. I did hear it later on that it was declared a major</p> <p>17 incident. During the incident, I heard that it had been</p> <p>18 made a major incident.</p> <p>19 Q. Right. Now, we have a time of that at 02.06. Your</p> <p>20 conversation with Tom Goodall when he came over and took</p> <p>21 over fire survival guidance, was that before or after</p> <p>22 the incident had been declared a major incident?</p> <p>23 A. I can't recall when I found out.</p> <p>24 Q. Okay.</p> <p>25 You go on in the second paragraph on page 5, if</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 144</p>

<p>1 I can just ask you to look at it, to describe how you 2 were told transfer the information that you'd taken to 3 a grid system where each row was a floor. You say: 4 "Then we could see who we had in there: we got this 5 up and running quite quickly. I took photographs with 6 my mobile phone of these boards." 7 I think probably third time lucky. 8 Can I ask you, please to, look at DEG/4, please. 9 Just to look at that. Is that what you're referring to? 10 A. It is, yes. 11 Q. Right. 12 How long did it take to get that up and running, do 13 you think? 14 A. It was very quick. It was ... yeah, the guys didn't 15 mess about, you know, they got that up, they transferred 16 it over, whilst still taking calls coming in. 17 Q. Okay. 18 You then say in the last paragraph on page 5 of your 19 statement: 20 "I said the advice was still to 'Stay Put', but 21 I said we needed to get the residents out." 22 Who did you say that to? 23 A. I think I say it to Tom Goodall. I'm just thinking why 24 it's in the context of that. 25 Q. Well, let's look at the wider context. The paragraph</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 145</p>	<p>1 So I made the comment to Dan to tell them that I'm 2 telling people to get out of the building, but to change 3 the policy or to change the procedure, they need to 4 speak to the officer in charge. I can't change that. 5 Even though we're doing fire survival guidance, that 6 isn't in my power to do that. 7 So I've told them that they had to contact the 8 incident command vehicle. 9 Q. Who was the incident commander at that stage, do you 10 know? 11 A. I don't, I'm sorry. I don't know who the incident 12 commander was. I know it was Andy Roe at the end. 13 I believe it was Richard Welch when I came and took -- 14 when I attended, and I believe it to be Andy Roe at the 15 end of the incident. I didn't hear who was in charge at 16 DAC level or if a DAC level took over. 17 Q. Backing up a little bit to the first sentence of this 18 paragraph: 19 "I said the advice was still to 'Stay Put', but 20 I said we needed to get the residents out." 21 You said you said that to Tom Goodall and then he 22 went to speak to the incident command pump, I think is 23 what you said. 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Do you know who he spoke to at the incident command</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 147</p>
<p>1 before is where you refer to Pete Wolfenden turning up. 2 A. Right, okay. 3 Q. Then you explain to Tom Goodall what you had: 4 "... a firefighter at the base of the tower on the 5 car bonnet passing information to someone inside the 6 tower who was relaying it to the Bridgehead to deploy BA 7 crews." 8 You say you decided you would take that process 9 over. So that's the context. 10 A. Okay. 11 Q. So to repeat the question: who did you tell that you 12 needed to get the residents out? 13 A. Tom Goodall. 14 Q. Tom Goodall. Did he react? 15 A. Tom Goodall went to the command unit that was the 16 incident command vehicle to discuss the stay-put policy, 17 I'm led to believe. 18 Q. Because -- 19 A. I don't know if -- I don't think it is in my statement, 20 it might be a little bit later on, one of the phone 21 calls that happens is from control that Dan Meyryk is 22 holding, and Dan Meyryk says to me that it's control, 23 it's the officer of the watch of control and they want 24 to know: the stay-put policy is still in place, really 25 what's going on, can we change it?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 146</p>	<p>1 pump? 2 A. I don't know. 3 Q. Did he tell you what his view was about whether the 4 stay-put advice should be changed at that stage? 5 A. He agreed that it should be evacuation. 6 Q. Right. 7 At roughly what kind of time was it that Tom Goodall 8 went to speak to the incident commander to communicate 9 his view and yours that the stay-put advice should be 10 changed? 11 A. I'm sorry, I'm just really bad with times. It just ... 12 when Tom took over, you know, I gave him a brief of what 13 we had, what we was doing. Tom was very good with 14 regards to, you know, we carry on with what we're doing, 15 the way we're prioritising it, but let's get it onto 16 this board, and then -- I'm not sure if I had the 17 conversation with him then about what we need -- and 18 this is my opinion, what I believe we needed to do, we 19 needed to just evacuate the building, because we weren't 20 getting anything back with regards to what information 21 we was putting through, they was obviously under the 22 cosh, you know, the guys up there. 23 You could tell just by looking at the building, you 24 know, that everybody's lives were in danger -- 25 residents, firefighters, everybody -- and it was a case</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 148</p>

<p>1 of they just needed to get out. That was my opinion.</p> <p>2 And, you know, I am station manager and I can sort of</p> <p>3 challenge a little bit above and I can give comments and</p> <p>4 that, but I can't make them decisions.</p> <p>5 Q. Do you know roughly how long after the fire had been</p> <p>6 declared a major incident that Tom Goodall went to have</p> <p>7 this conversation with the incident commander about</p> <p>8 changing the stay-put advice?</p> <p>9 A. No, I'm sorry, I don't. Sorry.</p> <p>10 Q. Did it occur to you as usual or unusual that the</p> <p>11 incident would've been declared a major incident but the</p> <p>12 stay-put advice was still stay put and hadn't been</p> <p>13 changed?</p> <p>14 A. No, because the major incident is to do with the</p> <p>15 resources, to sort of bring the incident to a safe</p> <p>16 conclusion. I'm focused purely on the fire survival</p> <p>17 guidance side of it. I'm not focusing on the other 101</p> <p>18 things that the incident commander's got to think of,</p> <p>19 what they've got to manage. So the time frame is -- I'm</p> <p>20 probably a bit tunnel-visioned on what I'm dealing with,</p> <p>21 and for a major incident -- you could tell that we</p> <p>22 needed resources, that wasn't a -- that's like</p> <p>23 a no-brainer, I think. That was a good call, really.</p> <p>24 The stay-put policy and the stay put, you know, in</p> <p>25 my opinion, it should've been changed, we should've</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 149</p>	<p>1 thing to do to overrule the stay-put advice.</p> <p>2 What advice did you think should be given instead to</p> <p>3 residents who were on fire survival guidance calls?</p> <p>4 A. So ... so whilst on the unit, we would have -- members</p> <p>5 of the public would be -- manage to get through and</p> <p>6 ask -- they would be asking for our help, they would be</p> <p>7 on the phone. We had police officers there that have</p> <p>8 got people asking them. And my advice to them was, you</p> <p>9 know, for them -- if they're on the phone to the people,</p> <p>10 is to get out the building, because -- and I know it was</p> <p>11 against what they should've been doing or what they were</p> <p>12 told to do, but, you know, in the situation they was --</p> <p>13 I told them to get out. So I was -- I was doing what</p> <p>14 I felt was right.</p> <p>15 Q. Right. And did you know anything about how they would</p> <p>16 get out?</p> <p>17 A. No. I tried to advise some of the people by saying, you</p> <p>18 know, you've got to keep low, and I did speak to</p> <p>19 somebody on the phone and I was just trying to be calm,</p> <p>20 saying, you know, "You've got your time, just get a few</p> <p>21 little belongings that you need, get yourself low, open</p> <p>22 the door slowly, if it's really smoky, look for where</p> <p>23 the fire exit is and then make your way, but you are</p> <p>24 safer getting out".</p> <p>25 Q. Did you, at that stage, have any information about what</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 151</p>
<p>1 started doing things to get them out. But then also</p> <p>2 I don't know what the BA crews were doing, hands up,</p> <p>3 I don't know. They could've been doing that.</p> <p>4 Q. At the foot of page 5, if we just look at it together,</p> <p>5 Mr Egan, having described your discussions with Tom</p> <p>6 Goodall about stay put and his trip to the incident</p> <p>7 commander, you say:</p> <p>8 "I said the same thing to SM Pete Wolfenden over the</p> <p>9 radio which could be widely heard. I also said it in</p> <p>10 the Command Unit."</p> <p>11 Mr Egan, my question is: did Pete Wolfenden</p> <p>12 acknowledge what you were saying over the radio?</p> <p>13 A. He did, yes.</p> <p>14 Q. Did he agree with you?</p> <p>15 A. And he agreed, yes.</p> <p>16 Q. Do you know what he did about it?</p> <p>17 A. Pete Wolfenden ended up taking -- was now sort of the</p> <p>18 conduit for the information coming from the command unit</p> <p>19 to the base of the tower, and then that information for</p> <p>20 fire survival guidance to go to the bridgehead.</p> <p>21 Q. Right.</p> <p>22 A. So Pete Wolfenden was trying to put pressure on the</p> <p>23 bridgehead commander to not only sort of get crews in,</p> <p>24 but to go to the specific flats that we needed to go to.</p> <p>25 Q. You say here that you thought that it was the right</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 150</p>	<p>1 the conditions in the lobbies and the stairwell inside</p> <p>2 the building were?</p> <p>3 A. On one of my visits into the tower, I heard rumours that</p> <p>4 there was some people or some bodies on the stairs. But</p> <p>5 from being in fires as a firefighter, going in with hose</p> <p>6 into sort of, you know, flat fires, for example, I know</p> <p>7 that the hose is going to be all over the place, I know</p> <p>8 it's going to be difficult for people to come down.</p> <p>9 It's difficult for firefighters wearing BA walking down</p> <p>10 the stairs with all the hose and things like that.</p> <p>11 But it was just -- I couldn't speak to somebody or</p> <p>12 give somebody advice to stay put when, looking at the</p> <p>13 tower as it went on and on, you could see that it was</p> <p>14 jumping between -- some flats it missed the flat, so you</p> <p>15 just knew it -- my opinion, from my experience through</p> <p>16 all the years, is that they would've been better off</p> <p>17 out.</p> <p>18 Q. Right.</p> <p>19 Just continuing with this theme, if you go to the</p> <p>20 top of page 6 of your statement, please, Mr Egan, you</p> <p>21 say:</p> <p>22 "During the incident I also took a couple of calls</p> <p>23 from Control, but I can't remember exactly when they</p> <p>24 happened."</p> <p>25 This is the top of page 6.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 152</p>

<p>1 A. Oh, okay.</p> <p>2 Q. When you say "I also took a couple of calls", do you</p> <p>3 know how you received those calls? Was that on your</p> <p>4 radio or ...?</p> <p>5 A. So this is a call from -- that's probably, sorry, a bit</p> <p>6 poetic licence. So Dan Meyryk would take the call on</p> <p>7 the mobile telephone, but because I was there, I'm in</p> <p>8 charge at the time, he's relaying what's being said.</p> <p>9 Rather than him just giving me the phone, he's saying</p> <p>10 control, which I mention there -- I don't know if</p> <p>11 there's any confusion, but our control is in Merton, but</p> <p>12 on this night in question, it had fallen back to</p> <p>13 Stratford for maintenance or something, so that's why</p> <p>14 the officer from Stratford, the officer of the watch</p> <p>15 phoned up. So these were just from phone calls from</p> <p>16 control wanting to know: can we do anything about the --</p> <p>17 what's happening with the fire survival guidance calls</p> <p>18 was one of them, and it was: we're dealing with them, as</p> <p>19 they're coming in we're trying to allocate things, and</p> <p>20 probably the most important one really was from the</p> <p>21 officer of the watch wanting to know about changing the</p> <p>22 strategy.</p> <p>23 Q. Can I just follow up on what you've just told us and see</p> <p>24 if I can piece it together.</p> <p>25 So the officer of the watch is at Stratford.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 153</p>	<p>1 not going to do that over the main scheme radio because</p> <p>2 they want to, you know, speak to you and find out</p> <p>3 exactly what you're doing. Does that make sense?</p> <p>4 Q. I see. Yes. Essentially it's a private call.</p> <p>5 A. Yeah, a private call, but it's just easier to talk on --</p> <p>6 rather than doing -- from me, over, received, you know,</p> <p>7 doing that on the radio, you just have a conversation,</p> <p>8 don't you? It's quicker.</p> <p>9 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Mr Millett, I'm just wondering,</p> <p>10 you've got a little bit further to go, I think, don't</p> <p>11 you?</p> <p>12 MR MILLETT: Yes.</p> <p>13 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Would it be convenient to have</p> <p>14 5 minutes or thereabouts?</p> <p>15 MR MILLETT: That's a good idea.</p> <p>16 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Then we'll see how the rest of the</p> <p>17 afternoon is going. Would that be all right?</p> <p>18 MR MILLETT: Mr Chairman, perfectly fine.</p> <p>19 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I think we ought to have a short</p> <p>20 break now, Mr Egan, so I'm going to rise. We'll start</p> <p>21 again at 3.45 and then we'll see where the rest of the</p> <p>22 afternoon takes us. All right?</p> <p>23 THE WITNESS: Yes.</p> <p>24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Thank you.</p> <p>25 (3.40 pm)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 155</p>
<p>1 A. Yes.</p> <p>2 Q. Did you know his or her name?</p> <p>3 A. No.</p> <p>4 Q. He or she speaks to Daniel Meyryk on his mobile phone?</p> <p>5 A. Yeah, on the command unit's mobile phone.</p> <p>6 Q. Oh, sorry, not his personal mobile?</p> <p>7 A. Not his personal one, no.</p> <p>8 Q. And Daniel Meyryk at this stage, what's his role on the</p> <p>9 command unit?</p> <p>10 A. He's one of the watch managers who is supporting me,</p> <p>11 trying to do what I could do. He was mainly liaising</p> <p>12 with control, if I remember rightly, and taking details</p> <p>13 of any fire survival guidance calls that was coming</p> <p>14 through.</p> <p>15 Q. So is it a mobile telephone on the CU or some kind of</p> <p>16 radio?</p> <p>17 A. It's the mobile telephone they was talking on.</p> <p>18 Q. Would it be unusual for the control room to communicate</p> <p>19 with the command unit by mobile telephone?</p> <p>20 A. It wouldn't be unusual. From the fire ground back to</p> <p>21 control, it's a bit frowned upon because people were</p> <p>22 listening in to messages and they want to know -- get</p> <p>23 a scene-setting, what's happening. But the other way</p> <p>24 around, you had the officer in charge -- you know,</p> <p>25 really they just want to have a conversation, so they're</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 154</p>	<p>1 (A short break)</p> <p>2 (3.45 pm)</p> <p>3 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Right. Mr Egan is on his way,</p> <p>4 I think.</p> <p>5 MR MILLETT: Yes, thank you.</p> <p>6 (Pause)</p> <p>7 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: All right, Mr Egan? Ready to go on?</p> <p>8 THE WITNESS: Yes, thank you very much.</p> <p>9 MR MILLETT: Mr Egan, you told us quite a lot of information</p> <p>10 about the writing on the wall in the foyer. You took</p> <p>11 a picture of that and you told us all about that</p> <p>12 information.</p> <p>13 My question is: do you know the name of the watch</p> <p>14 manager who was writing that list on the wall in the</p> <p>15 foyer?</p> <p>16 A. No, I don't. I believe Pete Wolfenden will probably</p> <p>17 know the name of the person, if that helps at all.</p> <p>18 Q. I don't want to create a memory, but let's see if I can</p> <p>19 jog your memory.</p> <p>20 Does the name Glynn Williams mean anything to you?</p> <p>21 Does that trigger a memory?</p> <p>22 A. It does sound familiar, yeah.</p> <p>23 Q. Can I take you back to your statement and turn to</p> <p>24 page 6, please. Look at the fourth paragraph down,</p> <p>25 which starts:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 156</p>

<p>1 "I then went to meet SM Pete Wolfenden in the tower 2 to brief him." 3 Where was he, do you remember, in the tower? 4 A. Pete was in -- he was at the ground floor of the tower, 5 which was near where the sort of -- so at the base of 6 the stairs, near where the information was. 7 Q. Okay. You then say: 8 "I explained the new set up we had and what he 9 should do." 10 Then you go onto say: 11 "I said that the Command Unit would receive the 12 information from the Control Room and record it. 13 I would then prioritise the calls for assistance. I 14 would then pass this on to him, telling him which flats 15 needed to be attended, and then he had to relay this to 16 GM Richard Welch on the bridgehead." 17 In those three lines, is that the system the new 18 set-up that you describe to Pete Wolfenden? 19 A. Yeah, Pete was now going to liaise -- I wasn't ordering 20 him, you know, what he was going to do, but that's where 21 he was going to fit into our structure. 22 Q. Yes. Just in terms of what the new set-up was, is what 23 you've described in those three lines what that new 24 set-up was? 25 A. Yes, yes.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 157</p>	<p>1 bedridden, but they'd say: are they bedridden? Have 2 they got mobility issues? Are there young children? 3 Are there people on medication that need assistance out? 4 Q. Under that new system with the prioritisation done in 5 the way you've described, how would that information 6 then be communicated from CU7, where you were, to the 7 bridgehead? 8 A. So what happened was we'd have it on the graph of, you 9 know, who was there. I would then radio through to 10 Pete Wolfenden and give him perhaps two or three flat 11 numbers on a particular floor and then give him a couple 12 of minutes to process that, and then give him a little 13 bit more information. 14 The message come back that we can't do anything at 15 the moment because there was too much information coming 16 through. They're still waiting to brief the crews to go 17 in. 18 Q. But under the system, then, Pete Wolfenden would be, 19 what, in the tower and you would be in the CU? 20 A. Yes. 21 Q. And you would communicate by radio, would you? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. I see. Where would Pete Wolfenden, under this new 24 system, be standing in the tower when he received those 25 calls from you?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 159</p>
<p>1 Q. Now, just in terms of that new set-up, the command unit 2 would receive the information from the control room and 3 record it, and then you would prioritise the calls for 4 assistance. 5 How would you prioritise the calls? What system 6 would you use to prioritise calls? 7 (Pause) 8 A. So we went on the basis of those that were most 9 vulnerable, so young children, people with mobility 10 issues, people that couldn't make their own way out of 11 the premises, old age people that would have 12 difficulties, bearing in mind we know it's going to be 13 difficult because of the stairs, et cetera, and also 14 obvious is the smoke, I know that, but to get people 15 through the stairs is going to take, you know, a little 16 bit of care to get through and you couldn't just allow 17 people to do that; you'd need to go and rescue them to 18 get them through. 19 Q. How would you know whether particular individuals were 20 property individuals? 21 A. So that would come through on the information from 22 control. Control would speak to the people on the 23 phone, the residents on the phone, and they would gather 24 that information for us. So they would tell us, you 25 know, whether they -- I don't know if there was any</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 158</p>	<p>1 A. So we got to the stage where we're getting all this 2 information in, we've set up a priority, we can see what 3 we've got and we're adding to that every moment. I'm 4 then radioing through to Pete to give him that 5 information. 6 It then comes back that nothing's happening, you 7 know, there's too much information, I can't keep 8 giving -- because all of a sudden everything sort of 9 starts to become a priority, there's too much 10 information. So I go to the base of the tower again to 11 try and have a face-to-face conversation with Pete to 12 try and get a feel of: is there a better way that we can 13 do this? Is there something else we can do to try and 14 get this information? 15 Like I said, I know the crews were going in, I know 16 they were doing their bit, but I'm focused on fire 17 survival guidance, I'm wanting them to do more, and they 18 probably can't do any more, but it's what I want. Does 19 that make sense? I want them to keep going, and I'm 20 sure they were, but you're going to get to a stage where 21 there's too many firefighters trying to get through 22 a small gap to go. 23 Q. Just in terms of the system, though, I just want to get 24 a feel for where Pete Wolfenden was supposed to be under 25 your system and what he was then supposed to do with the</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Page 160</p>

40 (Pages 157 to 160)

<p>1 information.</p> <p>2 So the idea was, what, he would stand in the foyer</p> <p>3 of the tower and receive your message by radio? Is that</p> <p>4 how it was supposed to work?</p> <p>5 A. Yes, that was the initial brief.</p> <p>6 Q. Under that system, what would he do next? What was he</p> <p>7 supposed to do next?</p> <p>8 A. So he was then to give that to whoever was in charge of</p> <p>9 the bridgehead.</p> <p>10 When Pete first goes to the base of the tower and</p> <p>11 Tom Goodall takes over from me, I then go back into the</p> <p>12 tower to speak to Pete, to show him what -- so I can</p> <p>13 explain to him exactly what I've got. So we've got</p> <p>14 a list in the command unit. He's standing near the wall</p> <p>15 with information on it, and there's the crew manager</p> <p>16 that's there with it as well, or the watch manager, and</p> <p>17 that's where we have this conversation, the command and</p> <p>18 control, who is going to be in it, Tom Goodall, but I'm</p> <p>19 going to be taking it, Tom's going to be overseeing it.</p> <p>20 We give it to you, Pete, and then Pete's going to tell</p> <p>21 the bridgehead which flat and which floor to go to.</p> <p>22 They're the priorities.</p> <p>23 Q. Just taking it in stages.</p> <p>24 Would Pete Wolfenden record the information that he</p> <p>25 was receiving from you in CU7?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 161</p>	<p>1 and make sure that the BA crews are safe before they go</p> <p>2 in. They've got to take a gauge of the smoke in the</p> <p>3 building, because I think the third or fourth time I go</p> <p>4 in, the bridgehead has now moved to the ground floor.</p> <p>5 Yeah? So things were changing -- sorry, things were</p> <p>6 changing all the time.</p> <p>7 Q. No, we'll come to that if we need to. Yes,</p> <p>8 I understand. Sorry, I've interrupted your flow.</p> <p>9 A. That's okay.</p> <p>10 Q. It sounds as if the logic of having more links in the</p> <p>11 chain was driven by the volume of fire survival guidance</p> <p>12 calls being received; is that right?</p> <p>13 A. Yeah, I think the structure was a little bit stretched</p> <p>14 out before because we had too many different people</p> <p>15 taking -- command units taking the fire survival</p> <p>16 guidance calls. Now we had one specific unit that was</p> <p>17 taking it and then that information was being passed to</p> <p>18 the base of the tower.</p> <p>19 Q. Under the new system, with Pete Wolfenden as the link in</p> <p>20 the chain between CU7 and the bridgehead, did any</p> <p>21 information come back from the bridgehead to</p> <p>22 Pete Wolfenden in the foyer about the success or lack of</p> <p>23 success of any BA deployment?</p> <p>24 A. No, no information came back to Pete regarding any</p> <p>25 successful deployments.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 163</p>
<p>1 A. I don't know. I don't know if he did record it.</p> <p>2 I couldn't say. I don't know whether he recorded it.</p> <p>3 All I know is that he passed it on, he gave that</p> <p>4 information.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. How did he pass it on?</p> <p>6 A. By radio.</p> <p>7 Q. Right, okay.</p> <p>8 So just at that stage, we've got the new system,</p> <p>9 which was control room to CU7, CU7 to Pete Wolfenden by</p> <p>10 radio in the foyer, and then Pete Wolfenden from the</p> <p>11 foyer to the bridgehead, again by radio?</p> <p>12 A. That's right.</p> <p>13 Q. Right.</p> <p>14 What was the point of having Pete Wolfenden as</p> <p>15 an intermediate link in the chain of communication</p> <p>16 between CU7 and the bridgehead?</p> <p>17 A. Because there's just too much information. There was</p> <p>18 too many fire survival guidance calls. If there was one</p> <p>19 or two calls, it would just go from the command unit,</p> <p>20 would go straight to the bridgehead and then the</p> <p>21 bridgehead would then delegate firefighters to go to</p> <p>22 that flat or that floor.</p> <p>23 But because there was so many, the bridgehead's</p> <p>24 got -- you know, they've got their things they have to</p> <p>25 do, their safe systems of work, they've got to prepare</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 162</p>	<p>1 Q. Did information come back to CU7 from the bridgehead in</p> <p>2 any other way about the success or lack of success of</p> <p>3 any individual deployment?</p> <p>4 A. Not from the bridgehead.</p> <p>5 Q. Where from?</p> <p>6 A. Tom Goodall found out that there was welfare centres set</p> <p>7 up, I think there was three separate welfare centres set</p> <p>8 up, so he had -- I think he had two watch managers, he</p> <p>9 had them going around and speaking to people that were</p> <p>10 there, and that's what's recorded on the photo that</p> <p>11 we've seen a few times on the left-hand side with the</p> <p>12 numbers and the flats. That's where we got that</p> <p>13 information from.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. I'm going to come back to that in just a moment,</p> <p>15 because I want to follow that up, if I can.</p> <p>16 Before I do, can I just ask you one or two further</p> <p>17 questions.</p> <p>18 First of all, who at that stage, when you set up</p> <p>19 this new system of communication, was in charge of the</p> <p>20 bridgehead, do you remember?</p> <p>21 A. When it was first set up, I believed it to still be</p> <p>22 Watch Manager De Sousa. It's only when I went into the</p> <p>23 tower and I saw Pat Goulbourne and Richard Welch in</p> <p>24 there, and that's when I found out. And I think --</p> <p>25 I believe again that Richard Welch was the bridgehead</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 164</p>

<p>1 commander.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay.</p> <p>3 A. Or in charge of the lobby sector, sorry.</p> <p>4 Q. Once they were in place, did you speak to them about FSG</p> <p>5 communications at all?</p> <p>6 A. I did. I did, yeah.</p> <p>7 Q. What was that discussion?</p> <p>8 A. Well ... the discussion was I wanted them to commit more</p> <p>9 crews in to save savable life, and I probably said it in</p> <p>10 a way that challenged them, maybe, but I was told</p> <p>11 that -- I was told they are doing it, you know, as if --</p> <p>12 yeah. But it just didn't feel like they were.</p> <p>13 Q. Why didn't it feel like they were?</p> <p>14 A. Because we weren't getting any information back, so</p> <p>15 everything I was giving them, I was getting nothing</p> <p>16 coming back. The guys on the command unit are getting</p> <p>17 stressed out. Even they're thinking, you know, can they</p> <p>18 put sets on? You know, have we not got enough people to</p> <p>19 go in? Can we not commit them? But it's just things</p> <p>20 change, you know. The bridgehead had to move down. You</p> <p>21 can't just -- you have to be -- you know, they probably</p> <p>22 done the right thing, these guys, by commanding and</p> <p>23 controlling the numbers of BA that went up the tower.</p> <p>24 But to me, as I said, that's how I felt: I just wanted</p> <p>25 them to keep going and just come back to me and tell me,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 165</p>	<p>1 giving it back to me.</p> <p>2 Q. Right.</p> <p>3 A. When he's pushed, he says he hasn't got it.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you know whether Pete Wolfenden pressed Richard Welch</p> <p>5 and Pat Goulbourne for feedback as to the success or</p> <p>6 failure of any deployments?</p> <p>7 A. He did, yes.</p> <p>8 Q. What did you know from him that they had told him?</p> <p>9 A. I think that -- there was -- I'm led to believe -- well,</p> <p>10 Pete said -- there was a discussion between Pete and</p> <p>11 Richard Welch. Similar vein: Pete wants BA crews</p> <p>12 committed into where he was saying we want them to go,</p> <p>13 and Richard Welch and -- well, Richard Welch, they're</p> <p>14 controlling how many people go through and the resources</p> <p>15 that they've got.</p> <p>16 That conversation that they had, the heated</p> <p>17 discussion, was overheard by whoever was the crew</p> <p>18 manager or the watch manager that was writing on the</p> <p>19 wall, and that affected that individual, because when</p> <p>20 I came into the tower he was physically or visibly</p> <p>21 upset, angry, and I tried to -- I thought he was just --</p> <p>22 it was the pressure of everything that was going on, he</p> <p>23 didn't feel as if he had any support, so I tried to</p> <p>24 speak to him, and it was clear that something had</p> <p>25 happened to make him change from being really helpful</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 167</p>
<p>1 "Yeah, we've sent a crew" or "We haven't sent a crew".</p> <p>2 We weren't getting that information back.</p> <p>3 Q. That's very clear. Did they tell you why they weren't</p> <p>4 sending information back to you about the success or</p> <p>5 failure of a deployment of BA wearers?</p> <p>6 A. No, they didn't, no.</p> <p>7 Q. Did you press them for a reason as to why you weren't</p> <p>8 getting that information back from them?</p> <p>9 A. When I made the comments to them that that's what</p> <p>10 I wanted, Pete Wolfenden says that he's already spoken</p> <p>11 to them about it, they've just moved the bridgehead, so</p> <p>12 hopefully they're going to start committing crews again.</p> <p>13 Q. Just focusing on the question of you in CU7 receiving</p> <p>14 feedback from the bridgehead about successful or</p> <p>15 unsuccessful deployments, can I just press you a little.</p> <p>16 Did you push Welch or Goulbourne to give you that</p> <p>17 information?</p> <p>18 A. I didn't push them. Like I said, I did speak to them</p> <p>19 and it was frustration, which I'm sure everybody was</p> <p>20 frustrated at the time. What I did do is I pushed</p> <p>21 Pete Wolfenden for answers.</p> <p>22 Q. Who did you push for answers?</p> <p>23 A. Pete Wolfenden.</p> <p>24 Q. Oh, sorry, Pete.</p> <p>25 A. Because I'm giving Pete the information and he's not</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 166</p>	<p>1 before. He was quite -- I wouldn't say upset, probably</p> <p>2 angry, but controlled. And he overheard the</p> <p>3 conversation or probably the heated conversation between</p> <p>4 Pete Wolfenden and Richard Welch.</p> <p>5 Q. Can you tell us the name of the watch manager who had</p> <p>6 overheard that conversation?</p> <p>7 A. I don't know if it was that Glynn Williams, the guy who</p> <p>8 leaves the incident ground a little bit later on.</p> <p>9 Q. Right. Okay. Thank you.</p> <p>10 If you then look at the bottom of page 6 and the top</p> <p>11 of page 7 of your statement, you say to them in the</p> <p>12 second-last line of page 6:</p> <p>13 "I said 'We need to get people upstairs', but I was</p> <p>14 told that they weren't flooding the tower with</p> <p>15 firefighters. I spoke to GM Richard Welch and GM Pat</p> <p>16 Goulbourne who were in charge on the BridgeHead and said</p> <p>17 'we need to get the people out.' They said 'We are</p> <p>18 doing it'. I said 'All these calls are coming through</p> <p>19 and we need to get people out' and they repeated they</p> <p>20 were doing it. I told SM Pete Wolfenden that they were</p> <p>21 snowed under, and he said that he thought they would</p> <p>22 start pushing through."</p> <p>23 We've looked at a bit of that discussion.</p> <p>24 My question is: was your impression of that</p> <p>25 discussion that Group Managers Welch and Goulbourne now</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 168</p>

<p>1 agreed that evacuation was the right strategy?</p> <p>2 A. No, that wasn't what -- the discussion was that they</p> <p>3 need -- I wanted them to commit -- I wanted them to</p> <p>4 commit BA crews to a specific flat that Pete Wolfenden</p> <p>5 has told them. That was my priority, wasn't it? Yeah?</p> <p>6 I know they had other things to do, but then I needed</p> <p>7 that feedback. If they couldn't do it, then I needed</p> <p>8 them to let me know.</p> <p>9 Q. I see what you mean.</p> <p>10 A. So it wasn't evacuating the whole premises --</p> <p>11 Q. I understand. So when you say, "We need to get people</p> <p>12 out", you mean, do you, getting specific people out</p> <p>13 which were targeted in response to the specific FSG</p> <p>14 information you were getting, as opposed to overall</p> <p>15 evacuation? Is that --</p> <p>16 A. To be perfectly honest, the words that I use there is</p> <p>17 probably exactly the words that I used at the time, and</p> <p>18 it was meant a bit of both, really. I think we needed</p> <p>19 to get the people out, and they were two group managers</p> <p>20 at the base of the tower.</p> <p>21 Q. Do you know whether this discussion that you had with</p> <p>22 them -- Welch and Goulbourne -- was before or after the</p> <p>23 stay-put advice was formally revoked?</p> <p>24 A. I think that conversation was after that was revoked.</p> <p>25 And the only reason -- because where the command unit</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 169</p>	<p>1 to go up to the bridgehead?</p> <p>2 A. Yeah, there was loads of firefighters. So there was</p> <p>3 firefighters on the ground, at the base of the stairs;</p> <p>4 there was firefighters on the mezzanine floor that led</p> <p>5 into the internal corridor; and I think there was a few</p> <p>6 firefighters -- yeah, there was -- standing out in the</p> <p>7 side where the side exit or side entrance was being</p> <p>8 made, because they was making the -- cutting the glass</p> <p>9 out of the window.</p> <p>10 Q. Yes. Did you get any impression from what you saw of</p> <p>11 the numbers of firefighters queueing up to go up into</p> <p>12 the tower?</p> <p>13 A. Yeah, there was loads. There was loads of firefighters.</p> <p>14 They was all standing there. But it was just -- it</p> <p>15 was -- it was quiet. Eerily ...</p> <p>16 Q. If you go to page 7 of your statement and look at</p> <p>17 paragraph 2, you say:</p> <p>18 "I advised SM Pete Wolfenden he should ask me for</p> <p>19 more information if he needed it. I then went back to</p> <p>20 the Command Unit."</p> <p>21 And you explain that.</p> <p>22 Then you say, four lines up from the bottom of that</p> <p>23 paragraph:</p> <p>24 "We were getting lots of calls but I knew we weren't</p> <p>25 getting lots of fire fighters into the tower so the</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 171</p>
<p>1 would've been told from control that they're changing</p> <p>2 the strategy, I wasn't in the command unit. Even though</p> <p>3 I spoke to the -- or I was party to the conversation</p> <p>4 with control where I'm saying, "We need to change it,</p> <p>5 you need to speak to the incident commander", when it is</p> <p>6 eventually changed, I'm not in the command unit when</p> <p>7 that happens, because I'm at the tower.</p> <p>8 Q. Right.</p> <p>9 A. So when I come back, all of a sudden, you know, it just</p> <p>10 gets mentioned in passing, if that makes sense. Because</p> <p>11 we was still following -- we was telling everyone to get</p> <p>12 out anyway, you know, so it was like mentioned that it's</p> <p>13 changed.</p> <p>14 Q. Where were you when you were at the tower?</p> <p>15 A. So the base of tower, at the bottom of the stairs. So</p> <p>16 through the -- the first couple of times I think was</p> <p>17 through the main exit, but then other times you had to</p> <p>18 go in through the side where we had made access through</p> <p>19 like some glass vision panels.</p> <p>20 Q. Did you go up to the bridgehead at all?</p> <p>21 A. Only when I done my handover at the end of my</p> <p>22 involvement with the incident.</p> <p>23 Q. Right.</p> <p>24 When you were in the tower at the base of the tower,</p> <p>25 did you see firefighters being dispatched or queueing up</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 170</p>	<p>1 approach had to be structured. I decided that we should</p> <p>2 get everyone out below the 7th Floor. SM Pete Wolfenden</p> <p>3 said 'I know.' I said 'Forget stay put policy -- if it</p> <p>4 is safe to get out then get out'. From the outside</p> <p>5 I could see that the flats were being engulfed in</p> <p>6 flames."</p> <p>7 First of all, do you know why you mention the</p> <p>8 seventh floor?</p> <p>9 A. Because when you looked at the building, it was above</p> <p>10 the seventh floor that it was, in effect, all alight,</p> <p>11 whereas below the seventh floor, you know, I think there</p> <p>12 might have been one or two flats that were affected, but</p> <p>13 it was -- I'm trying to remember what it looked like.</p> <p>14 It looked like there was like a clear line from the</p> <p>15 seventh floor up -- it might have been from the eighth</p> <p>16 floor, that's why I said the seventh floor to clear.</p> <p>17 Because what I'm thinking there is even though those</p> <p>18 people in them lower floors aren't really affected, if</p> <p>19 we start getting them out, you know, it might show that</p> <p>20 everybody can get out. That's my thought process. If</p> <p>21 we start doing there where there isn't much smoke -- or</p> <p>22 I believed there isn't much smoke --</p> <p>23 Q. On the other hand, Group Managers Welch and Goulbourne</p> <p>24 had said that they were getting people out, they were</p> <p>25 doing it, as you said, and those were higher floors,</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Page 172</p>

1 were they?

2 **A. They were. It's just -- it's your perception, isn't it?**

3 **So it was really horrible and you ... outside, it's all**

4 **kicking off, yeah? From the outside, it's devastation,**

5 **and then you've got all these firefighters that are**

6 **trying to get into the building and they can't just walk**

7 **in because of the amount of stuff that's falling down.**

8 **Eventually -- so, you know, they risked their lives**

9 **getting in -- the police did a brilliant job with their**

10 **shields, helping us -- they done a brilliant job getting**

11 **in, so we was going through little gaps, so even I could**

12 **get through, if you know what I mean, it was really**

13 **tight, you couldn't just run in through a doorway. And**

14 **then once they was in, there wasn't this -- but it was**

15 **a calmness. It was like they was pleased that they'd**

16 **got in and they're going to do something, but it was**

17 **just quiet. And all the firefighters were just lined up**

18 **and, you know, there was no one jostling for position,**

19 **there wasn't people laughing and joking -- there was**

20 **people talking, but the whole block was quiet. You**

21 **couldn't hear the fire, really, that was going on**

22 **outside.**

23 **It was really, really weird. It's like it changed.**

24 **People got inside and it was as if the firefighters were**

25 **waiting for something.**

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1 come back tomorrow, and I hope that's not too

2 inconvenient.

3 THE WITNESS: That's all right.

4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Of course it is a nuisance, I'm

5 sorry about that, but we'll get through your evidence as

6 quickly as we can.

7 THE WITNESS: Okay.

8 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: 10 o'clock?

9 MR MILLETT: Well, Mr Chairman, I wonder whether on this

10 occasion I might make an application. Might we say 9.30

11 or 9.45? I'll try and trim my questions down overnight

12 so that I won't detain Mr Egan longer than I need to

13 tomorrow morning.

14 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Well, Mr Egan, you are coming from

15 Dagenham, did you say?

16 THE WITNESS: Romford.

17 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Sorry, bad geography. Is it

18 difficult for you to get here for 9.30?

19 THE WITNESS: That's fine. That's fine. That's okay.

20 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I'm inclined to suggest that the

21 sooner you start, the sooner you'll get away. So shall

22 we say 9.30, if that's all right for you?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: We'll stop there, thank you, and

25 resume at 9.30 tomorrow.

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1 MR MILLETT: Mr Egan, I'm going to ask the chairman to stop

2 now for the rest of the day, I think, if that's

3 convenient to you?

4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: You have more than another

5 10 minutes or so?

6 MR MILLETT: Yes, I do, I'm afraid. I have a little bit

7 more to go. Not much more, but I think Mr Egan has had

8 a long day and it's probably right that we break now.

9 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: He has, and it's not been easy, I do

10 understand that.

11 If you were to tell him that it was only another

12 10 minutes, he might have a different view, but I don't

13 think you should trim your questions with that in mind.

14 MR MILLETT: No, and I think given that, and given that

15 I know Mr Egan has had a long day, I think it's right

16 that we should rise now -- if, Mr Chairman, that's

17 acceptable to you -- and we can resume tomorrow.

18 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: Yes.

19 Well, you heard that exchange, Mr Egan. I'm afraid

20 Mr Millett has some more questions and it's not going to

21 be 10 minutes, but I hope it's not going to be too long.

22 I think it would be in your interests and everyone

23 else's that we stop now.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much, sir.

25 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: I am going to have to ask you to

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1 No talking about your evidence, of course. All

2 right?

3 THE WITNESS: No. Thank you.

4 SIR MARTIN MOORE-BICK: 9.30 tomorrow, please. Thank you.

5 If you would like to go with the usher.

6 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.

7 (4.15 pm)

8 (The hearing adjourned until Wednesday, 4 July 2018 at

9 9.30 am)

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