



Royal Commission
into Institutional Responses
to Child Sexual Abuse

Statement

Name Arron Ferguson

Address Cessnock Detectives, Central Hunter Local Area Command, New South Wales Police Force

Occupation Police Officer

Date 6 May 2015

1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse ("the Commission") as a witness. This statement is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
2. I have previously provided to the Royal Commission a statement dated 4 May 2015.
3. I am a Detective Senior Constable with the New South Wales Police Force ("NSW Police").
4. The purpose of this statement is to respond to the following questions raised in correspondence from the legal representatives of witness "AWC":
 - (a) Were there any additional victims that disclosed sexual abuse which did not result in criminal charges, and the number of those victims and the date of the abuse?
 - (b) Whether Police knew of any victims of sexual abuse during the time that Dr Rolleston was a doctor in Broken Hill? Were any charges laid in respect of victims from this period? What was the date of any such disclosures and abuse?
 - (c) What mechanisms might have been available to the Police and the HCCC to locate additional victims in Sydney and in Broken Hill? Were those enquiries ever made to his knowledge?

Signature
Arron Ferguson

REDACTED

Witness: 

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(d) Did investigations reveal whether RNSH was aware of inappropriate sexual conduct by Dr Rolleston prior to the time of the sexual assault on Mr [AWC] ? Identify who was aware, if possible.

(e) Did investigations reveal whether the HCCC was aware of inappropriate sexual conduct by Dr Rolleston prior to the time of the sexual assault on Mr [AWC] ? Identify who was aware, if possible.

Were there any additional victims that disclosed sexual abuse which did not result in criminal charges, and the number of those victims and the date of the abuse?

5. Yes.
6. I left Hornsby Detectives in March 2012. In answering this question I have checked Police records.
7. As I stated in my previous statement, charges were laid against Dr Rolleston in respect of 18 victims.
8. Six individuals made complaints to NSW Police of sexual abuse against Dr Rolleston which were not the subject of criminal charges. The dates of the complaints and the alleged abuse and its location were as follows::
 - a. On 28 June 2011 [REDACTED] disclosed to Police that he had been sexually abused on a number of occasions between 1978 and 1982, when the victim was aged between 17 and 21 years. The abuse was said to have occurred during consultations at the St Ives Medical Centre.
 - b. On 28 June 2011 [REDACTED] disclosed to Police that he had been sexually abused by Dr Rolleston on one occasion between 1978 and 1982, when Mr [REDACTED] was aged between 17 and 21. The abuse was said to have occurred during a consultation at the St Ives Medical Centre.

- c. On 12 September 2011 [REDACTED] disclosed to Police that he had been sexually abused in 1984 by Dr Rolleston, when Mr [REDACTED] was aged 27 years. The offence was said to have occurred at the Whalan Medical Practice. (NPF.055.018.0026) Mr [REDACTED] later provided a statement to Police (NPF.055.010.0261) [REDACTED]

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Witness: [Signature]

Bruce COOK

- d. On 14 November 2012, [REDACTED] disclosed to Police that he had been sexually abused by Dr Rolleston approximately 10 times between 1974 and 1975, when Mr [REDACTED] was aged 12 or 13 years. The abuse was said to have occurred during consultations at the St Ives Medical Centre. (NPF.055.018.0024)
- e. On 12 December 2012 [REDACTED] disclosed to police that he had been sexually abused by Dr Rolleston on one occasion between 1970 and 1971, when Mr [REDACTED] was aged between 15 and 16 years. The abuse was said to have occurred during a consultation with Dr Rolleston at the St Ives Medical Centre. (NPF.055.018.0023)
- f. On 10 February 2014 [REDACTED] disclosed to police that he had been sexually abused by Dr Rolleston on three occasions in 1984, when Mr [REDACTED] was 16 years old. The abuse was said to have occurred during consultations with Dr Rolleston at the Whalan Medical Practice, where Dr Rolleston worked as a General Practitioner. (NPF.055.018.0021)

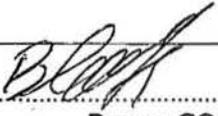
Whether Police knew of any victims of sexual abuse during the time that Dr Rolleston was a doctor in Broken Hill? Were any charges laid in respect of victims from this period? What was the date of any such disclosures and abuse?

9. I am not aware, and have not been able to find any record, of any complaint of sexual abuse relating to the period of time Dr Rolleston was a doctor in Broken Hill.

What mechanisms might have been available to the Police and the HCCC to locate additional victims in Sydney and in Broken Hill? Were those enquiries ever made?

10. In my previous statement I referred to the fact that there were anticipated to be additional victims of Dr Rolleston as one of the reasons for the formation of Strike Force Dirk on 6 August 2009.
11. It is a practice of NSW Police to use media releases as a means of disseminating information and encouraging additional victims to come forward. In the case of the Rolleston investigation, Police issued a media release on 16 July 2009. Attached hereto and marked "A" is a copy of that media release.

Signature: [REDACTED]
A [REDACTED] JONSON

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12. NSW Police also relies on publicity in the media as means of bringing victims forward. There was publicity in relation to this investigation in both 2009 when Dr Rolleston was charged and 2011 when he was sentenced. At that time a non-publication order with respect to his name was lifted and his name was able to be published by the media. (see SITREP at NPF.055.019.0250)
13. A number of victims who came forward to Police told Police that they had seen media reports relating to Dr Rolleston's charges and the criminal proceedings.
14. At an early stage of the investigation, searches of the Police computer system were undertaken to identify any other relevant reports relating to Dr Rolleston.
15. In some instances, NSW Police had information that resulted in me initiating contact with certain individuals who may have been able to assist with the investigation. Those individuals subsequently made complaints.
16. I am not able to comment on the mechanisms or strategies available to the HCCC.

Did investigations reveal whether RNSH was aware of inappropriate sexual conduct by Dr Rolleston prior to the time of the sexual assault on Mr [AWC] ? Identify who was aware, if possible.

17. No, investigations by Police did not reveal that RNSH was aware of inappropriate sexual conduct by Dr Rolleston prior to the time of the sexual assault on Mr [AWC]

Did investigations reveal whether the HCCC was aware of inappropriate sexual conduct by Dr Rolleston prior to the time of the sexual assault on Mr [AWC] ? Identify who was aware, if possible.

18. I am informed that the HCCC was established in NSW in 1993. As the sexual assault on Mr [AWC] occurred in 1979, this question does not arise.

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