

Request reference: 4456_13

Operation Camassia

1) What was the purpose, remit and terms of reference of the operation.

The purpose of the investigation was to identify victims of physical and sexual abuse suffered at the Tennial Assessment & Training Centre, to obtain corroboration of the evidence and to list all members of staff at Tennial to establish if they were offenders or witnesses. Further Terms of Reference were established to reflect the changes necessary as the enquiry evolved and to address issues such as complaints made by former residents against other former residents and complaints concerning children's homes other than Tennial.

2) What dates it ran.

The Major Incident Room commenced on 4 January 2000. Material was archived in November 2008

4) Who the Police officer was in charge and how many officers were on the operation.

Initially the officer in charge was Detective Chief Inspector Hunter. The SIO changed several times during the course of the investigation.

5) Why the operation was instigated.

In October 1999 police received a complaint of historical child abuse from a former resident of the Birmingham City Council run Tennial children's home in Harborne. The complaint was received and directed to Rose Road Operational Command Unit. A number of further statements were then taken which corroborated the original complaint and it became apparent at that time that a major investigation was going to result.

6) Where the operation was run from and what area did it cover.

The investigation was initially run from Aldridge Police station and latterly Canterbury Road Police station.

7) Why was the name chosen and whether it had always had that name or whether there were connected operations.

The operational name would have been randomly selected at the commencement of the investigation.

8) Where this information is now kept, and in what form -physical or electronic.

Physical records are archived externally. Electronic records of certain material are held on the HOLMES Database.

In addition to the information above West Midlands Police will neither confirm nor deny that any further information is held by virtue of section 23(5). See covering letter.