

Key Document 17

Email Chain regarding Timing and Associated Arrangements of a Written Ministerial Statement

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 July 2004 17:17
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Timing of WMS

[REDACTED]

Just checked with Parly section and 10am is fine.

Attached is an updated spreadsheet on the projects. The first workbook refers to the CRP projects who have all been asked whether they would be prepared to talk to the press around the time of publication. Of these, 3 have not responded so probably best to avoid those (especially Risky Business in Rotherham as there have been problems with the project).

The second workbook looks at the other projects we are aware of. We haven't been to all of them, so it's hard to judge if they would be suitable. We think it would be best if you stick to the following projects from this list when directing the press:

- SHOC (Sexual Health on Call) - project for women in Hackney run by [REDACTED]
- SW5 - project for young men involved in prostitution, run by [REDACTED]
- Young Runaways at Risk of Sexual Exploitation (Camden Social Services Department) - working with young people at risk of abuse through prostitution. Contact there is [REDACTED]

The Camden project may also be suitable for a media facility on 16th - particularly as the other pieces will focus on adult women.

Can you let me know how many copies of the paper you'll need on the day?

Thanks

[REDACTED]



Projects - scope
and contacts....

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 05 July 2004 16:03
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Timing of WMS

[REDACTED] just thinking about timing and if we are to have another facility following on from the press briefing then it would be useful if we could have the briefing - and therefore - the wms at 10am. Timing would then be as follows:

- 9-10 - lock in of HAC's - allow them time to read the paper
- 10-10.30 - press briefing with HS and CF - to coincide with wms at 10.
- 11-12 - facility with CF - giving u time to catch the lunch times. Simultaneously we could have HS doing some bids immediately following the briefing - we can use the studio here - and PG and HB at millbank doing regionals and any other bids.

Let me know if this sounds ok.

Thanks




Key Document 18

Advice on Suitability of Projects for Visit Purposes

Project / Initiative	Project's aims	Main Interventions	Target Group	Partnerships
Bristol Base (Pandora project)	Bristol BASE (Barnardo's Against Sexual Exploitation) is a project set up to meet the needs of young people who are being abused through prostitution or at risk of sexual exploitation in central Bristol.	Drop-in centre for young runaways at risk of sexual exploitation. Pandora was funded by the HO, although that funding has ceased Barnados and others still provide services set up br Pandora, such as sexual health at their drop-in	Children and Young People at risk	
Linx Project	Improving the safety of women involved in street-based prostitution	Established Ugly Mugs - regional database of violent punters. Strong police focus. Contract ceased to be funded beyond March 04.	Harm minimisation	
MASH - Manchester Action on Street Health / Real Choices	Reduce numbers involved in prostitution / hours women work on the streets; Reduce the demand for drugs' Reduce public nuisance and litter; Reduce number of residents' / business complaints; Increase take-up of services	Low threshold supervised methadone project (fast-track - no waiting lists); Outreach One-to-one support for women exiting prostitution; Newsletters	Women exiting or seeking to reduce their hours of prostitution	Community Safety Office Crime and Disorder Team, Manchester Prostitution Forum
YWCA Maze Marigold	Reduction of incidence of STIs Reduce numbers involved in prostitution - providing workable exit strategies Reduce numbers of girls under 17 being abused through prostitution Reduce nuisance in residential areas	Outreach; Drop-in service Basic skills classes Advice Distribution of leaflets and condoms Liaison with neighbourhood groups Specialised DV support	Women involved in prostitution and particularly those at risk under the age of 17	Women's Aid (Tower Hamlets)
Potteries Housing Association - The Women's Project	Reduce numbers of women involved in prostitution Heighten public awareness and increase community confidence Increase reporting / arresting of kerb crawlers	Outreach; One-to-one support - including drop-in, peer support and fast-track drug services Community development (workshops and mediation) Police crackdown Poster campaign Media and publicity	Young people and adult women involved or at risk of becoming involved in street prostitution Prostitutes seeking to exit Kerb crawlers via enforcement The community	Police, Potteries Housing Association, Health Action Zone project, local hospital, local drugs programme, Drugslink
Risky Business		Early prevention - tackling grooming of young people in South Yorkshire. Provides training for carers and foster parents of vulnerable young people	Young people, prevention and early intervention.	

<p>SWEET Sex Workers' Education, Empowerment and Training</p>	<p>Reduce numbers involved in prostitution; Reduce numbers of kerb crawlers in residential areas; Stabilise women involved in prostitution; Increase referral options for police; Increase police information gathering; Reduce crime and disorder in red light district; Increase numbers exiting prostitution; and Reduce numbers of young people becoming involved.</p>	<p>Outreach; Drop-in Drugs referral Pro-active policing (arrest referral etc)</p>	<p>Women involved in street prostitution, women wishing to enter fast-track drugs programmes and young women and children involved in prostitution</p>	<p>Community Safety Strategy Unit, Police, Barnardos, Social Services and YOT</p>
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Can project be named as example of best practice?	Photo opportunities?	Send info on project to regional press?	Press interviews with project managers?	Identify women involved or exited prostitution	Contact details
We've had no response from Bristol Base and so are unsure as to whether they would want to be involved in any press coverage					
Yes	Yes	Yes - [REDACTED]	Yes - [REDACTED]	Case studies and quotes from women - but all will be anonymous	[REDACTED] Units 89-91 23 New Mount St Manchester M4 4DE
Yes	No	Probably - depends on timing	Yes, in written print format only	No	[REDACTED] 4th Floor Clarendon House 52 Cornmarket Street Oxford OX1 3EJ
Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes - should be fine. Good case studies available.	[REDACTED] The Women's Project Potteries Housing Association The Dudson Centre Hope Street Hanley Stoke-on-Trent ST1 5DD
Difficulties between this project and local authority over funding, which has caused some bad feeling. Best to avoid this project.					

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes in principle, but will need to check with clients closer to the time	 1st Floor Estate Buildings Railway Street Huddersfield HD1 1JY
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Key Document 19

Crime Reduction Programme Monitoring Returns for Yorkshire and the Humber Region

CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAMMERegion.....**YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER**Monitoring return for **quarter 2 ending September 2002**

Please e mail to [REDACTED] or via POISE.

Reducing Burglary Initiative (RBI)Progress**No. and value of projects under way:**

1 Project (TP12/YH/10 Leeds Distraction Burglaries) still outstanding as last quarter, value £554,000, nothing new to add.

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

NONE

No. value and name of projects completed:

46 Projects worth £7,663,079 all completed before 1 April 2002.
(see last quarters return)

Effective School Management (ESM)Progress**No. and value of projects under way.**

All finished

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

None

No. value and name of projects completed.

4 Projects worth £952,250 as previous return, all completed before 1 April 2002.

Targeted Policing Initiative (TPI)Progress**No. and value of projects under way:**

One project (TPI1/YH/23 Bransholme) value £430,233. Home Office funding provided for further 6 months upto September 2002. All HO money now claimed. The Local Authority will continue to fund this project until the end of the financial year at least.

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

None

No. value and name of projects completed:

5 Projects worth £1,222,367 completed prior to 1 April 2002

The above project worth £467,233 completed September 2002

Violence Against Women Initiative (VAW)Progress**No. and value of projects under way:**

One project (VW/DV/YH/28 Leeds High Schools) has carried funding into 2002/3. Four projects have been provided with funding for an additional year (worth £515,856) The projects are:

VW/DV/YH/01 Wakefield Health Care

VW/DV/YH/03 Hull and East Riding

VW/DV/YH/06 Bradford Staying Put

VW/DV/YH/25 West Yorkshire Star Project

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

VW/DV/YH/03 – Humber Sub Region had £6000 allocated for the extension period but indications are now that only £3788 will be claimed.

No. value and name of projects completed:

2 Projects worth £316,024 completed before 1 April 2002-10-16

VW/DV/YH/28 Leeds High School £74,000 completed July 2002.

Prostitution InitiativeProgress**No. and value of projects under way:**

Last quarter we stated that 4 projects (value £90,061) were funded for the first 4 months, of these 3 have been allocated funding to the end of the financial year and Rotherham PROS/YH/02 has finished.

Sheffield PROS/YH/03 received £52,086, Huddersfield PROS/YH/06 received £66,246, and Hull PROS/YH/014 received £26,465 bringing the total funding for all projects to £478,336.

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

PROS/YH/02 Rotherham Risky Business – Although this project is technically complete and Government Office involvement is at an end, issues around evaluation and confidentiality are still being raised. The researcher has breached the terms and conditions by running training seminars purporting to use the Home Office finding's as the basis of the courses. Advice is being taken from the HO legal team. The programme monitor is working closely with [REDACTED], evaluation lead and [REDACTED] the initiative owner.

No. value and name of projects completed:

1 Project has completed since 1 April 2002 as follows:

PROS/YH/02 Rotherham, value £70,666 completed July 2002.

Small Retailers in Deprived Areas (SRDA)Progress**No. and value of projects under way:**

13 Partnerships awarded £655,882 for each of the next two years. Proposals for 5, two year projects and 8, one year projects have been approved and all schemes are underway.

No, value and name of projects not started by due date or at least 3 months behind schedule or showing significant departures from expenditure profile. Give reasons for delay, proposed recovery action and if project slippage has been authorised or is waiting for central authorisation.

Concerns over the Sheffield project reported last quarter have now been investigated and resolved. All work to the end of September has been completed and verified by on site visit. GOYH now satisfied that the requirements of the bid are met.

No. value and name of projects completed:

12 Projects worth £327,410 completed before 1 April 2002.

Partnership Development Fund

<u>Project</u>	<u>Amount awarded (02/03)</u>	<u>Priorities</u>					<u>Other</u>
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	
Approved							
YH03/PDF/01 Doncaster	£73050	x	x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/02 Bradford	£120516	x	x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/03 Calderdale	£53900	x	x	x			
YH03/PDF/04 Kirklees	£97700	x	x	x			
YH03/PDF/05 Leeds	£236500		x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/07 Craven	£21000		x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/08 Selby	£22825	x	x	x			
YH03/PDF/09 Richmondshire	£20100	x		x		x	
YH03/PDF/010 Ryedale	£20100	x	x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/012 York	£47500	x	x	x			
YH03/PDF/14 East Riding of Yorkshire	£47500	x	x			x	
YH03/PDF/15 North East Lincolnshire	£58500	x	x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/19 Wakefield	£69400	x	x	x		x	
YH03/PDF/22 Barnsley	£56606		x	x		x	
Not Yet Approved							
YH03/PDF/06 Scarborough	£28303						
YH03/PDF/11 Hambleton	£22900						
YH03/PDF/13 Kingston upon Hull	£110500						
YH03/PDF/16 North Lincolnshire	£40200						
YH03/PDF/17 Harrogate	£26500						
YH03/PDF/20 Sheffield	£128800						
YH03/PDF/21 Rotherham	£57600						

Other: (Please specify, this will help identify demands and whether priorities need changing) We aim to have the remaining PDF proposals approved no later than end of November.

PDF Allocation for 2002/03	£1,360,000
PDF Actual spend in 2002/03	£97,702
Estimated PDF Outturn 2002/03	£1,360,000

Points to note in relation to the profiles:

- CCTV-£4.87m has been transferred to year 03/04 following ministerial approval. The relatively slow spend is nothing to be alarmed at as experience with CCTV Round 1 suggests that schemes will be waiting for invoices to be supplied after all the capital works have been completed.

- NWardens-these schemes are unlikely to spend full budget. We are in the process of requesting accurate profiles from schemes as the ODPM claim form does not ask for profile info. On the attached profile I have re-allocated all outstanding budget for the year to the remaining quarters, however parts of this are to fund warden's salaries and as large numbers of these have not been in post since April 1 then an underspend is predicted.

Happy to answer any queries



CR REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Regional CR teams are required to submit a regular quarterly return to [REDACTED] CRPPU, via a completed CRP Monitoring Return proforma on progress on the **6 CRP local initiatives and SRDA**. The returns should also include the **additional funding** that was agreed by Ministers for the continuation of VAW projects(Funding for April 2002-July 2002 only), Demonstration & Dissemination projects(Funding for April 2002-June 2002 only) and Prostitution projects(Funding for April 2002 – March 2003). Comments on progress should be completed in Word and the expenditure reports in Excel and submitted by e- mail by the 4th Friday in the month, ie July, October, January and April.

Progress Reports – Word Document

2. Crime Reduction Programme. CRPPU require the return to explain progress on each CRP initiative that is still running in each Region/Wales and list all the projects that have completed and the full amount of funding claimed. This should take account of any feedback received from the assessors, the evaluators or Crime Concern/NACRO. The return should also identify any project that are giving cause for concern or showing signs of failure, plus what action is being taken to resolve any problems. A key measure of such projects will be progress against the performance targets/milestones in the project plan. Failure of a project to start in accordance with the project timetable would also merit reference in this return. Conversely, where a project appears to be developing particularly well and exceeding expectations, this should also be mentioned by name. Such projects may allow us to identify particularly effective interventions at an early stage allowing us to disseminate good practices.

3. Communities Against Drugs / Safer Communities Initiative. Please see the e-mail from [REDACTED] of 26 September 2002 that provides the new reporting instructions and format for CAD and SCI.

4. Small Retailers in Deprived Areas (SRDA). The word document should be used to record progress on all your regions' projects that have been awarded SRDA money in the current financial year.

Forecasts of future expenditure will only be required once Years 2 & 3 allocations and projects have been announced.

5. Partnership Development Fund. The table in the word document should be used to record projects that have been awarded PDF money in the current financial year, the amount of award for each project in the current financial year and which of the ministerial set priorities for the fund are met by the project (please tick boxes - this may be more than one). You may wish to retain an electronic copy of the completed form to ease future updating and additions.

Priorities for the PDF are as follows:

1. Supporting the development of information systems which would allow much more effective information sharing between those working in partnerships;
2. Providing data analysis support for partnerships;
3. Building the capacity of the partnerships and individual partner organisations to manage the implementation of local projects and strategies;
4. Supporting intensive consultancy or remedial work with failing partnerships;
5. Providing development funding, for example to spread good practice.

Expenditure Reports for all initiatives (other than PDF) – Excel Spreadsheet.

6. Grant Payments - Grant expenditure figures should now be shown on the excel spreadsheet which has separate worksheets for each initiative. Details of grant allocated, expenditure to date and monthly, quarterly and yearly forecast outturn figures for 2002-03 should all be included. The figure that you put in the 'Actual Spend' box should include grant claims that you have received but not yet processed on BASS. Each quarter, the expenditure plan for each initiative should be reviewed and readjusted to take into account the actual amount spent against the amount that was forecast. The overall expenditure outturn should not change unless slippage or an underspend has been approved by CRPPU. For further guidance and examples of how these spreadsheets should be completed please refer to the e-mail sent round by [REDACTED] on 09 May 2002.

7. Small Retailers in Deprived Areas (SRDAs) - For the **Q1 2002-03** return any monies awarded in 2001/02 and not spent by 31.03.02 but carried over and now spent should be shown on the spreadsheet as a prepayment.

8. End of Quarter / Re-Profiling– Under RAB accounting we have to match grant payments to the quarter that the work was carried out. In order to do this, we "throw back" those grants processed. For example, claims processed in Q2, which relate to work carried out in Q1, are "thrown back" so that BASS shows the spend against Q1 in the expenditure profiles. However, we cannot allow the quarterly "throw back" exercises to carry on into perpetuity and delay in year financial reporting.

A "cut-off" date will apply for notifying us of payments to be "thrown back" into the previous quarter. [NB: Separate arrangements will apply at the end of the

financial year as AFU supply their own deadline for claims to be processed & "thrown back" to the previous year]. That "cut off date" will be the deadlines already in place for the return of your quarterly reports.

Currently, quarterly reports have to be submitted to [REDACTED] by the 4th Friday of the month after the end of the quarter. For Q2 returns that will be Friday 25 October. We will not change that requirement, but will expect you to supply a cumulative 2002-03 spend to date figure and a list of the grant payments processed in Q3 that will need to be "thrown back" to Q2. Any grant payments that relate to Q2 that come in after the cut off date ie Friday 25 October will not be thrown back but will have to be included in the forecast expenditure figure for Q3.

For confirmation, the spend to date figure that you report to us should include all payments relating to spend so far in that financial year that have been processed on BASS plus those claims that have been received in the office but not yet processed on BASS.

For those of you making payments in arrears any spend not accounted for, ie processed on BASS or claim form received in the office awaiting entry on to BASS, by cop on the 4th Thursday, would have to show in the following quarter's forecast.

Invoices processed on BASS & details of the claims which will be processed in relation to Q2 should be included in the "End of Quarter" worksheet in the return so that [REDACTED] can adjust BASS to give a true picture of quarterly spend.

Partnerships should be reminded that they **MUST** adjust their spending profiles for the rest of the year when submitting their claims. Using Q1 as an example, see the following:

RBI project forecasts at the beginning of the year the following quarterly spend profiled:

£50k £50k £50k £50k = forecast outturn of £200k

At the end of Q1 they submit a claim for £30k spent. If they don't adjust their spend profile, their figures will read

£30k £50k £50k £50k = forecast outturn of £180k when entered into BASS budget profiling.

Without a reprofiled budget an assumption will be made by BASS that a £20k saving has been identified, which we presume is the last thing the project wants to convey!

If the partnership is unsure when the underspend in Q1 will be caught up they can just do a best guesstimate & profile over the remaining quarters:

£30k £57k £57k £56k = £200k.

The profile can be changed quarterly so they are only asked to ensure that the overall forecast outturn for the year is accurate & that they spend by the

end of the financial year what they forecast they would. [It is expected that the regional teams would continue to monitor partnerships progress and ensure that spend was achieved]

I do realise that RAB rules mean that payments made at any time during the year can be thrown back to the period they relate to. However, in practice this is difficult unless you have a purchase order purchasing system in place. Therefore without some sort of cut off point a reliable spend to date figure will never be achieved. As the reprofiling of budgets is taking place at centre it would be impractical for regional teams to send details through to [REDACTED] every time a payment was made which related to a previous quarter. A cut-off point allows us to reflect the RAB position as best we can without making it a requirement for you to enter & reprofile your own individual budgets on a monthly basis on BASS.

9. Running costs. Post integration, only the team in the Welsh Assembly need to continue to provide us with pay and non pay running costs expenditure figures.

10. A supplementary return, at any time, should be submitted for projects giving cause for concern where the regional team believes this should not wait for the regular return.

Key Document 20

Letter on behalf of the Risky Business Steering Group to Former Home Office Official

Education, Culture and Leisure Services

Education Office, Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham S65 1AS

Tel: [REDACTED] Fax: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Ref: KB/LM Contact: 19th December 2001.

Ms [REDACTED]
Room 415
Clive House
Petty France
London
SW1H 9HD

Dear [REDACTED]

I am writing to alert you to the fact that we have a number of concerns about the evaluators working with us on the Home Office Pilot with the Risky Business Project, Rotherham.

The initial meeting with the evaluators was difficult and we felt that they were judgmental rather than supportive. We initiated a discussion around confidentiality but were made to feel it was not an issue.

? [We were subsequently asked to provide data which put pressure on the project workers to collate. We do not believe this was our brief.

The evaluators have been very unclear about the distinction between the existing project and the remit of the 'Pilot'. Their confusion was evident in interim material sent out. As 'Project Developers' they are now making suggestions about future developments without consultation with those responsible for managing or supporting the work.

How do they know
We know that they have recently breached our confidentiality by sharing with you information from recent interviews. This material released on email was not marked confidential and we believe put children and staff at risk. During the interviews they stressed that information would not be shared in a way which compromised staff. They have also asked Adele Weir, Research and

Development Officer funded through the Pilot, for a chapter in their forthcoming book *Doing the Business – Responding to Young People in Prostitution* 'Young People Sexually Exploited through Prostitution: Models of Good Practice in Britain.'

We are angered to think that the University can publish a book about good practice whilst the partnership relationships that we have developed are being damaged by their interference.

Please do not think that we do not have the protection of children as the concern at the centre of our work. We are not against debate or valid criticism. It is the process we are not happy with.

??
- -
- -
- -
[We are aware through working with other evaluators who also work for the Home Office that there are others who have a far greater understanding of project work and dealing with sensitive issues.

We are disappointed about our experience and concerned that our involvement with the Home Office Pilot could hinder our progress and further development of the Risky Business Project.

Yours sincerely

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted name]
On behalf of the Risky Business Steering Group.

Key Document 21

Letter from Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council to University of Luton



The best place to live, learn and work

Education, Culture and Leisure Services

Education Office, Norfolk House, Walker Place, Rotherham S65 1AS

Tel: [redacted] Ext: [redacted] Fax: [redacted]

Email: [redacted]

Ref: DBMM/BM

Contact: Di Billups

Date: 21 December 2001

Ms M Melrose
Senior Research Fellow
Department of Applied Social Studies
University of Luton
LUTON

Dear Margaret

I am writing on behalf of the Risky Business Project to say how concerned we were when it came to our attention that you had released information that had been shared with [redacted] during the last round of interviews in Rotherham.

In the very first meeting workers from the project initiated the discussion around confidentiality and asked for clarification regarding how information would be shared. You assured them that you were aware of the sensitive nature of the work and the need to maintain partnerships and that comments would not be attributed to specific people.

The email you sent to the Home Office was not marked confidential. It mentioned where information had come from and actually quoted what had been said. You shared the information as 'responsible' and 'reasonable' adults. I do not consider your action to be responsible. I feel you have compromised the safety of children and young people and the staff who work with them.

I feel you have betrayed the trust of those involved and that you have demonstrated a lack of sensitivity and awareness of the issues involved in the work. At the very least you should have alerted workers to the fact that you were releasing information and ensured you were certain those receiving the information were aware of the potential risks from sharing it further.

The project are writing to the Home Office regarding their concerns about the future of the working relationship.

Education, Culture & Leisure Services



7
yes

- 2 -

They feel a clear written agreement is needed regarding confidentiality and future ways of working. They would also like copies of transcripts taken at the interviews to be returned to the individuals who took part.

Yours sincerely



Di Billups
Executive Director
Education Culture and Leisure Services

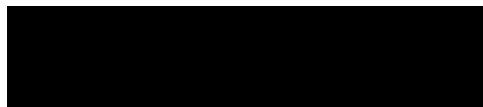
Key Document 22

Letter from University of Luton to Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council



University of Luton
Faculty of Healthcare
and Social Studies

Park Square
Luton, Bedfordshire
LU1 3JU
United Kingdom



Di Billups
Executive Director
Education, Culture and Leisure Services
Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

cc: [REDACTED] (Risky Business)
Professor David Barrett (University of Luton)
[REDACTED] (Home Office)

8.01.02

Dear Di,

I was very sorry to receive your letter today and to note your concerns about the process of the evaluation and the research. I am extremely concerned that you should think that we have in any way betrayed the trust of those involved and would like to assure you that this was certainly not our intention. I am also surprised that the Home Office has been in touch with you about this matter while failing to inform us of the action they intended to take regarding the information they were given.

I would like to assure you that apart from sharing the information we were provided with in Rotherham with the Home Office, it has remained confidential. It has not been written in anything that is to appear in the public domain. Neither has this information been attributed to specific individuals but to the Educational Welfare Officers generally. We shared the information with the Home Office in good faith because we considered that by using the taxi firms that were mentioned to [REDACTED] in the course of the interviews the young people concerned were being put in risk situations. Our intention was not in any way to compromise the safety of the young people or the people who work with them but to ensure that the young people concerned were properly protected.

I am extremely sorry that you consider we have demonstrated a lack of sensitivity and awareness of the issues involved in the work. We have many years' experience in working in these difficult fields of research and are very aware of the sensitivity involved. As responsible and reasonable adults we considered it incumbent on us to act in what we considered to be the best interests of the young people concerned. Given the seriousness of the situation we were informed about in the course of the interviews, we decided that the best way to do this was to inform the Home Office about the situation that was brought to our attention.

We look forward to hearing from you both and trust that the working relationship between the project and the evaluation team will continue to develop.

Yours sincerely



Margaret Melrose
Senior Research Fellow
Department of Applied Social Studies
University of Luton
Luton
Beds
Tel: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

Key Document 23

Letter from University of Luton to Former Home Office Official

University of Luton
Faculty of Healthcare
and Social Studies
Park Square
Luton, Bedfordshire
LU1 3JU
United Kingdom

www.luton.ac.uk

[REDACTED]
Policing and Reducing Crime Unit
Clive House
Petty France
London SW1 9HD

10.01.02

Re: *Rotherham Risky Business*

Dear [REDACTED]

I enclose a copy of the letter we have received from Rotherham in relation to the information we supplied to you about the use of taxi firms within the area and to which my email of 8th January pertained. I also enclose a hard copy of the reply that was sent by email for your information. I wonder if you would be kind enough to copy to us the communication you have had with Risky Business in relation to this matter so that we are fully in the picture.

With many thanks and best wishes

[REDACTED]
Margaret Melrose
Senior Research Fellow
Department of Applied Social Studies
University of Luton
Luton LU1 3JU
Beds.
[REDACTED]

Key Document 24

Letter from Former Home Office Official to University of Luton



Home Office

Research, Development and Statistics Directorate
Policing and Crime Reduction Unit
401, Clive House, London SW1h 9HD
Direct Line: [REDACTED]
E-mail [REDACTED]

11 February 2002

Margaret Melrose
Research Fellow
Department of Applied Social Studies
University of Luton
Park Square
Luton
LU1 3JU

Dear Margaret,

Meeting regarding child protection issues emerging from interviews undertaken as part of the evaluation of Risky Business, Rotherham.

Firstly, thank you (and David) for meeting with us on 6th February. I think it was a useful meeting and clarified some of the issues of concern.

Secondly, I am writing to up-date you on the action taken following your e-mail in December 2001. Your e-mail expressed concerns that the education service in Rotherham has a contract with a taxi firm that allegedly employs men who are "actively involved in grooming and pimping young women into prostitution". Shortly after this meeting, [REDACTED] forwarded your e-mail to [REDACTED] who is the Policy Officer (and initiative owner). [REDACTED] re-contacted [REDACTED] after our meeting (6 February 2002) for a progress report.

[REDACTED] has contacted the relevant government officers, [REDACTED] (DfEE) and [REDACTED] (Child Protection, D.o.H.). [REDACTED] has notified the Child Protection Coordinator covering Rotherham and they have been in touch with a senior officer in the education authority. The Department of Health has raised your concerns with Social Services in Rotherham. For information, the police are currently trying to investigate these concerns and in order to progress this successfully are concerned that this should not become public knowledge. I will speak to the local government officer to find out how far this investigation has progressed.

February 11, 2002

I would also like to add that if you wish you are (of course) entitled to take this to a higher level within the local police area.

Regarding our broader discussion about the evaluation process, I am meeting with the project team this week and will contact you after this to discuss the way forward.

Yours sincerely

CC: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

