

THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

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FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF SHARON MILLER

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I, Sharon Miller, WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. I make this statement in respect of the attack that took place on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 when I was driven at by Valdo Calocane ("VC"). This statement is intended to show the impact that this attack has had on my life and to assist the Nottingham Inquiry (the "Inquiry") with the matters set out in the Rule 9 Request dated 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (the "Request").
2. I am employed as a cleaner. My date of birth is GRO-B I am 46 years old.
3. I live with my partner Martin Reed.
4. Unless I indicate otherwise, the facts of the matters contained in this statement are within my own knowledge. They are true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.
5. This statement was prepared on my behalf by my Solicitors at Rothera Bray LLP, following discussions over the telephone and in person meetings.

### Impact on me and my family

6. I have been asked to comment on the impact the attack had on me. Further to the Victim Impact Statement I made with the police on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024 (**CPSE0000472**) I would like to reiterate and add the following points to address the impact of the attack on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

### Ongoing Injuries, Recovery and Support

7. I sustained multiple injuries as a consequence of the attack, including fractures to my ribs, a grade two splenic laceration, traumatic rupture to my spleen, soft tissue injury to the spine, a fracture to the left little toe and soft tissue injury to my right thigh and calf. I also experienced shock, distress and sleep disturbance. I will never forget the attack, nor fully recover from it.
8. When I was discharged, I was given antibiotics for a secondary chest infection and a boot to help my little toe fracture.
9. I was left with really bad bruising which lasted for 3 months. I still have numbness and pins and needles to my thigh. I have to walk with a crutch over 2 years and 4 months after the attack.
10. The bruising in my calf later developed into an ulcer which became infected and required repeat dressing changes for 4 months (**WITN0279002**).
11. For pain relief I have been regularly taking GRO-B around 3 times a day. Before the attack I did not routinely take painkillers. Now I struggle to cope without them given ongoing pain.
12. I have really struggled psychologically since the attack. I keep replaying it over in my head and can see the van and the police in my mind, and remember the feeling of being hit by the van. I cannot control those thoughts and find myself

wondering what more could have been done to prevent the attacks and I cannot understand why someone would deliberately drive into strangers. I drive myself crazy with what more could have been done to prevent it and asking why they did not stop the driver before he was able to drive into me?

13. I take medication to treat my anxiety. I take **GRO-B** **GRO-B** which also helps to treat my nerve pain. This makes me really sleepy, and I often fall asleep whilst sitting up.
14. Although I am physically recovering, I still use my crutch all the time, and I feel I will be mentally scarred for life. I feel more anxious because of what happened to me, and my moods have changed. Those around me comment that this is so. I worry that I am changed forever and that I will never be the person I was before these attacks.
15. As I still get nerve pain, I still get uncomfortable, and this can also affect my mood and make me feel frustrated. I used to like going out, but now I have a fear of being in crowded places, and often get anxiety about leaving the house which has become my safe space. I get flashbacks of the attack too and I struggle with intrusive thoughts and knowing how to deal with these. I remain petrified of white vans, and am anxious in traffic.

#### Care and Assistance

16. Before the attack I did all the household tasks including housework, laundry and the shopping. I was fully independent in terms of getting myself up, bathed and dressed and was self-sufficient, having always been a hard worker and also a home maker.
17. However, following the attack, I have required assistance from my partner and daughter with all aspects of daily living including bathing, personal hygiene, housework and shopping. Even small tasks such as hanging the washing out on the line or Hoovering up I still require assistance with because of my restricted mobility. Following the attack, I felt so useless not being able to do things for

myself. I used to look after Martin, and now he was looking after me. This remains the case, and it has been a hard adjustment for us both to make.

18. Initially I was not able to get myself upstairs and needed to sleep on the sofa in the living room. My mobility was not good at all. Sleeping on the sofa affected my sleep which would make me tired in the day. The extra added difficulty was that we only have a toilet upstairs, so it was really hard, and I was unable to go to the toilet myself.
19. I have had some basic adaptations installed at home to assist me including raised seats and a step to gain access (**WITN0279003**).
20. Had it not been for Martin looking after me, I do not know whether I would have mentally got through this. He has been a rock for me. I could not have survived the attacks without him.

#### Employment

21. Before the attack I worked as a cleaner, a job I had enjoyed for over 27 years.
22. My job typically involved cleaning office buildings. Specifically cleaning the stairs, receptions and toilets on all floors.
23. On a typical day, I would start very early, around 5:30am, and work until around 10:15am. I would do this for 5 days a week.
24. I had a good work attendance record without much time off save for a couple of days off due to **GRO-D** My GP has signed me off work since the attack and I have still not returned. I miss working. I loved my job, and I am so sad to not be able to go back. I do not know if I ever will be well enough to go back – both physically and mentally. I miss my friends there and the job satisfaction.

25. If the attack had not occurred, I would still be working until I ultimately decided to retire. I have lost all my independence, now needing to claim benefits, which has had a massive impact on our finances. I have also lost the structure of work, and the days blur into each other with no difference between the weekdays and the weekends. I have also lost my identity and sense of worth.

### The Impact

26. Following the attack on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023, I am more anxious and nervous. I have been diagnosed with PTSD.

27. I have anxiety about losing my job, about my ongoing physical health, and whether my leg and mobility will ever improve.

28. I have a fear of leaving the house as I am scared of what might or could happen to me. When I do go out, I often get hot sweats and diarrhoea because I am so stressed.

29. I feel too scared to go out alone, and I do not like being alone in general.

30. I am also anxious of walking near traffic and when crossing roads.

31. White vans always scare me, and I feel as though they are all going to hit me. I have become very anxious in crowded places and when walking in public or in crowds. I am constantly looking over my shoulder and live in fear that this will happen to me again. The psychological treatment which I have received has improved this a little for me, but I can still get anxious easily and quickly.

32. Since the attack, I have not slept through a single night. Initially this was due to the physical pain, but now it is the nightmares regarding that morning that wake me up. I will wake up in sweats and then find it extremely difficult to get back to sleep. I would estimate I wake with nightmares around twice a month.

33. I worry all the time about what will happen if VC is released, particularly as he was only given a hospital order. I am worried sick that he will come back and finish me off. I cannot shake that feeling however much I try.
34. The lack of sleep affects me every day. It makes me tired through the day, and I tend to get more irritable when I feel really tired. It is so frustrating. I also find that I naturally wake up around 4:30am, as my body clock is still used to getting up for work. However, my sleep is broken anyway, and I often wake during the night in pain.
35. I also suffer with flashbacks. Speaking with my solicitor about the Inquiry does trigger these as it forces me to recall the day of the attack which I so desperately try to forget. Whenever I hear a police siren or speeding cars, this also triggers me. This is why I avoid going out.
36. My partner has been my main carer, and I have not been able to enjoy family life. This has impacted myself and everyone around me. The impact of the attack has affected my relationship with Martin massively. Martin and I have been together for nearly 35 and following he attacks he has been my rock, but the attack has changed me and our relationship, and he is now more like my carer than a partner. GRO-B
- GRO-B
37. I would say that the attacks have brought me closer to my daughter in an emotional sense, but I do not see her or my grandchild as much as I would like. My daughter lives in GRO-B and before the attack I would have easily walked that distance to spend time with her and help babysit. Now, I am no longer able to do that, so our contact has become more limited.
38. Although my partner and I are engaged, I have not been able to mentally focus on planning our wedding. I will not get married until this whole thing is over.
39. I do not want to have the happiest day of my life weighed down with the stress of this attack.

40. It is sad that we have had to put this on hold as it is another aspect of our lives which has been tarnished by the events of that day.

Present Position

41. My partner still has to help me carry the washing upstairs and helps me with getting in and out of the shower, hanging the washing on the line and hoovering up.

42. Although physically I have improved, my leg keeps giving way and I still use a walking stick or crutches for balance every time I go out. As of September 2024, I have been discharged from the physiotherapist, so I cannot see these symptoms improving.

43. I have lost my independence and my confidence. I suffer with low self-esteem and low moods. I still feel as though I am dragging everyone down. I am not the same person I was because of the actions of that man.

44.

**GRO-B**

13 June 2023

45. In respect of the aftermath of the attack, I can confirm that on the morning of 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023, I woke up at around 4:30am and followed my usual routine — had a quick cup of tea, let the dogs out, and left the house to catch the 43 bus from

Oakdale Road at around 5:07am, arriving in the City Centre around 5:30am. I got off the bus at King Street at around 5:30am. I travelled alone on this day.

46. I worked at City Gate as a cleaner for a company called Atlas. The building is on Upper Parliament Street in Nottingham city centre. I have worked there for 24 years, and I made the same journey on that day as I have done countless times.
47. I walked up King Street to Upper Parliament Street. I began walking towards the office, then crossed the road at Market Street. I remember crossing the road and seeing a van and a police car, but I did not think anything of it.
48. I remember the van being at a standstill. The police car was driving slowly and did not have its siren on. I therefore began to cross the road as it was clear to do so. It was when the police turned on the siren that it appeared to spook the driver of the van, and it was then that he sped off. Until that point, I thought the van had stopped for the police.
49. Suddenly and without warning, the van struck me and drove off. I thought he would drive down Market Street but instead he drove straight into me whilst being followed by the police vehicle.
50. When the van hit me, I remember tumbling and rolling. I felt like I was in a washing machine. I saw my whole life flash before my eyes. I can honestly say it was the worst day of my life. I genuinely believed that I was going to die.
51. It was all so sudden, everything went white. I then came back around, and I was on the floor. A lady then came over to help me. I could hear a lot of shouting. Then the police came over to me to see if I was ok, but as the other injured person needed assistance, the police had to go over to him and the lady stayed with me.
52. A man, who I now know was Marcin Gawronski, was also hit and lying close to me. He had hit his head on the floor. A lady helped him off the road, but I saw

him getting wobbly and the police ran over to him. It was terrifying, and I did not know what was going on or if the man was seriously injured.

53. It felt very strange, I was in pain and a state of severe shock, I could not understand what had just happened. I wanted my partner Martin Reed to know what had happened, so the lady who was helping me called him for me. At first, she could not find his number in my phone as I had saved it under "Babes." She eventually found it and tried to call him, but she could not get through because his phone was turned off. Normally, it would have been on, but I had asked him to turn it off the night before as his friend had been calling him at 3 in the morning. I understand that she left him a voicemail.
54. I later learned that the driver of the van that hit me had stabbed and killed 3 people and deliberately collided with me and others when trying to evade the police. I cannot remember whether it was DC Johal, the family liaison officer ("FLO"), who told me that I had been purposely hit by VC, or if it was Martin. I could not quite believe what I was hearing – it was horrific.

#### Hospital Attendance and Immediate Aftermath

55. I was taken by blue light ambulance to the East Midlands Major Trauma Centre based at Queens Medical Centre ("QMC") in Nottingham on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023. I remember being put on a stretcher at the scene of the attack and wheeled into the ambulance. I do not remember thinking about my injuries at the time, it was all just such a blur.
56. I understand I arrived at QMC at approximately 8:30am. I was wheeled into the Accident and Emergency ("A&E") Department. I cannot remember if it was busy or if police were present. My head was all over the place and I could not focus on anything. It was all such a big shock. I hate hospitals so instantly I felt uneasy and just wanted to see Martin for reassurance.
57. In the hospital I had an X-ray and a CT scan. I also underwent an MRI scan on my lower back.

58. After my scans, at approximately 9am, Martin arrived.
59. I remained admitted as an in-patient on the major trauma ward for 5 days. It was awful being in there for so long because I cannot stand hospitals. In fact, I hate everything about them. I had been to hospital maybe 7 months before to A&E with pain in my back, but if I can, I avoid them like the plague.
60. I recall contact by the press being overwhelming. At points I could not leave the hospital as they were waiting outside of the wards. When we returned home from hospital the day I was discharged, there was press outside of the house. Martin dealt with all of this as I was in no fit state to speak to any journalists and just wanted to get home as I was still in lots of pain.
61. I was upset to find out that the press had also been round to my neighbour's asking about me. Somehow, the press got hold of my daughter's number and telephoned her. I found this a total violation and totally unacceptable and it added stress to an already awful situation.
62. The actions of this man have not only physically harmed me but have taken a part of my personality that I will never get back. I am no longer the person I was before I was hit by the van that awful morning.
63. I do not like to think about that day. I do not like to hear any information or see the face of the person who inflicted such heartache on me and the families who have been affected. I cannot imagine how the families who have lost their loved ones are coping with their grief. I think about them often and my heart goes out to them.
64. I continue to try, although difficult, to put this behind me. Sadly, I now know life will never be the same again.
65. I have been asked to address the interactions I had with the police following the attack, the table below sets out the interactions I can recall with the police

between 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and the sentencing hearing on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024 and will be referred to throughout this statement where relevant.

Police Contact

Full Name	Rank	Collar Number	Role
Rajbinder Johal	Detective Constable	1361	Family Liaison Officer (FLO)
Ben Grayson	Detective Constable	3568	
Edd Norris	Police Constable	530	Tactical Support Officer (TST)
Adam Cooper	Detective Sergeant	568	
Steven Cooper	Deputy Chief Constable		
Mr Griffin	Assistant Chief Constable		Assistant Chief Constable

Timeline of interactions with the police 13/06/2023 to 23/01/2024

Date	Form of contact	Who	Description
14/06/2023 At 13:50	In person At Queen's Medical Centre	DC Johal	DC Johal came to speak with me, but I told her I was in pain and tired. I told DC Johal that I had not been told when I was being discharged, but I would speak to her again when I was. DC Johal asked me whether I would like to speak with the Chief Constable, I said no.
15/06/2023	Telephone	DC Johal	DC Johal wanted an update on whether I was ready to provide a statement and the press release

			from 14/06/2023 was also read to me. It was overwhelming and very emotional to hear what had happened in the City. I told DC Johal that I was still in hospital, and I did not know when I would be leaving. I was not in a position to give a statement at this point. I was still recovering, stressed and confused.
18/06/2023	Attendance at St Anns Police Station	DC Johal	40 minute police interview with DC Johal. I recalled the events of the 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2023, the injuries I had, and how this had impacted me.
20/06/2023	Telephone	DC Johal	DC Johal explained that VC attended court that morning and VC remanded to custody until next hearing on 25/09/2023 where he would make his plea.
04/07/2023	Letter	Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC)	Letter detailed they were investigating the police's contact with the white van prior to the collision with me ( <b>WITN0279004</b> ).
15/07/2023	In person At home address	DC Johal and DC Grayson	Martin was also present. I was asked if I wanted to meet with the prosecutor/CPS but I declined. We spoke about Bereavement Family Scheme and Jane Macadam from Victim Care Unit and I expressed that I wanted contact from both of these units. I have seen from a meeting note that I was told

			about CICA claims. <b>(NGPF0000264)</b>
29/09/2023	Letter	Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC)	Letter confirmed the IOPC found no criminal offence was committed by the police <b>(WITN0279005)</b> .
28/11/2023	Telephone	DC Johal	Telephone call detailing the Plea and Trial Preparation Hearing. DC Johal told me that VC had pleaded guilty to attempted murder and manslaughter for the people he had killed. Informed at this point that the CPS did not accept these pleas and the case was adjourned for psychiatric assessments.
01/12/2023	In person At home address	DC Johal	The meeting discussed the pleas. An appointment was made for me to make my victim impact statement at the police station.
14/01/2024	Attendance at St Anns Police Station	DC Johal	Drafted victim impact statement for the police. I was aware this would be read at the sentencing hearing to explain what had happened to me.

66. In respect of who I was in contact with from the Police, I can confirm that from 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 until the sentencing hearing, I was mostly in contact with my family liaison officer DC Johal. I received the odd letter from the Chief Constable and the Deputy Chief Constable, but my main communication was with DC Johal.

67. I spoke with DC Johal multiple times on the phone, I would estimate 8 or 9 times. I cannot remember the exact dates of these phone calls. Details of the telephone calls I can remember are detailed above in the table.
68. In respect of the conversations I had with the police and the FLO, I can confirm that on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023, I was visited by DC Johal at the QMC Hospital as set out in the timeline. I understood DC Johal to be a family liaison officer and she seemed nice. At this same meeting, DC Johal asked me if there was anything relating to me in the media that had been missed out, and I wanted to elaborate on. I said no. I was then asked if I wanted to be involved in a press conference, but I refused as this caused me major anxiety. I did feel bad that I had refused to join the press conference, but I was in no fit state, and I could not walk so I did not know how it would be possible.
69. Further telephone calls with DC Johal up until the sentencing hearing out set out in the table.
70. On 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023, DC Johal picked me up and I attended St Ann's Police Station for an interview with her. The interview lasted 40 minutes, which was incredibly tiring following a 5 day hospital stay. I found myself getting upset many times throughout, as I was still coming to terms with the attack and worrying what my future would be like.
71. The timeline also refers to a meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2023 with DC Johal. I understand that an attendance note explains I was told about making a Criminal Injuries Compensation Authority claim. (**NGPF0000264**) I do not recall any of this. I understand now this is a compensation scheme for victims of crime and I would have definitely pursued this had I known about it or registered the information.
72. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2024, I drafted my Victim Impact Statement for the police. It was very emotional to relive the horrific events that changed my life, but I wanted VC to be aware of what damage he had caused. I know that this was

- read out at the sentencing hearing, but I did not attend as I was not in the right headspace.
73. On 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024, DC Johal came to see me at my home address. My partner, Martin Reed, was with me at the time. As I had not been to the sentencing hearing, DC Johal came to tell me of the sentence that had been handed down.
74. On 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024, DC Johal called me and told me that the Secretary of State for the Department of Health had ordered a Commission report into the NHS.
75. On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, DC Johal called to confirm my email, as the assistant Chief Constable would be sending me an email.
76. I am unsure of his name, but another police officer called me to explain that VC would be going to a hospital. He did not tell me which one but provided his number if I wanted any more information. I did not contact the officer as I was not in the right frame of mind. I struggled to hear VC's name, let alone ask questions about him. I was also on strong painkillers due to my injury.
77. In respect of any letter or emails I received from the police, I can confirm that I emailed DC Johal on a few occasions, giving her updates on my injuries and sending update photos. Initially, I had a large open wound on my leg, with bruising (**WITN0279002**). This eventually healed over and has developed into a scar (**WITN0279006**).
78. One officer, I do not remember their name, called me to ask about returning my trousers. I also asked for my coat and handbag back but have not heard anything since which I find really disappointing as I would really like my belongings back. I have mentioned how I want my belongings back (every time I have spoken to the police), but they have never been returned. Luckily, my purse was not in my bag as I had removed it and given it to Martin on the day of the attack so that he could arrange paying the bills.

79. To this day, my belongings have still not been returned to me. Despite my repeated requests to my FLO and any time I have spoken to the police, no one has taken any steps to return these items to me. I am aware that other individuals have had personal items from the day of the attack return to them, yet my belongings have not. Now approaching three years on from the attacks, this ongoing failure has significantly compounded by stress and upset. GRO-B

GRO-B

GRO-B

I feel I

have asked nothing of the police other than this one simple request, yet it still has not been fulfilled. This continues to cause me ongoing emotional distress and remains a constant reminder of the attack and its aftermath.

80. I received a letter on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023 from the Independent Office for Police Conduct (**WITN0279004**). They said that Nottinghamshire Police had contacted them. They wrote that they were investigating the police's contact with VC, prior to the collision with me. I was pleased to read this as I felt there was something more that could have been done, and the police should have seen the Defendant driving the van, well before it hit me.

81. On 29<sup>th</sup> September 2023, I received another letter from the IOPC (**WITN0279005**), stating that no criminal offence had been committed by the police, and they did not behave in a manner to warrant disciplinary action. Although it was disappointing and frustrating to hear that there were no failings by the police, and whilst I did not agree with the findings, I tried to forget about it and move on.

82. In respect of any reflections, I have had on my interactions with the FLO, I can confirm that my interactions with the FLO were really positive, I found her to be very helpful, and I was also happy with all the contact I had with her. She explained a lot of information that I would have found overwhelming, and it felt like she really cared about my progress.

83. I recall that the FLO also took me to some hospital appointments and to the police station when I needed to give a statement. This was really helpful and helped ease the burden of having to travel whilst in pain.
84. In respect of any contact I had with the Senior Investigating Office, I can confirm that, I think I might have had a telephone call with the SIO but I cannot remember any names or when this would have occurred. I also could not tell you about the conversation as I did not understand any of it and the technical jargon used, I understood things more when explained to me by the FLO.
85. In respect of the information I was provided by the police about the attacks, and their interactions with VC, I can confirm that apart from DC Johal coming to tell me of the sentence that had been handed down, the police gave me no information about the events of 13<sup>th</sup> June. They have not told me whether they had dealings with VC in the past, and I was left in the dark about the criminal proceedings. The police did not keep me informed or explain anything about their investigation. Although I did not really want to hear all about it in great detail. I would have appreciated being kept more in the loop with key developments.
86. Knowing now that the police had lots of interactions with VC in the past, and that he was known to them, I cannot believe that this man was able to commit the crimes he did on that awful day. I think that I was purposely kept in the dark about their previous interactions because they knew they could and should have done more.
87. In respect of whether I believe the information provided to be by the police was accurate and adequate, I can confirm that the little information I was provided by the police was accurate, but I think they could have provided more. The communication I had with the DC Johal following the attack was good, but I feel the police could have done much more to explain their investigations and the proceedings. This attack affected my entire life, and I was not given any investigation information that might have helped me to move forward.

88. I have been asked whether I had or raised any concerns about the police, I can confirm that I did have concerns about the police involvement, from the investigation through to the sentencing hearing. I also told my solicitor that I did not and still do not understand how VC managed to get away from the police for such a long time. There is so much CCTV in the area, but he was able to wander round, armed and undetected, for such a long time before committing his further serious crimes. This is extremely concerning.
89. I told DC Johal that I was very unhappy that before he hit me with the van, VC was sat still, not being caught or followed. I cannot remember specifically when or how I raised this with her. He was not running people down at this moment, until the police sirens were turned on and spooked him. I remember looking to my right and seeing VC parked up, it was maybe 30 metres away from me and there was a police car behind with blue lights on but no sirens. I think VC was even letting people cross the road! It was only when the sirens came on that he suddenly accelerated and drove into me. This could have been avoided if they had not made themselves known in such a startling way, particularly with members of the public around.
90. There are thousands of cameras in the City. I do not know why his every move was not being followed from the time he committed his first awful act. It is staggering that he was not caught and stopped before he had the opportunity of killing and injuring other people.
91. In respect of how the police could have done better in their interactions with me, I can confirm that DC Johal was good at explaining things to me, but I feel like I should have been told more about the investigation process. I was severely harmed in these horrible attacks but most of the time I felt like I only had the same information as the rest of the general public which was really distressing.
92. In respect of any reflections I have had on my experience with the police, I believe there needs to be more police on duty and on the streets to stop this happening again. The way the police deal with such emergencies needs to be looked at, to avoid innocent bystanders becoming involved in the way that

happened to me. Events such as the recent shooting by the police in Manchester following the attack on the synagogue have brought back thoughts about my own experiences with the police. I cannot help but feel that some people have seen what VC did, seen the sentence he received, and have been influenced by it—almost as if they believe they can try something similar and get away with it.

93. I have been asked to set out my interactions with the Crown Prosecution Service between 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and the sentencing hearing on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024. In respect of how and when I was provided with information about the criminal proceedings, to my knowledge, the CPS did not provide me with any information about the criminal proceedings against VC. I was informed by the police via the FLO that he had been detained, and again by the police of his sentencing. Sadly, the CPS did not provide any of this information themselves.
94. I was too traumatised by the attack to attend the hearing. I thought it would bring back awful memories that I was not ready to relive. I also was not in an emotionally stable place to be around the Defendant. I am unsure whether this is why they did not provide me with any information.
95. In respect of any meetings or conversations I had with the CPS, I can confirm that I had no meetings with the CPS prior to or after the sentencing hearing. I found it very disappointing. I was not asked to attend any meetings to answer questions or explain what was going on. Although I was not in a place to attend the hearing, I would have thought that the CPS would update the victims as the proceedings progressed. I felt very isolated from the process.
96. In respect of any letters or emails I received from the CPS, I can confirm that I do not recall receiving any letters from the CPS in the lead up to the hearing, and I therefore cannot say that they communicated in a clear way. After looking through my files, I cannot find any letters that were sent to me beside the invitation to the Victim Contact Scheme sent after the sentencing **(WITN0279007)**.

97. In respect of whether the criminal prosecution process was explained to me in a clear and accessible way, I can confirm that I was very much left in the dark about the criminal prosecution process. I have never had to deal with anything legal and so the process was very confusing and overwhelming for me. Unfortunately, nothing was made clearer by the CPS to help me understand.
98. I was not at the hearing. The CPS did not keep me informed as the sentencing hearing went on. I heard nothing about the sentencing or the future plans until the police came to my house to tell me the outcome.
99. I have been asked to set out whether the CPS explained that basis of the charging and plea decisions, and whether this was clear and accessible. I can confirm that, as above, from what I can remember, I did not talk with the CPS throughout this whole process. In relation to my case, my solicitors attended the plea hearing on the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023 as I could not bear to go. It was too hard for me both physically and emotionally.
100. I was told by my solicitors that VC had pleaded guilty to attempted murder. This was shocking to hear. He admitted to the acts he committed. I was told he was suffering with a severe mental disorder.
101. My solicitor explained that VC had pleaded not guilty to the murder charges because of his schizophrenia. He had been monitored for this for years. The whole plea decision was explained to me by my solicitor and not the CPS, but it was still very overwhelming, and I understood it to an extent.
102. In respect of whether I think the information from the CPS was adequate and accurate, I can confirm that the information from the CPS, or lack of, was not good enough in keeping me up to date with anything. Some documents were not accurate as my name was incorrect on certain documents. I found this very disappointing when you have been the victim of such an awful event. I would have welcomed being much better informed about the basis of charging and outcome by someone from the CPS. I felt excluded from the process.

103. I have been asked to set out whether I had any concerns or complaints that I raised with the CPS about their conduct, I can confirm that I did not raise any complaints or concerns with the CPS about their conduct. It was already too stressful without thinking of making complaints, but on reflection they should have done more to keep me informed.
104. In respect of what response I had from the CPS to my concerns or complaints, I can confirm that I did not make any complaints, so I did not receive a response.
105. In respect of whether the CPS could have done better in their interactions, I can confirm that the CPS showed a lack of interest in keeping me up to date with what was going on. When there was so much noise and publicity about the case, it felt very upsetting that I really only knew as much as the public about a case that I was at the heart of. I feel the CPS could have provided regular updates as the case progressed and personally kept me updated on the hearing.
106. I have been asked to set out any reflections I have had on my experiences with the CPS, in this respect I had very few personal experiences with the CPS, but I say again that the experience was not positive. It is very frightening to be kept in the dark and confused about such a case that is so personal and life-changing for you after being involved in it as I was. My heart goes out to the bereaved families who I understand have had similar bad experiences.
107. I have been asked to set out whether I had any interactions with the HM Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate, I can confirm that I cannot remember at this stage if we were ever contacted by HMCPSI.
108. I have been asked to set out any thoughts, reflections or concerns about the police's response on the night of the attacks. In this respect, I can confirm that it is really concerning that this man was able to commit such awful acts on Grace, Barnaby and Ian in the early hours of the morning and then have time to commit the crimes that followed without being caught or stopped beforehand. The first attack was witnessed and called into the police. They had a description

of him, knew the direction he was heading in and also that he was armed and dangerous. I cannot understand how he was not found and stopped soon afterwards.

109. There are so many cameras around Nottingham, with a description of VC, I do not know how he managed to stay hidden for such a long time. This man was able to continue for a long time, ruining the lives of so many people because there was not a quick response from the police.
110. If he had been looked for, and found sooner, it would have saved so much further sadness. VC was able to get into Ian's van and drive through the City. The van was not identified by the police before he hit me and was not being tailed or followed. I find it unbelievable that he was not spotted and stopped.
111. There needs to be more police on the street, and on duty, to find murderers on the loose and stop them before they commit further disgusting crimes. There should be procedures in place to make certain there is a proper response by the police to any serious crimes which are committed and where the attacker remains at large. If there had been more police or resources assigned to finding this man, it may well have prevented the further events and attacks.
112. In respect of any thoughts, reflections and concerns about the police investigation, I can confirm that I was shocked to learn that the police had previous contact with VC. I was not told this straight away, and it is concerning that this was not identified earlier in the investigation.
113. I have been asked to set out what I was told about the unauthorised access of data by the police, HMCTS, HM Prison Service, the Probation Service, and other bodies. I can confirm that on 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024, I received a letter from Deputy Chief Constable, Steven Cooper, regarding the data breach within the police (**NGPF0004308**). I was provided with an update on the internal investigation following the Gross Misconduct Hearing they had that day.

114. The letter explained that a police officer committed a breach of the misconduct policy and standards of professional behaviour. I was told that the panel heard evidence about the officer accessing the incident file, the staff member was fired and barred from the police.
115. I also received a letter on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2025 from the NHS about a data breach **(NUHT0000118)**. The letter explained that the Trust were investigating the data breach and that they would keep us up to date with the outcome of their investigations. That is the only information I have received.
116. In respect of whether I consider that information provided to me by the public bodies about this unauthorised access of data was accurate and adequate, I can confirm that I understand that the information I have been provided with is accurate, but I do not think I have been given adequate information on why the breaches happened or what has happened to my information.
117. Finding out about these just made an already traumatising time so much more stressful. I regularly wake up, ruminating about it. My already really disturbed sleep was made worse by this. The lack of adequate information felt like I was being needlessly hurt once again.
118. I have been asked to set out any concerns I raised or complaints I made about the unauthorised access of data, and any response received. I can confirm that I have not made any complaints about the disclosure of data but I do not have all the relevant information yet into the investigation.
119. I have been asked to set out any concerns I have or raised to any other person or organisation, I can confirm that my main concerns lie with the police and how they dealt with VC before and on the day of the attack.
120. In respect of my views as to the adequacy of any response, I can confirm that I did not raise any formal complaint with the Police about their conduct. It was already too stressful without thinking of making complaints, but on reflection,

they could and should have done much more both before and on the day to prevent VC attacking me and others.

121. I have been asked to set out what recommendations I think the Chair of this Inquiry should make to ensure lessons are learned and to prevent similar attacks. In this respect, I can confirm that I think so much more needs to be done to monitor people who have mental health problems, particularly where they are known to the police as being potentially very dangerous and prone to violent outbursts. I cannot believe that VC had been reported to the police for attacking people, and nothing was done about it despite there being a warrant for his arrest at the time of these attacks. Knowing he could and should have been stopped makes what happened on the 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 so much harder to process.
122. There needs to be far better communication between all the healthcare, emergency and linked services in situations like this. People need to be speaking to each other so that nothing gets missed. It should not be the case that something so serious slips through the cracks because agencies are not working together properly. There also needs to be more regular use and checking of CCTV footage — not just in the aftermath, but in prevention too — so the authorities can be more aware of what is going on before it escalates, and to respond more quickly to serious crimes and crimes which leave the general public at risk..
123. Better treatment and support for mentally ill people is also so important. It is not just about punishment, it is about understanding and helping people before things reach crisis point. At the same time, I do believe that when individuals commit serious acts of violence, the consequences they face must properly reflect the harm they have caused. When sentences are too lenient, it can send the wrong message, that people can do things like this and not face the full consequences. That is not right, and it makes it harder for victims like me to find closure.

124. I do feel professional people do have to be held to account for their failings, with employers and regulatory bodies taking all appropriate actions, including disciplinary actions where necessary, when there have been serious failures.
125. I have struggled to keep up with all the various investigations that have taken place since these events. I am still learning. I feel it is too early to give a response to this question.
126. I have been asked to set out what recommendations the Chair should make in relation to the support provided to the families of victims of crime, and how such families are treated by public bodies. In this respect, I can confirm that I think the Chair should recommend that there is proper financial support available for victims and their families following serious crimes. After everything I went through, I had no financial help at all, which added a huge amount of stress on top of the physical and emotional impact of the attacks.
127. My partner, Martin, was looking after me every day, helping me with basic things like going to the toilet, getting in and out of the shower, and just managing daily life, but he was not allowed to claim Carer's Allowance. That felt incredibly unfair. We were left to struggle financially at a time when we should have been supported.
128. I also was not allowed to claim Personal Independence Payment (PIP). I had to use crutches and could not manage many basic tasks without help, but still, I did not qualify. It made me feel like what I had gone through did not matter to the system.
129. I think public bodies need to do more to recognise and support victims of serious crime, not just immediately after the event, but in the long-term too. The system felt cold and unsupportive — and that is not how victims should be treated. I hope the Inquiry recommends a proper review of how financial and practical support is provided, and that real changes are made so people like me are not left feeling abandoned.

130. I have been asked to set out what recommendations I think the Chair should make in relation to unauthorised access to disclosure of data. I can confirm that I believe there should be stricter safeguards in place to prevent unauthorised access or disclosure of victims' personal data, with serious consequences for any breaches.

**STATEMENT OF TRUTH**

I believe the content of this statement to be true. I understand that proceedings may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in the truth.

Signed

**GRO-B**

**Sharon Miller**

Dated 9/1/2026 | 10:47 AM GMT .....

## THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

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### INDEX TO FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF SHARON MILLER

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<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Inquiry URN</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	CPSE0000472	Victim Impact Statement dated 14 January 2024
<b>2</b>	WITN0279002	Photograph of infected calf
<b>3</b>	WITN0279003	Photographs of adaptations made to the home
<b>4</b>	WITN0279004	Letter from Independent Office for Police Conduct dated 4 July 2023
<b>5</b>	NGPF0000264	Note of police attendance dated 15 July 2023
<b>6</b>	WITN0279005	Letter from Independent Office for Police Conduct dated 29 September 2023
<b>7</b>	WITN0279006	Photograph of scar
<b>8</b>	WITN0279007	Letter from Victim Contact Scheme dated 23 February 2024
<b>9</b>	NGPF0004308	Letter from Deputy Chief Constable Steven Cooper dated 5 April 2024
<b>10</b>	NUHT0000118	Letter from Dr Manjeet Shehmar Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust dated 28 March 2025