

Witness name: John Milton

Statement No: WITN0398001

Dated: 13 February 2026

THE NOTTINGHAM INQUIRY

FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF DR JOHN MILTON

I, John Milton, will say as follows:

1. This statement responds to the Rule 9 request dated 16 January 2026. It provides details of my career and role in the Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust (“**NHFT**”), and my involvement with Valdo Calocane (“**VC**”).
2. This witness statement was drafted on my behalf by the external solicitors acting for the Trust in respect of the Inquiry, with my oversight and input, following discussions in writing by email and by video conference. I have also consulted with the Medical Protection Society during the drafting of my statement.

Qualifications, memberships, professional appointments

3. I graduated from the University of Birmingham Medical School with a BSc (Intercalated) in Pharmacology (completed in 1986) and a MBChB (completed in 1989).
4. In 1993, I became a member of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (membership number 9991).

5. In 1995, I graduated with a Masters in Medical Science (MMedSc) from the University of Leeds.
6. I have a Certificate of Specialist Training (CCST) in General Psychiatry dated 30 March 1998, and also a CCST in Forensic Psychiatry dated 4 July 2002.
7. In 2004, I completed a Higher Degree in Forensic Psychiatry at the University of Nottingham.
8. As to professional appointments, and since November 2018, I have been a Ministry of Justice Mental Health Tribunal Medical Member. Since February 2024, I have also been a Second Opinion Approved Doctor with the Care Quality Commission.

Career to date

9. From 2002-2004, I worked as a Senior Lecturer at the University of Leicester and the University of Nottingham. I also worked as a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist at Arnold Lodge (Medium Secure) Psychiatric Unit in Leicester.
10. From 2004-2019, I worked for NHFT as a Consultant Psychiatrist at Rampton (High Secure) Hospital in Nottinghamshire. Whilst at Rampton, I worked in both the personality disorder and mental illness services.
11. Since 2019 I have been retired from full-time NHS work and in receipt of my pension. However, I have carried on working in the following roles: as a Tribunal doctor for the Ministry of Justice, as a Second Opinion Approved Doctor for the Care Quality Commission, and in private practice undertaking medicolegal work (e.g. drafting psychiatric reports for legal proceedings). I have also worked as a Locum Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist in various posts as follows: Rampton Hospital (November 2019-2020 and January 2023-September 2023), Humber Centre Secure Unit in Hull (November 2020-August 2021), St Andrews Medium

Secure Unit in Northampton (September 2021-August 2022), remote ADHD clinic (2023-2024).

Interaction with VC

12. At the time of my interaction on 8 August 2023, I was a locum Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist at Rampton Hospital (in the Mental Health Directorate). VC, who was in Rampton Hospital's catchment area, had been referred for assessment and potential admission to high secure psychiatric care.
13. VC was referred for a high secure psychiatric assessment on 12 July 2023.
14. I exhibit the emails relating to the arrangement of VC's assessment to this statement. Having read the emails, I can see that I took the referral on 17 July 2023.
15. I can confirm that I then assessed VC at HMP Manchester on 8 August 2023.
16. My Psychiatric Assessment Report is dated 11 August 2023 and annexed to this statement [NHFT00002546]. I confirm that this is an accurate copy (bar the redaction of the NHS number), and that all the details of my assessment and time with VC are included.
17. I was told that VC's NHFT records were 'embargoed'. Rather than delay my assessment waiting for these to be provided, I chose to assess VC on the information available.
18. It is not unusual to not have had access to GP records for prison-based assessment. These are often procured later, after an admission, and by the Rampton Hospital medical records/Mental Health Administration team.
19. As set out at page 3, paragraph 9 of my report, I also had not seen the case summary, indictment or depositions relating to the alleged offences in June

2023. I would not necessarily expect to have depositions, indictment or case summary for an NHS-based assessment, especially for a remand prisoner. These are more often available to those assessors providing psychiatric reports for the court case (whether instructed by the CPS, Court or Defence).

20. Such documents can be helpful because they can include 'evidence' such as police interviews, police body-worn camera footage and forensic medical examiners or liaison mental health staff assessments. These can offer additional information about a defendant's mental state at the time of, or shortly after, arrest and in custody.

21. I exhibit emails relating to information received about VC (including access to VC's records) to this statement as well as my preliminary view following my interaction with VC.

Notes by Staff Nurse Ezekiel on 8 August 2023 [NGPF0003167, page 54]

22. These notes accord with my recollection. However, the note on 8 August 2023 only refers to a "psychiatrist". Assuming that another psychiatrist did not assess VC on that day, this is likely a reference to myself.

23. The notes make no additional comments about VC's mental state. Therefore, and based on my assessment, I cannot comment further.

Discussions with Janet Dale and Dr Kripa Ullal

24. I emailed Janet Dale on 9 August 2023 [NGPF0003167, pages 55-56]. I have nothing to add to the content of this email, and which I later noted in my assessment report. It reflects my discussion with Ms Dale and with Dr Ullal.

25. It has always been my practice to provide a preliminary opinion to prison-based clinicians, either by phone or email, and in advance of my final assessment report being sent to them.

26. As I was shown some of VC's letters which I thought were useful in helping to understand VC's inner world and mental state, but was unable to fully read them within the prison or make notes, Ms Dale was helpful in later sending me the letters.

Why VC was not transferred to a secure hospital until 1 November 2023

27. I am not able to specifically assist the Inquiry as to the reasons for this. However, if I was to speculate there may be two reasons as follows.

- a. There are sometimes delays in transfer due to the unavailability of a high-secure hospital bed.
- b. In the case of VC, as I hinted in paragraph 161 of my assessment report, there may have needed to be discussions at case manager and hospital level about the appropriateness of admission to Rampton Hospital, given that it is part of NHFT and the sensitivities of the then-alleged offences having occurred while he was under the care of the local Nottinghamshire Healthcare service.

Social Work Assessment of VC on 16 August 2023 at HMP Manchester by the social care team from Rampton Hospital [NGPF0003167, pages 266 and 268]

28. I was aware of this visit in principle because a social work review is always part of the assessment process. However, I was not specifically aware of the timing.

29. I do not recall contributing to this assessment.

30. I had email correspondence with my social work colleague Emily Doherty between 8 August 2023 and 23 August 2023 about her social work assessment and was able to read her initial draft. These emails are exhibited to this statement.

31. I am not aware of any other social work assessment / visit with VC whilst in prison.

Further contact with VC

32. I had no further contact with VC after my assessment on 8 August 2023.

33. I exhibit emails relating to the sharing of my report to this statement.

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 of its truth.

Signed:

GRO-B

Dated: 13 February 2026

Index to First Witness Statement of John Milton

No	Inquiry URN	Document Description
1	NHFT0001214	Referral letter to Rampton Hospital
2	NGPF0003167 (pages 55-59, 266 and 268)	Relevant extracts from VC's medical records
3	NHFT0002546	Dr Milton Psychiatric Assessment Report
4	NHFT0019283	Email from Lisa Jones (HMP Manchester Healthcare) to John Milton (NHFT), re: Letter from patient.
5	NHFT0019284	Letter from Adam Mendes (VC) to Prison Administration team, Re: concerns relating to being monitored.
6	NHFT0019285	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), John Wallace (NHFT), Katie James (NHFT) and others, Re: Live Referral Notification - VC(MH)
7	NHFT0019286	Email from Amanda Ferguson (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), re: Assessment - VC - HMP Manchester - 8/8/23
8	NHFT0019287	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Katie James (NHFT), Katie Hotson (NHFT) and others re: High secure referral information request - VC.
9	NHFT0019288	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: FW: Urgent Consideration

10	NHFT0019289	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Mark Taylor (NHFT), Susan Elcock (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent consideration - referral of a Nottingham Man
11	NHFT0019290	Email from Andrew Horton (NHSE) to Alison Kemp (NHSE), Mark Taylor (NHFT), John Wallace (NHFT) and others, re: Referral of a Nottingham Man
12	NHFT0019291	Email from Lisa Jones (Greater Manchester Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust) to John Milton (NHFT) re: Lisa Jones shares "A Mendes" with you
13	NHFT0003871	Expert Report from Emily Doherty [Senior Forensic Social Worker], re: Social Circumstances Reports - Referral Assessment
14	NHFT0019293	Email from James Liddement (NHFT) to MHA Team (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT), Emily Alice Doherty (NHFT) re: Action live referral notification - VC(MH)
15	NHFT0019294	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), re: High secure referral information request - VC
16	NHFT0019295	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Katie Hotson (NHFT), Amanda Ferguson (NHFT), re: High secure referral information request - VC
17	NHFT0019296	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to

		John Milton (NHFT), Katie James (NHFT) re: High secure referral information request - VC
18	NHFT0019297	Email from Impact referrals England to Janet Dale [NHFT], Lauren Haddaway [NHFT], Karen Simpson [NHFT] and others, re: High secure referral information request - VC
19	NHFT0019298	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Katie James (NHFT), Katie Hotson (NHFT) and others, re: High secure referral information request - VC
20	NHFT0019299	Email from Karen Simpson (NHFT) to John Wallace (NHFT), MHA Team (NHSC), Katina Anagnostakis (NHFT) and others, re: High Secure Referral
21	NHFT0002009	Medical Records of VC from 17/06/2023 to 14/07/2023, HMP Nottingham, HMP Manchester re Patient Record
22	NHFT0019301	REFERRALS TO RAMPTON HOSPITAL – GUIDANCE AND REFERRAL FORM of Valdo Calocane
23	NHFT0019302	Letter from Kripa Ullal to Team at Health and Justice Integrated Mental Health Team Re: STRICTLY PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL: Name: Valdo Calocane “Adam Mendes”
24	NHFT0019303	Referral Form to Adult Secure Inpatient Services for VC
25	NHFT0019304	Email from Emily Alice Doherty

26	NHFT0001332	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT) and Jane Rollinson (NHFT), Re: New Referral (MH) - VC
27	NHFT0019306	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT) and Jane Rollinson (NHFT), Re: New Referral (MH) - VC
28	NHFT0019307	Email from Jackie Milburn (NHFT) to Ian Yanson (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT) and John Wallace (NHFT), Re: Referral VC (HMP Manchester)
29	NHFT0019308	Email from Lauren Haddaway (NHFT) to Jackie Milburn (NHFT), Re: Referral Shet Query
30	NHFT0019309	Email from Ian Yanson (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Jackie Milburn (NHFT) and John Wallace (NHFT), Re: Referral VC (HMP Manchester)
31	NHFT0019310	Email from Janet Dale (GMMH) to John Milton (NHFT) and Lisa Jones (GMMH), Re: Re
32	NHFT0019311	Email from Jane Rollinson (NHFT) to Susan Elcock (NHFT), Mark Taylor (NHFT), Adele Fox (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
33	NHFT0019312	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to Susan Elcock (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT), Mark Taylor (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
34	NHFT0019313	Email from Susan Elcock (NHFT) to Mark Taylor

		(NHFT), Adele Fox (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
35	NHFT0019314	Email from Susan Elcock (NHFT) to John Wallace (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT), Mark Taylor (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
36	NHFT0019315	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: Urgent Consideration
37	NHFT0019316	Email from Joy Fisher (NHFT) to Susan Elcock (NHFT) and John Milton (NHFT), Re: Urgent Consideration
38	NHFT0019317	Email from Mark Taylor (NHFT) to Adele Fox (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT), Susan Elcock (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
39	NHFT0019318	Email from Susan Elcock (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT) and Joy Fisher (NHFT), Re: Urgent Consideration
40	NHFT0019319	Email from Ian Yanson (NHFT) to Mark Taylor (NHFT), Adele Fox (NHFT), John Milton (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
41	NHFT0019320	Email from Susan Elcock (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: Urgent Consideration
42	NHFT0019321	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: Urgent Consideration
43	NHFT0019322	Email from Susan Elcock (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), John Wallace

		(NHFT), Mark Taylor (NHFT) and others, Re: Urgent Consideration
44	NHFT0019323	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
45	NHFT0019324	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
46	NHFT0019325	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
47	NHFT0019326	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
48	NHFT0019327	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
49	NHFT0019328	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
50	NHFT0019329	Report dated 22/08/2023, compiled by Emily Doherty Re: Rampton Hospital Forensic Social Care Service, Social Circumstances Report
51	NHFT0019330	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
52	NHFT0019331	Expert Report from Emily Doherty, Senior Forensic Social Worker, re: Rampton Hospital Forensic Social Care Service Social Circumstances Reports
53	NHFT0019332	Email from Amanda Ferguson (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment - typing
54	NHFT0019333	Letter written by VC

55	NHFT0019334	Email from Emily Doherty (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC assessment
56	NHFT0019335	Email from Janet Dale (HMPM) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC/AM HMP Manc
57	NHFT0019336	Medical Records of VC from 10/07/2023 to 07/08/2023, HMP Manchester, re Patient Record
58	NHFT0019337	Email from Janet Dale (HMPM) to John Milton (NHFT), Re: VC/AM HMP Manc
59	NHFT0019338	Email from Lisa Jones (GMMH) to John Milton (NHFT) and Janet Dale (HMPM)
60	NHFT0019339	Email from John Wallace (NHFT) to John Milton (NHFT); re: VC