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COMPULSORY
EXAMINATION

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INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION

THE HONOURABLE MEGAN LATHAM

COMPULSORY EXAMINATION

OPERATION TUNIC

Reference: Operation E13/1800

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

AT SYDNEY

ON FRIDAY, 27 MARCH 2015

AT 1.39PM

Any person who publishes any part of this transcript in any way and to any person contrary to a Commission direction against publication commits an offence against section 112(2) of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act 1988.

This transcript has been prepared in accordance with conventions used in the Supreme Court.

THE COMMISSIONER: This is a compulsory examination arising out of an investigation into allegations and circumstances which imply that Darren Bullock, the former district manager of the Mine Subsidence Board at Picton, received or may have received corrupt payments or other benefits as an inducement or reward for showing favourable treatment to a building contractor, namely Kevin Inskip of Plantac Pty Limited, whether, whether he revealed confidential information, tender information to Plantac Pty Limited, whether Mr Bullock breached the Board's financial delegations policies and/or procedures in relation to the awarding of contracts and the making of payments to Plantac Pty Limited and whether he received or may have received corrupt payments or other benefits as an inducement or reward for showing favourable treatment to Mr Kendall of Will Built Homes Pty Limited while Mr Bullock was employed by the MSB from about November 2003 to December 2014.

I direct pursuant to section 112 of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act that the evidence given by this witness, the contents of any exhibits tendered, the contents of any documents shown to the witness, any information that might enable the witness to be identified and the fact that the witness has given evidence today shall not be published or otherwise communicated to anyone except by Commission officers for statutory purposes or pursuant to further order of the Commission. It is a criminal offence for any person to contravene this direction. This direction may be varied or lifted by the Commission without previous notification if the Commission is satisfied that it is necessary or desirable to do so in the public interest.

I DIRECT PURSUANT TO SECTION 112 OF THE INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ACT THAT THE EVIDENCE GIVEN BY THIS WITNESS, THE CONTENTS OF ANY EXHIBITS TENDERED, THE CONTENTS OF ANY DOCUMENTS SHOWN TO THE WITNESS, ANY INFORMATION THAT MIGHT ENABLE THE WITNESS TO BE IDENTIFIED AND THE FACT THAT THE WITNESS HAS GIVEN EVIDENCE TODAY SHALL NOT BE PUBLISHED OR OTHERWISE COMMUNICATED TO ANYONE EXCEPT BY COMMISSION OFFICERS FOR STATUTORY PURPOSES OR PURSUANT TO FURTHER ORDER OF THE COMMISSION. IT IS A CRIMINAL OFFENCE FOR ANY PERSON TO CONTRAVENE THIS DIRECTION. THIS DIRECTION MAY BE VARIED OR LIFTED BY THE COMMISSION WITHOUT PREVIOUS NOTIFICATION IF THE COMMISSION IS SATISFIED THAT IT IS NECESSARY OR DESIRABLE TO DO SO IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST.

THE COMMISSIONER: I direct that the following persons may be present at this compulsory examination, namely Commission officers including

transcription staff, the witness Mr Kevin Inskip and the witness's legal representative, Mr Eric Oates and Mr Oates, you have leave to appear for these purposes.

MR OATES: If the Commission pleases.

THE COMMISSIONER: I take it Mr Inskip wants to receive the benefit of a section 38 order?

10 MR OATES: If you please, Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Pursuant to section 38 of the Independent Commission Against Corruption Act, I declare that all answers given by this witness and all documents and things produced by this witness during the course of the witness's evidence at this compulsory examination are to be regarded as having been given or produced on objection and there is no need for the witness to make objection in respect of any particular answer given or document or thing produced.

20

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 38 OF THE INDEPENDENT
COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION ACT, I DECLARE THAT
ALL ANSWERS GIVEN BY THIS WITNESS AND ALL
DOCUMENTS AND THINGS PRODUCED BY THIS WITNESS
DURING THE COURSE OF THE WITNESS'S EVIDENCE AT THIS
COMPULSORY EXAMINATION ARE TO BE REGARDED AS
HAVING BEEN GIVEN OR PRODUCED ON OBJECTION AND
THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE WITNESS TO MAKE OBJECTION
IN RESPECT OF ANY PARTICULAR ANSWER GIVEN OR
30 DOCUMENT OR THING PRODUCED.**

30

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Inskip, before we commence could I just remind you as I did on the previous occasion that you're obliged to tell the truth to any question that is asked of you even if that might involve you or rather incriminate you in the commission of an offence or in any future civil proceedings and the order that I just made under section 38 operates to protect you from the use of those answers in civil or criminal proceedings but does not protect you if it should be found that you have misled or lied to
40 the Commission. You understand that?

MR INSKIP: Yes, I do.

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Naylor.

MR NAYLOR: Thank you, Commissioner.

Sir, your name is Kevin Brian Inskip?

MR INSKIP: That's correct.

THE COMMISSIONER: Oh, I'm sorry, perhaps he should be sworn, Mr Naylor. I jumped the gun. Do you wish to be sworn or affirmed, Mr Inskip?

MR INSKIP: Oh, the Bible's fine.

10 THE COMMISSIONER: Okay.

MR INSKIP: Excuse me.

<KEVIN BRIAN INSKIP, sworn

[1.43pm]

THE COMMISSIONER: Yes. Sorry, Mr Naylor, yes.

MR NAYLOR: Sir, your name is Kevin Brian Inskip?---That's correct.

And you reside, sir, at [REDACTED]?---Correct.

10 All right. What's your date of birth?---[REDACTED].

You're a director of Plantac Pty Limited?---Yes.

And Plantac Pty Limited is a building contractor?---Yes.

How long have you been a director of Plantac for?---Over 20 years.

Right. You established the Plantac company?---Yes.

20 Sir, have you informed your wife, Barbara Inskip, that you're here today?
---Yes.

Does Plantac Pty Limited, sir, own any property?---Not, not, the
superannuation fund does but not, not the company.

All right. Has Plantac Pty Limited ever owned any property?---Oh, um, I'm
not sure of that, you'd have to ask my wife, I, I don't know, we've, we've
had properties, you know, but I don't know whether they, any of them were
in the company name or it may have been, there may have been one at Tea
30 Gardens that was in the company name but I honestly can't recall.

All right?---Because we used to have the house that's in the super fund now,
in a self-managed fund, it used to be in the name of Manuka Building
Services, that was the -- look, that side of it I don't have anything to do with
it.

Who is Manuka Building Services?---It was a company that we owned and
they were, they managed the, the fund.

40 You don't have that company anymore?---No, no, then we -- that changed
into Plantac Superannuation Fund.

I see?---Yeah.

Sir, the Commissioner has convened this compulsory examination today as I
understand because you wished to disclose information or because you
wished to change your evidence from your, from the previous occasion that
you were here. Is that correct?---That's, that's correct, that's correct.

What would you like to say to the Commission?---Well, there are items that I recall when I left here that I wasn't happy with the answers that I, that I gave um, at the time some of them I honestly – look, when I, when I came in here, and I still am, I was scared, right um, it was a very difficult situation. I've gone away, reflected on, on some of those answers and I don't feel right in not coming forward and saying that I um, excuse me, coming forward and just saying, well, look, you know, I do have information in regards to those, some of those questions that I was asked
10 before.

Well, what, what specifically do you want to say?---Well - - -

What information do you want to provide?---Ah, one, one, one item that I, comes – well, there's, there's a couple. The um, the one about did I know about, did Darren Bullock ever tell me that he had authority to um, to, you know, sign off on \$50,000.

Yes?---And I'm pretty sure I said I couldn't remember at the time. Well, I, I
20 do, do know that he can sign off at \$50,000.

How do you know that?---Well, he obviously told me at some stage.

Right. And - - -?---Yeah.

- - - did you make use of that information in some way?---There were times where he, I – and I can't tell you the, the, the projects or the jobs, excuse me, where he's told me that, you know, I, might have come in with, with a price, say 50-something thousand, you know, and he's told me that if I, if,
30 you know, if I can reduce it he can sign off it straightaway and we can start the, start the work.

Well, when, when, when you say you'd come in with a price of say - - -?
---This is on, this is - - -

- - - something over 50,000, are you talking about having had a conversation with Mr Bullock?---No, no, no, this is – he asked – there was a few times where he asked for quotes, like just normal quotes that you would normally, a builder would do on a letterhead, da da da.
40

Yes?---I queried that with him a couple of times and I said, "How come we're not, you know, doing the normal tender form process?" And he told me that he, he was allowed, he had authority to do it that way and I said, "Well, fine." And he said, you know, so, well, yeah, I didn't put the quotes in, I, I'd tell him verbally, you know, like say for example, look, I've worked it out, it's probably 50, just over 50 grand, and he's told me, well, you know, if you can make it under 50 um, I can sign off on it straightaway.

All right. So let me try to understand this. You had, at least on one and perhaps more occasions, I don't know, you had a conversation with Mr Bullock prior to submitting a quote or a tender to the MSB?---Yes.

And on those occasions or at least, there was at least one occasion, he told you to come in under 50,000?---He told me that he could sign off on it, if it was under 50,000 he could sign off on the job.

10 All right?---Now, I can't think of too many that were like that. See, most of the time everything was on a tender form, the only time that, that could have ever happened was if the, is if um, he did it on a, like just a normal ah, quotation basis, you know, like on a letterhead instead of the MSB um, tender form.

Well, in what circumstances, what would be the circumstances in which you would just prepare a quote that wasn't a tender?---No, he'd still, he'd still give a brief, right, a specification - - -

20 Yes?--- - - - but instead of putting it on, you know, the standard form, he'd still, we'd still get the um, the, the, you know, the tender documents - - -

Yes?--- - - - which would say okay, concreting, electrical, whatever, you know, go through all the items, and that's what we'd tender on, but we didn't get a tender form with it, a standard tender form, we submitted it, we tendered that as per - and it would, it would have had on the, on the quote I'm sure, as per your, you know, specifications number, da da da da.

30 Yes, so - - -?---So it's not, it's not something you just walk around verbally and, you know, for that sort of money um - - -

Why would you not have received a tender form?---I, I don't know. I asked him a couple of times. I said, "How come, why are we putting this on a letterhead - - -

Okay?--- - - - instead of putting it on a tender form?" And he said he was allowed to do it.

40 All right. And so your quote went onto letterhead instead of the tender form?---Yes.

All right. And prior to submitting that tender, prior to submitting that quote you had a conversation with Mr Bullock in which he said I've got authority to sign off on not more than 50,000. Is that right?---That's right.

Okay?---Yeah.

And did that - - -?---Not more, not more - - -

All right?--- - - - than 50,000. Yeah, that's what you said didn't you. Sorry. Yeah.

Not more than 50,000?---Yeah. Like if it was under 50,000 he could sign off on it.

Okay?---Yeah.

10 And did that influence you in the preparation of your quotation?---Probably in the favour of the Mine Subsidence Board actually because, you know, like if ah, if I, if I worked out the quote and it was say going to work out like to 52 or whatever well, I probably just, yeah, I probably went well, bugger it, three or four grand I'll reduce my price and I can get on with the job. But he could sign off on it straightway.

Well, you, you'd be out of pocket would you not by three or four grand if you went - - -?---It's - - -

20 - - - under 50,000?---What you lose on the merry-go-round you catch on the roundabout. You know, I wouldn't - I wasn't worried about that. Quite often I'd do a quote for the MSB that would go on a tender form. I'd look at the quote and say to make sure I got the job and I'd probably take 10 per cent off my quoted figures.

Would you try to recoup those losses by submitting variations afterwards? ---Well, you - yeah. Well, every builder does. You hope that you pick it up. I mean Lend Lease, Leightons, they all do it. It's, you know um, you try and pick up your margins in your, in your um, in your um, variations, yes.

30

Yeah. Did you have a conversation at any time with Mr Bullock about that particular practice?---What, picking up extra money on variations?

The practice of going in under 50,000 and then submitting subsequent variations and trying to recoup the difference in that way?---Well, I wouldn't have, I wouldn't have said to him that, you know, that that's - I'm just trying to think. Um - - -

40 Do you remember, do you remember - - -?---Look, I - - -

I don't mean to interrupt. I'm sorry?---Yeah. No, that's okay. Look, I'm honestly trying to, you know, think, to try and think of a specific situation where I would have said that to him. I can't think of an instance where I would have, you know, that that, that actual conversation has come up.

All right. This, this, this conversation that you're referring to and which Mr Bullock said that he could authorise - he could approve the tender if it was under 50,000 - - -?---Yeah.

- - - about how long ago do you think that was?---Well, the only one that comes to mind that was um, you know, without – I don't know how many jobs without looking at all the jobs but the only one that comes to mind that would have been like that would have been Brundah Road ah, Thirlmere.

Which number Brundah Road?---Oh, I don't know.

10 All right. Could it have been - - -?---But we did, you know, there was one street that we nearly did, you know, every job in the street, not, not all for Darren, for various people. I can't remember the number. Might have been maybe 49 or something like that.

All right. So I understand what you're saying today, Mr Inskip, is that you wanted to come back to tell the Commission about the fact that you'd had this conversation with Mr Bullock in which he said to you if you bring your quote in under \$50,000 he could approve it. That's right?---That's right.

20 And is there anything else that you want to tell the Commission about today?---Yes.

What?---Um, there was another question that I was asked which I – at the time I was stumped with because I, you know, it was just about Brooks Point Road and um, whether I had any information prior to the tender being submitted about the other tenderers' prices and um, he did tell me the prices. I don't know how he, how he did it because the tender closed on, on the Friday. Um, he – the part – the reason why I hesitate because I can't remember how he told me but I do know he told me. I don't know whether he told me to my face or over the phone that - - -

30 Which – pardon me, I'm sorry. Which property?---It's a property in Brooks Point Road.

Brooks Point Road?---Yes, sorry, at Douglas Park.

Right?---'Cause I'm sure that was the place that I was asked the question.

Could it have been, sir, Moreton Park Road?---Oh, what did I say?

40 Brooks Point?---Oh, yeah, Moreton Park Road. I don't know, anyway, Douglas Park.

Yeah?---It was a, it was a job there, there was three tenderers on it, that was all done, you know, the normal way into the tender box, da da da, but somehow Darren is able to find out the other two prices and he told me before I put my price in but I'm pretty sure I already worked it out anyway.

How did he tell you?---That's what I'm saying, that's why I -- I, I don't know if it was face to face, I mean, I, I really don't have that great a memory, you know, but he told me it was either over the phone, I suspect it was over the phone. Um, I don't recall having a face to face with him but I'm not a hundred per cent sure but I, what I do know for a fact is that somehow he knew the other two prices and, you know, I think he, he, he's obviously told me what the lowest price was. It didn't make any difference to me as far as I can remember, I'm pretty sure I had already filled my quote out. I mean I can't be 100 per cent sure about that but he did definitely tell me what the lowest price, price was of the other two.

10

Had you - - ?---And those, and those guys, I've never seen them before.

Had you submitted your quote at the time that he told you what the other guy's prices were?---No.

Right. Do you remember when you submitted your quote?---I don't know if I hand-delivered it to the tender box or sent it by post, I'm not sure.

20 Right?---There's only two methods that we would normally send in quotes, is either by, I don't think any -- which I wouldn't know anyway 'cause I don't have anything to do with the computers um, either by mail, you know, like Express Post or would drop it into the tender box, I mean if we - - -

How did you usually do it?---Well, it varied, if I wasn't down there I wouldn't, I'd put it in the post.

30 Right?---I wasn't going to drive all the way from [REDACTED] down there to put a, you know, a tender in a, in a box, you know. Sometimes I did, sometimes I didn't.

Right?---And it'd just go to the post box and, oh, well, whoever goes and gets the mail would open it, it'd have just tender written on the, you know, the Express Post pack and they'd, they'd put it in the ah, in the tender box so I don't know, I never -- there's a tender box there which we built, you know with "Tender box" in, in the front counter.

Plantac built the tender box?---Yeah.

40 Right?---Nice job too actually, it's with all engraved lettering and stuff with "Tender box" and - - -

Well?---Not the box itself, the engraving for the top - - -

Okay?--- - - - sorry, and did the cut out.

Apart from Mr Bullock telling you what the prices of the other tenderers were did he say anything else when you had that conversation with him?

---Like I said I don't know, well, I know that he, he told me the price, I don't even know whether he told me to my face, which I'm pretty sure it was and I'm pretty sure it was over the phone so he wouldn't have, he wouldn't have elaborated, you know, had any big long conversation with me if he, if he told me that, that's for sure.

10 Okay. So - - -?---So and what I'm saying with the, with the tender so if someone goes to the mailbox, whoever that might have been, they're the ones that actually open the envelopes, right, and they put it into the tender box.

I understand?---Yeah, okay.

I understand. So you've told the Commission this afternoon about – that that conversation that you had with Mr Bullock in which he told you the prices of some other tenderers and about the conversation in which he said that he could approve a quote if it came in under 50,000?---Yes.

20 But anything else you want to tell the Commissioner today?---Yes.

What?---Yes, um, he did receive payments from us.

All right. And how much?---I would not have a clue. Um, that, that side of it was – all I did was relay that information back to the office and that information was kept in the office by the bookkeeper and then, you know, I'd just ask for, for money which I took down and paid him periodically.

Can you step me through the process - - -?---Yeah.

30 - - - money was paid to Mr Bullock?---How it all started off?

40 Yes, please?---All right. What would happen, we'd um, the – and this didn't happen on every job, at the end of a job there would be, look, 99.9 per cent of the times there would – very rarely would it, one, you'd go through a job without any variations, right, because it's, it's like insurance where you're working on existing houses, you always find problems, so you could guarantee there would always be variations. Well, at the end of the variations I'd take them down, go through them with him, put the amount, you know, the sum of money of, you know, the total variation, Darren would then put on the bottom of the paper um, an amount of money which he expected to get and um, I took that back to the office, I gave it to the um, I, I redid the ah, the invoice, not, you know, just the amount, and I told the bookkeeper that that amount was money that Darren's put on which she kept a record of.

Who was the bookkeeper?---My wife.

So I'm just trying to understand this. So at the end of the job you would tally up what the, what the cost of the variations was?---Or, or, or during the job, you know, if it was a big job there would be variations would, would, might, might come up beforehand but normally most of the time I wouldn't um, I'd do all the variations right at the end.

Okay?---But there were, you know, there were times where there would be, you know, if it was a job that was going to be months or something for example, we would do periodical variations with the progress claims.

10

All right. Well, let's just take an example. Let's say the contract price is say \$45,000?---Yes.

And the total value of the variations is say \$20,000?---Yes.

And at the end of the job what you're saying is that you'd go through with him the, the cost only of the variations or the cost of the total job including the variations?---No, no, no, just the variations.

20 Just the variations?---Yeah.

So that means you'd have a meeting with Mr Bullock?---Yes.

And where would these meetings take place?---Always on, on, on the site.

On the site?---Yeah.

And, and you'd show him - - -?---Well, you know, to the best of my memory, I mean that's where it normally would be, I couldn't, I couldn't
30 100 per cent guarantee that it was on that site - - -

Okay?--- - - - that we were working every time, it might have been, you know, I might have been, you know, I might have been on another site that we were working on that I said, look, I've, you know, got the varies for the job around the corner or something, can you come and have a look at this, and, you know, so it didn't necessarily mean it was always on that site.

So you'd have with you wherever you were, you'd have the documents showing the variations on a particular job?---Yes.
40

And you'd sit down and you'd have a conversation with Mr Bullock about them?---Yes.

And you'd show him what the total value of the variations were on a particular job?---Yes.

And he would, correct me if I'm wrong, what you're saying is he would note on a document that you had, the amount that he expected to get?

---That's correct.

Right. And was that usually some particular percentage or proportion of the total - - -?---No.

- - - value of the variations?---No, he'd just look at it and put a figure on there.

10 Right. And that's - - -?---It was never, it was never, you know, it was never, like, consistently, say for example 500 or 1,000 or something, it was, I don't know. He must have, I don't know what was obviously going through his head but he just, he'd, he'd look at it and think for a few, you know, a minute or so and then put a figure on there and hand it back to me.

Right. And then what, you took that document with Mr Bullock's handwriting on it - - -?---Handwriting, yep, yep.

- - - back to your office - - -?---That's correct.

20 - - - and you gave it to your wife?---No, no, I, no, I, I rewrote all um, the, the invoice amount - - -

Yes?--- - - - on there and I just, and then I'd put a note on there that ah, that Darren, the amount that Darren had put on there, right, so we increase, and then I um, just discarded the, the original.

I'm not, I'm not quite following. When you say you rewrote the invoice, does that mean to say that you incorporated the amount that Mr Bullock had written on the invoice into your invoice?---That's correct.

30 Right?---Yeah.

So if the total, if for example the total value of the variations was \$20,000 and if for example Mr Bullock had written an amount of \$3,000 on the bottom of the page - - -?---That would be \$23,000.

- - - you would add \$3,000 to your invoice?---That's right.

40 Right. And then it would be recalculated and you'd issue a fresh invoice?
---Yes.

Right?---And I'd discard that paper, you know, that he wrote it on.

Okay?---That he, his handwriting.

All right. And how then would Mr Bullock get this money?---He'd, he's, ah, he'd ask me, you know, like when he saw me or when he'd ring and say,

ah, somehow he'd, he'd communicate with me and tell me he needed some money.

Yes?---And then I would just ask Barb. Just say, "Look," it was never any specific amount I'd say, "Look, I need some money." You know. And she'd go to the bank and get me whatever you know, denominations or whatever or it was, nothing consistent. I wouldn't even look in it. She'd bring it home and just leave it still in the envelope and I'd just take it down and give it to him. I, I, I had no idea what was in there, you know the
10 amounts and how many times, I couldn't tell you how many times I did that

All right?---- - - - or what the amounts were that were in there.

And, and would the amounts always be in cash?---Yes.

Right. And the envelopes would be left somewhere for you to collect, would they?---For me to take?

20 Yes?---Yeah. At home.

Right. Whereabouts at home?---Ah, I don't know. In her, I don't know, it could be anywhere, on the bar.

Yeah?---In the, um, wardrobe.

All right. And you would have had a conversation with Mr Bullock prior to that saying, "I want some," he would say to you, "I want some money."?
---He would say to me?

30 Yes?---That's correct.

All right. And you would then, at that time, make an arrangement for the two of you to meet for you to hand over the envelope?---No, no, no.

Right?---I just, 'cause I never knew. I'd just tell Barb I needed some money and when she got it, she got it and then next time I went down there or, you know, I'd ring him and say, "Look, I need to see you."
All right?---And give him, give him the payment.

40 So when you received the envelope, you would then contact him and say, "I need to see you."?---Not like that very second, no.

Right?---Because that envelope might be, might've been sitting in the drawer at home or you know, and whenever I was going to go down next time down there I'd take it with me and then just call him and tell him I need I see him.

Okay?---So there wasn't any, um, you know, anything regimental or that it went and then the next the day I took it down there. You know, it might've been, it might've sat in the drawer for a few days.

I see. And he, he, did he at any time, for example, say to you, "Ah, look in relation to that vary where I wrote on the bottom \$3,000 - - -?---Yeah.

- - - can I have that \$3,000? That wasn't how the system worked?---No.

10 Right?---He just got what, whatever he got apparently.

Okay?---There was no, there was no, there was no hard and fast rule, you know. It was just, Barb would just take an amount of money out of there and keep record of it.

THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Inskip, sorry. When you say that he got what he got, I understood to you say that you would rewrite the invoice to include the figure that Mr Bullock had written on the, on the, on the original invoice?---Yes.

20

But you - - -?---Ah, 'cause that might be just the hand, handwritten copy.

I understand that?---Yeah.

But, but then you said that you would tell your wife how much money Mr Bullock wanted?---No, no, I'd just write it on, on the invoice and say, "That's Darren's."

All right?---Yeah.

30

So the, the redrafted invoice that included the additional amount - - -? ---Yeah.

- - - would also, would also include a note to say this much money - - -? ---Was Darren's.

- - - was Darren's?---Yeah.

40 And your wife would put that much money, that much cash as it were into an envelope and leave it for you somewhere?---No, no, no, no, no.

No?---No, no.

That's what I'm trying, I'm trying - - -?---Yeah. No, no, no.

- - - to understand - - -?---Yeah, no, no. Yeah. No, no, no. Not, not at all. What, what would happen it's basically right up to the fact about that amount being left there. Whatever, whatever the amount, amounts of,

excuse me, that Darren had put on these invoices it was, there was like a, I guess, a ledger kept which would be discarded apparently like once it got paid I believe.

A ledger kept by who?---By Barb.

Right?---She'd, well that's the only way she could tell what, basically what
- - -

- 10 Right?--- - - - the amount of money that Darren had been putting on these jobs so then she would just take, you know, she'd just go down and get a random amount of money.

Right?---And then she would take that off that, off that.

Okay. So she would keep a running ledger of, of all these amounts that Mr Bullock's - - -?---Yeah.

- 20 - - - Mr Bullock wanted?---And used to deduct whatever, whatever - - -

And then she would reconcile that at some stage with, with the money that she had provided to you to give to Mr Bullock?---Yeah, well, obviously that's what she did.

That's your understanding of it?---Yeah, well, that's the only way because I, I, I'm, I hate to admit it but I'm computer illiterate so I had no access or any idea about that but Barb was only doing what she was told to do, you know.

- 30 MR NAYLOR: She didn't organise the envelopes of cash in response to the document that you handed her with Bullock's notation on it, she organised the envelopes of cash when you asked her to?---Yeah.

Yeah?---Yeah, that's right. I'd ring her up or ask her when I got home and just say look, Darren's been hassling me for some money, can you get some money.

Yeah. Why, why were you making these payments to Mr Bullock?---Bad choice.

- 40 Well, whether it was a bad choice or not what was the purpose of paying Mr Bullock, why did you do it?---Well, obviously for, you know, there was a financial benefit to the company.

In, in what sense?---Well, because what - if, if Darren had put, you know, \$1,000 on the thing we would - it was equal less our, our ah, tax we, we got as well.

THE COMMISSIONER: You mean it was a financial benefit to the company in that you were being paid more or was it a financial benefit to the company because you then secured more work?---Both.

Both?---Yeah.

MR NAYLOR: How long ago did these payments start do you think?---Oh, probably seven years I suppose.

- 10 You, you went onto the – you first went onto the selected tenderers list in about 2004. Is that right?---Oh, probably. I'm not sure.

All right. Well, do you know how long after you started doing the work for the MSB that you started making these payments to Mr Bullock?---I couldn't, I couldn't tell you, you know, that because I've got – there's no record. You're actually asking me when – the first time it ever happened, is that - - -

- 20 Yeah, just a general – if you, if you can roughly estimate - - -?---Look, it, it probably did go back - - -

- - - when it started?--- - - - further than seven years but, you know, there's, there's absolutely no record or – of, of that and I couldn't honestly answer, you know, without saying – putting him in a situation that um, and, and telling lies that I said, you know, that I, that I gave him money when I didn't because I don't know, you know.

That's okay?---I just honestly don't know.

- 30 Just can I go back and clarify one thing. When you gave the document to your wife with Mr Bullock's notation on the bottom of it and the invoice was, was redrawn or reprepared and the amount that he had put on the bottom of the invoice was inserted into the invoice, how was that done, was it inserted into the cost of the variations?---Yes.

I see. If there were multiple variations on an invoice, would it be distributed across the multiple variations or just tacked onto the, onto the cost of one of the variations?---No, no, it'd be – if, if they were broken up - - -

- 40 Yes?--- - - - it'd be split over the, over the, you know, say 10.

Yes?---Um, if it was a lump sum thing obviously it was just tacked onto the end.

Right. All right. Are you able to say whether these payments took place on a regular sort of basis or was it sporadic?---I was going to say random but sporadic is the same thing. Yeah, it was sporadic. There was never, you know, every two weeks or anything like that. To be honest with you I tried

to avoid it but anyway. Um, yeah, no, it was just whenever. He'd normally, he'd normally ring me and just – or, you know, talk to me on the job and say look, can you get me some money, you know.

Why did you try to ignore it?

MR OATES: He said avoid it, I think.

MR NAYLOR: I'm sorry.

10

THE WITNESS: Yeah, I tried to avoid it because, you know, I was never comfortable with it, you know what I mean?

MR NAYLOR: Yeah, why - - -?---It's not something – well, I'm, as hard as it probably um, it is for you to believe I'm, I'm an honest person, you know what I mean, and um, I've just got caught up in this and ah, yeah, well I'll obviously live to regret it.

20

Right. You knew this was wrong, did you not?---Of course it's wrong.

Yes. When, when was the last time that you paid some money to Mr Bullock?---That I remember distinctly.

Yes?---It was on ah, I don't know the name of the street, it was the last, well, not the last tender we put in but the last job we did um, it was a little cul-de-sac – see, that's, that's the thing, you know, you work on so many jobs there, I can't remember all the street names. It was um, I don't know, whatever the last job was that we worked on, and I was going through the variations with him for that job.

30

This was the last job before he ceased to work for the MSB?---Last job we, we actually physically did there.

Right. So was this - - -?---No, I think he was still working there after that.

Yeah. Was this last year, 2014?---Yeah, yeah, last year.

Yeah, right?---Yeah.

40

What, second half of last year, last few months?---No, no, no, no, would have been probably more around November, end of October, something like that, toward that, that sort of thing, I don't know exactly.

All right. And do you remember how much you paid him on that occasion? ---Yeah, well, I got, 'cause I went and, I went and got that because um, which was unusual, 'cause Barb asked me what, where this money disappeared to um, I think it was \$4,400 I think.

Right?---Because I never, I didn't put anything in the cheque butt, I just took the -- went and got the cash and took it.

From what you've said, Mr Inskip, I understand that I might be repeating ground we've already covered, the amounts that Mr Bullock asked for when, when he noted up your documents, your invoices, not, not always the same amount?---No.

10 All right?---Well, I, what, the amounts that I gave him in the envelopes, is that, sorry?

No, no, no. When, when, when you met - - -?---My apology.

When you met onsite and you met with the documents and he wrote on the bottom of the documents - - -?---Yeah, sorry, yeah.

- - - and asked you how much he, told you how much he wanted?---Well, he, he didn't tell me, he wrote it on there.

20 He wrote it on?---Yeah.

The amounts were often different from one another?---Always.

Always?---Yeah. Always different.

Okay. And when, when you paid him this, this cash, when you've provided him these envelopes with cash inside, how did you know how much to put in the envelope?---I didn't, that's what I'm saying, he'd just get what he got.

30 He just, I see?---He'd be, he'd get, you know, whatever. Barb would normally go to the bank, it was very rare for me to do it, and as I said, I would tell her that I needed some money and she obviously knew what it was for, not always, like sometimes I needed money too, you know what I mean, because I, we didn't have a system of um, only up until about a year and a half ago where we actually paid proper wages, we were just taking money out of the company at random, you know, it was pretty loose actually, and um -- sorry, I lost my train of thought then, sorry, what did you ask?

40 That's all right. My question was, how did you, how did you come up with the amount to be put in the envelope?---Barb would just go down and get an amount, you know, a random amount out of there and just keep a record of what she did and then that amount, as I said, would just go into an envelope.

Do you - - -?---I didn't even know what was in there.

You didn't, you didn't say to Barb, oh, you need to put \$3,000 into an envelope?---No, no, no, no, no, not that I can remember saying that, no.

No?---No, it was always just I need some money.

All right?---And then she'd - - -

And did you have a particular understanding about how Barb would work out how much was to be put into the envelope?---No, I just left it up to her.

Right?---You know.

10

Did you ever have a discussion with your wife about this, this whole arrangement?---Well, she knew what I was doing.

Yes. How do you know that, because you've had a discussion with her? ---Well, she obviously knew what I was doing because um, why would she, why would I be telling her to, you know, keep record of these amounts for Darren and then go get cash out? Well, you know, it's not too hard to work out. I mean she wasn't part of, part of it or anything.

20

Do you, do you know how your wife accounted for these payments in the Plantac financial accounts?---Well, I didn't until recently, no, I never used um, because - - -

But you know something now about it?---Yeah, because you've been, you've been asking me to get documents for, you know, like cheque butts and so on.

Yes?---And then obviously I, you know, I'm, I'm seeing things that, on that and obviously even though I'm not allowed to talk to her I've got to, you
30 know, I've still got to talk to her, she's the only one that can get the information - - -

Yes?--- - - - and then I asked her with all those ah, ah, cheque butts or whatever they were, those list of, that I had to supply the other day, I said what, what's all this and she goes, oh - well, she, she wasn't too sure at the time, she said mostly I think Darren's.

Yes. Do you have an understanding now about how she accounted for or dealt with these payments in the accounts?---Oh, sort of.
40

What?---Like I said I've never, I've never had anything to do with the accounts side.

But what, what is your understanding now about how she accounted for these payments?---Oh, what, what did, what did she write - - -

How did she write them up?---Oh, apparently she'd just write, you know, some fictitious invoice or whatever down.

Right?---Yeah.

You may have been asked this question previously Don Bruce Kitchens?
---Yeah.

Have you ever used Don Bruce Kitchens?---No, no, that's obviously something that's, Barb must have made up to cover.

10 So if Don Bruce Kitchens appears in your accounts as a supplier to whom money has been paid and that money's been paid in cash - - -?---Yeah.

- - - is it a reasonable proposition that that money was given to Mr Bullock?
---Yes.

Yeah?---That's what I would, I would think.

20 And if there are other names of, well, what appear to be names in the accounts of suppliers which are in fact fictitious and they've been paid cash again it's likely that those are payments that were made to Mr Bullock?
---Yeah.

Yeah?---Yes and, and no, there would, there would be probably some in there that we've taken ah, money out ourselves, you know.

30 Yes?---Because as I said to you just a little while ago we never had a formal paying method and we were taking some sums of money out. Now whether Barb in, in, in amongst that, some of those included our personal stuff I don't know, which is probably what, what happened but I, I wouldn't have a clue, I couldn't look down that list and say oh, that's Darren's, that's Darren's, that's Darren's or that's something we took out for our own personal use, you know.

You've done work for the MSB for a number of years?---Yes, I can't tell you exactly but I think you'd, you'd know better than I would actually, I think you said 2004 to, yeah.

40 Well, you, you mentioned I think, your evidence was I think that you think these, you thought these payments were probably being made over a period of about seven years, is that right?---Yeah, it was - - -

MR OATES: I think he conceded that he thought it might have been longer when you mentioned 2004.

MR NAYLOR: Might, might have been longer?---Yeah.

All right?---It could have been, you know.

What I'm trying to understand is how much work Plantac received from MSB relative to your other work, relative to the rest of your turnover?
---Look, one, at some stages they were probably our best client, other stages, there was a period in, in where you're referring to that we didn't do one job for them for two and a half years.

And which period was that?---I don't, I don't know.

10 You don't know?---I don't know, we were, we, we just wanted a break from them and just had enough of it actually um, but that's probably going back, look, I don't know exactly, I don't know.

Okay?---I don't know but there was a, there was quite a long period I think it was nearly two and a half years, we didn't even do a job for them.

And when, when you say there was a time - - -?---And, and there's been other gaps where we haven't worked for them, you know, so it's not like we - they certainly aren't our lifeline, that's for sure.

20 Yeah. When, when you said that there was a time when they were your best client - - -?---Well, in turnover.

What, what do you mean, in terms of percentage of work derived from MSB?---Well, just that they were, you know, they were - - -

How much?---I beg your pardon?

30 If, if you had to put a percentage on, on how much work was MSB related work - - -?---What, at a peak period?

In terms of your total turnover how much would it be at the best of times?
---I, I couldn't tell you that without looking back through records. I mean -
- -

All right?--- - - - I'm only guessing, you know. I wouldn't have a clue.

Yeah?---I mean we've - I don't know how to answer that without looking at records, you know.

40 Have you had any conversations with Mr Bullock recently, say in the last three months?---Yes.

When was the last conversation that you had with Mr Bullock?---Well, unfortunately he, he's been turning up at our place right um, and there was one occasion where I was actually with Mr Oates and he turned - - -

With, with who? I'm sorry?---Eric.

Yes?---And um, which would have been, was that last week or the week before, week before, week before. My wife, you know, he'd just turn up because he's working um, for the council and he'd just turn up under the assumption I'm just doing a job around the corner and all this sort of business. Well, he actually turned up there um, it was yesterday I think. Do you mind if I consult with Eric for a sec?

If you -- I'm not -- -?---Can I -- I just -- -

- 10 I'm not asking you what your conversations were with Mr Oates?---No, no. I just -- because Eric knows um -- it was yesterday that I told when Barb -- he turned up and Barb told him -- yeah, thank you. I'm just, you know, that's how good my memory is at the moment, like I'm only trying to remember yesterday. He turned up yesterday. My wife has just been an absolute (not transcribable) because the guy -- we've been, you know, he just does not give up, you know. Anyway, she told him in no uncertain terms apparently to -- not to come back, not -- she wouldn't talk -- wasn't going to talk to him. He apparently told her that he was staying at his -- what -- no, it must have been Wednesday. What day is it today, Thursday?

20

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Friday.

THE COMMISSIONER: Today is Friday.

- MR NAYLOR: Today is Friday?---Friday. Well, it must have been Wednesday because he turned around and told -- or Barb reckons that he -- because she told me obviously what he -- that -- when I got home I said, "What did you say to him?" And she said, "I told him in no uncertain terms don't come back here, don't talk to us. You're destroying a", you know, her
30 life. Because she's just an absolute mess and um, and he said, "Oh, well, just tell Kevin that I'll be staying at my mum's place tonight if he wants to come and see me." And apparently she told him that don't, don't hold your breath on that because he's not going to talk to you.

- And so he turned up to your home?---He's done it three times, three, you know, and he just, like on the proviso -- look, we've been almost um, what would you call it, trapped in our own house, you know. Every time we hear a car go down the street we're peaking through windows in case it's him so we, you know, it's just been a -- the guy's a nightmare, you know, and he
40 just won't take don't, don't come near us.

The -- -?---He just doesn't get it.

The other two occasions when, when, when were they?---Well, I, I've been there once. Once I was actually working in the workshop. I saw this car come up. I actually pulled the garage door down. I was there painting a door and next minute he, he's gone up through the front and Barb has brought him down into the workshop and I said, "Mate." I said, "You're like

the grim reaper around here, you know.” Like I said, “You’re freaking us out. What’s” – he’d go, “Oh, just working around the, the corner.” And then there was another time where he caught me at the roundabout near my place and he must have been – I don’t know whether he parked up there waiting for me or – next minute I’m getting this flash in the back of my thing and he’s followed me home and, you know um, wanted to have a, you know, small talk and all that sort of thing and he’s just, yeah, it’s been not good.

- 10 Those two occasions, they were recent as well?---Oh, no, they were weeks ago.

Weeks ago?---I, I haven’t seen him – excuse me – I actually took off up to Tea Gardens for this reason earlier in the week and I came back because I wanted to speak to um, Eric and um, and then fortunately I did and um, because I just didn’t want to be here because, you know, the guy just creeps you out. He just, he’s likely to turn up at midnight and he will, he will just walk into your house and so - - -

- 20 And what - - -?---And say – and ask you what’s wrong.

Was he – I’m just interested in what he said to you on the occasions that you spoke with him?---Well, he seems to – he seemed to know a lot more than what he should about what’s been going on.

But do you remember - - -?---I remember - - -

- - - what he said or what the, words to that - - -?---Look, a lot of it’s small talk.

30

Yes?---One thing that I do remember him saying, he seemed to know that the rest of those guys from down there had been called in here um, and ah, I don’t know whether he told me or he might have told Barb, this is before Barb came in here, I’m pretty – I don’t think it was me he told but he, he, he seemed to know that Will Built had been in here. I don’t know, he just seemed to know, have information on what’s been going on in here and obviously he didn’t get it from us because I wouldn’t have a clue.

- 40 Was he trying to obtain information from you or was he trying to suggest to you that you should do something or not do something?---I’d say he’s probably trying to find out, you know, information off, off us, like he’s just making small talk and, and, yeah. Look, I really, I can’t remember the words that were used, all I know is that he seemed to have information about what’s been going on in here, so I don’t know, I couldn’t care less where he got it from, I didn’t want to know about it, I didn’t even want to talk about it, I didn’t want him on my property, you know.

Do you remember what car he was driving when you saw him recently?

---Ah, last time I saw him was at council, well, apparently that's what he told me.

Yeah?---That's why I didn't recognise, that was the time I was down at the garage, I just saw this grey thing come up and thing and I just, I just pulled the door down, you know.

Mmm?---And he still persisted.

- 10 All right. Now, you've told the Commission a number of this this afternoon, is there anything else that you want to tell the Commission?
---Yes.

- What?---Last year he, he turned up at our place at about 9.30, well, I think it was 10.30 at night, this is in December, and he said ah, I was, I'd been drinking, right, and um, 'cause I'd been drinking a fair bit because of my mum and my best mate and stuff, and anyway um, I was sleeping downstairs in a bedroom down there and Barb's come down and sort of
20 woke me up and I went upstairs all sort of, you know, what are you doing here, and anyway, he just turned around and said that um, he wanted to let me know that, to make sure that I remembered about the money that I gave him for the ah, the IVF um, treatment - - -

Yes?--- - - - and um, and I said, "What are you talking about?" I said, "I don't," 'cause that's like about six or seven years ago. I said, "Mate, I don't even remember seven - I was half, I was still half-intoxicated, you know, for a start, and anyway, I just said, "Yeah, whatever, mate. O.K." And so that's I guess stuck in my mind.

- 30 Yes?---And then I've come in, 'cause I couldn't turn around to you and tell you what I did six years ago or seven years ago and something like that or gave someone some money, you know, so that's obviously stuck in my mind and I've made a bad choice by yes, I did give him the money which I admitted to, but it was the way that I said that I gave it to him which I was wrong and it was, you know, basically 'cause he coached me and I'd just go yes and I just carried on with it. So I'm pretty sure that's after he'd been in here and he also told me to tell, tell um, if anyone asked that he paid the painter \$1,000, that he left it on, on the um, what do you call it, washing
40 machine or some, some damn thing from memory.

I'll come back to that in a minute. Can I just deal with the IVF issue - - -?
---Ah hmm.

- - - when he came around to your house and wanted to remind you about the money for the IVF?---Ah hmm.

And you mentioned the word coached. I just want to try and understand what, what you're saying. You've given some evidence on the previous

occasion at the Commission that that was a loan to help him out when he was on hard times in, while he was going through, his wife was going through an IVF treatment?---That's, that's -- which is true, she was going, that was happening.

Yes?---But -- and I obviously did give him money then.

Yes?---But what I'm saying was that, you know, that he's come around and I couldn't tell you, you know, how long ago it was, and told me all this, you
10 know, make sure I was reminded that it was a loan and that sort of thing that he gave me, not, so you know, I just carried on with it.

THE COMMISSIONER: At the time that you gave that money to him did you intend to give it to him by way of assisting in the IVF treatment or was it something that just happened to coincide with the fact that they were undergoing that treatment?---It was what you just said, it coincided with the, the fact that there would have been money -- there was no specific time that we gave him -- because there's nothing correlates, you know - - -

20 I understand that?--- - - - the, the dates and that so - - -

I understand that but - - -?---The money was, he's probably at the time like I said, that's six, seven years ago, I think his kids are like 6 they would be so obviously with the, the treatment that's say another year so it would be like seven years ago for example and, you know, but he, he wanted to make sure for whatever reason that I believed that that money, even though yes, we did give it to him and yes, I knew that I'd given him money, I know, I knew that, about the IVF and all that, there's only a few people that knew about it and um, whether he was full of it about hard times or not you can only, but
30 he wanted to make sure that I remembered that if I got called in here. This is before I even knew I was coming here, it was last year.

MR NAYLOR: But I just want to try and understand that the payment that was made that you remember having made to him, that wasn't intended as a loan to him at the time that he was, that he said he, that you said he was experiencing difficulties while going, while his wife was going through the, the IVF process?---That's -- well, yeah, I don't know why he wanted to insist that it was a loan, right.

40 Yeah. It wasn't a loan was it?---Well, I gave, I gave him money.

Yes?---You know, I gave him the money, it was a, it was a gift or whether it was off the thing, there was money that we definitely gave him and, you know, I don't even really remember him asking me to be honest with you about, you know, asking me that he was desperate for, for money at the time but he seemed to think that he did when he came around in December so I, you know, I took his word for it and my wife was there when he said it as well, you know.

Yeah?---And as I said and then he, he started to go on about the painter and it was just a few, a few items that he wanted to make, make sure that I knew about.

Tell me about the painter?---Well, he said if anyone um, asks you I paid the painter um, \$1,000, a painter that was working there that I paid him and left the money on the, on the washing machine and I said well, yeah, whatever, mate, you know.

10

Sorry, working where?---I'm sorry, at his house.

At his house?---Yeah.

And when was that?---Oh, obviously it was before, it must have been last year.

Right?---Obviously, I don't know if it was December or November.

20 Okay. I'm just trying to -- what, why would, why would you know anything about a payment in relation to work on his house?---That's what I'm saying, he told me if anyone asked he paid for the painter.

Yes?---The guy works for us.

THE COMMISSIONER: The painter is one of your painters is he?

MR NAYLOR: I see.

30 THE WITNESS: Yes, he's a subbie, he's a subbie.

MR NAYLOR: All right. And what did the work relate to, what was the work that was done?---I don't know, mate, he, he just, he was down there painting.

Yeah?---I didn't go around there and see what he was, you know, find out what he was doing, he was just painting.

Right?---Painting's boring, you know.

40

Okay. And was the painter engaged through Plantac?---We, we paid, we paid the, for that, yes.

I see?---And I bought the paint.

So that was work that Plantac did?---Yes.

Right, okay. And so what he's suggesting to you is that he engaged, he wants you to say that he engaged the painter and - - -?---That's right.

- - - paid the painter directly?---That's right.

Rather than Plantac having been engaged to do the work?---Absolutely.

Righto. And the name of the painter?---Ah, Brett Peace.

10 Peace?---Yeah. Sorry, I'm only, I'm only smiling because it's, the way it's spelt is like Pissie.

How do you spell it?---Pissie. P-i-s-s-i-e.

Okay?---It's some, yeah, sorry, I shouldn't make fun of it.

20 All right. Was there anything else that Mr Bullock said to you on this occasion when he spoke about the painter and when he spoke about the IVF?---Ah, yeah. And he, um, made another point about, um, the Reece bill and I said, "Well, mate, what are you, what are you carrying on about that for? I know it's on our account what are you trying to make, why are you making a big point about it." There were three points that he wanted me to know and I said, "Well, you know, yeah, okay. The Reece thing, what's problem there? He said, "Ah, I just want to you know. All right." And he, and then this, the IVF, right, which obviously we did give him money for that um, and which he obviously, I assume he used purpose 'cause I guess it is worth a lot of money and, um, and then also about the painter.

30 All right? I think the word you used which I may have heard incorrectly was re-spill, is that - - -?---No. Reece Plumbing.

Reece Plumbing?---Yeah.

I'm sorry. And - - -?---Yeah. We bought all this gear for his, he got a new, this towards the end of last year.

40 Yes?---And he got, um, apparently he got some new kitchen tops or some damn thing, right and, ah, he, and so I don't know why, I still don't know why he made a point of this but, um, his wife genuinely did go to Reece at Campbelltown apparently and got prices for all this stuff and, and, um, he asked me, "Ah, have you got an account with Reece?" And I said, "Yes." And he said, "Well look," and he gave me the booklet and everything and, um, he said, "I need this stuff" because his kitchen tops are coming in by a certain date and he said, "They can't get it in time out there. Can you see what you can do?" So I went to Taren Point where our account is and I da, da, da. She actually got, I could I believe it, a cheaper price on one item than our, our account price. Anyway, I sorted that out. Anyway, to cut a

long story short, I got the stuff, got it on time for him and he came over, um, to the house and picked it all up.

Yeah?---And, um, yeah. So I still don't know why he kept making such a big point about it.

Did he, who, who paid for the stuff?---Well obviously we've, we've paid for it. He hasn't paid for it.

10 Right. Did you expect that he would?---Oh, no.

Did you ask him to reimburse you?---No. I haven't. No, I didn't. I didn't. Because look at that stage - - -

Yeah?--- - - -Okay. I've, I've been going through a really, really bad, not only this, with my mum. She's been living in her house on her own for 28 years. And we've had to drag her out and put her in a home and, um, my best mate's just got, was at the same time, um, diagnosed with motor neurone. And, yeah, it's been bad.

20

Okay. All right?---Yeah.

Pardon me, Commissioner. Mr Inskip you, you gave some evidence about the conversation that you had with Mr Bullock when he told you those other quotes, he told you those other tender prices - - -?---Yeah.

- - - and you subsequently put in a quote?---Yes.

30 Did that kind of thing happen on just that one occasion or did it happen - - - ?---I never, I don't ever recall him doing that before. I don't even know how he did it, you know.

Right?---I don't know how he would have access to the tender box before, um, the tenders closed 'cause they close you know on a certain date at 2 o'clock and whatever that date is, well I know this for a fact, because it's common knowledge, any of the builders know this that they're not allowed, they're not supposed to open those tenders, um, until 2.00pm.

40 Yes?---And there's supposed, apparently there's supposed to be two people there to open it.

Yes?---So how, how he was able to tell me prior to that I've got no idea.

Okay. Do you know, do you know whether Mr Bullock had the kind of relationship that he's had with you that is, in receiving money from you, whether he's had that kind of relationship with other contractors?---What, on a friendly sort of basis or just, are you talking about financial?

Well, do you know whether any other contractors that the MSB engages - - -
?---Yeah.

- - - pay money to Mr Bullock like you've paid him money?---I've never
seen anybody pay Darren any money.

Right?---No.

10 You haven't had a conversation with any other contractors used by the MSB
in which they've disclosed to you that they've paid Mr Bullock money?
---Yeah.

Who?---Um, what's his name, um, Dave Salmon.

Yes. When did Mr Salmon tell you that?---Oh, mate, I don't know. He's,
he's - I couldn't tell you exactly but he has, he has told me. I've never seen
them do it but.

20 All right. Do you know what company Mr Salmon works for or owns?
---It's something like AD&J or something. It's - they're at Engadine.

All right. What else did Mr Salmon say, if anything, about - - -?---Nothing,
nothing specific.

- - - him paying money to Mr Bullock?---Nothing specific that I can think of
other than that I know that they had something going.

Okay?---Yeah.

30 Anyone else other than Mr Salmon to whom you've spoken about payments
being made to Mr Bullock?---No. The only, the only, the only person, and
probably um, and he's never said it to me but, you know, I've always only
suspected is that Will Built bloke.

All right?---But I, I, I virtually don't talk to that guy anyway so I don't
know. I've never had a conversation about it but.

Okay. Pardon me, Commissioner. I have no further questions. Thank you,
Commissioner.

40 THE COMMISSIONER: Mr Inskip, can I just ask you one question.
Whenever it was that this arrangement started there had to have been some
discussion between yourself and Mr Bullock about how this would work
because it wasn't something that you just started off your own bat out of the
blue. I mean was this something that - - -?---That's right.

- - - that he proposed to you?---Absolutely.

Can you remember what he said to you about how this would work?---No.

Not even in general terms?---Look, you could only assume that, you know – no, I'd, I'd - - -

All right?---I'd be, I'd be lying. I'd be making up, you know words that I don't - - -

10 No. I'm not asking you to make anything up but - - -?---No, no.

But from what you've told us this became an arrangement which was generally understood by both yourself and Mr Bullock - - -?---Ah hmm.

- - - so that as time went by you didn't, you didn't have to say anything to each other. He would simply just write down the number on the bottom of the variation invoice and you would go away and change it?---Yeah.

So that just became a - - -?---Like he never - - -

20 - - - a practice did it?---Yes.

It wasn't something that he needed to remind you of, it was something that you just naturally incorporated into, into your dealings with him?--- Commissioner, it's like a cancer. Once it started it just kept festering.

All right. Yeah. All right. Understand.

MR NAYLOR: Just a couple of follow up questions, Commissioner.

30 THE COMMISSIONER: Yes, Mr Naylor.

MR NAYLOR: So do you feel – you've, you've told the Commission certain things this afternoon. Do you feel under any sense of threat, for want of a better word, in relation to Mr Bullock?---Look, I'm a reasonably hard bloke but he's, he's capable of anything, yeah.

Why do you say that?---Well, he's just – I think he's unstable at the moment.

40 Are you concerned for your safety?---Well, I'm not going to say no because um, that would be stupid, you know. I mean anyone can carry a knife or a gun around can't they. You know, I don't know. I don't know. I'm probably being – not, not really but I don't know. The guy is – he's just unstable, you know.

Has, has he behaved in any way violently in the past towards you?---No.

No?---No, I'm not, not scared of him, like, you know, physically but um, I, I don't know what's, you know, what he's going to, how he's going to react to all of this.

When you say he's unstable is that, has he always been like that or have things changed?---No, I don't think he's always been like that, I think he's just, he's just -- from, from what, you know, I've seen and Barb when she saw him the other day, when he, when he turned up to the house um, that he was agitated and she, she's ah, look, she's a mess and yeah, she's, she told
10 him not to come back but I don't know if there's any guarantees that he, he won't turn up again, you know and, you know, we couldn't even leave our garage doors open and stuff, we've, we've been locking the house and all that sort of thing because -- I'm more concerned about her than me. I mean, I can look after myself, you know, without sounding like a (not transcribable)

Have there, have there, have there been any specific threats?---No, no.

Do you, do you know whether he has, has access at all to firearms?
20 ---Wouldn't have a clue.

Right. Nothing further, Commissioner.

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr Inskip. You would appreciate from the last occasion and from the suppression order that I made at the beginning that you're not at liberty to discuss the detail of your evidence with anyone and I appreciate that your wife knows that you're here but you shouldn't really discuss the, the detail of your evidence with each other at all because it might cause problems later down the track?---Could I just say
30 something, Commissioner?

Yes?---We don't.

No, okay?---My wife is that, that, you know, freaked out about this whole thing that she just - - -

No, no, I accept that?--- - - - doesn't want to talk about it but there's certain things that we have to because, you know, if you ask me for some information I have to get it off her, that sort of thing - - -
40

I understand that?--- - - - so, you know, there's, there's a line that we, we have to cross for certain things but we try, generally we're trying to not talk about it because the more we talk about it the more it upsets both of us.

All right?---Yeah.

All right. Well, as long as you appreciate that. You're excused from the summons today, Mr Inskip?---Thank you.

THE WITNESS EXCUSED

[2.52pm]

THE COMMISSIONER: Thank you, Mr Oates, I'll adjourn.

AT 2.52PM THE MATTER WAS ADJOURNED ACCORDINGLY

10

[2.52PM]