

Police Investigation Timeline

This timeline outlines key dates and changes based on records of meetings. It should be noted that there may have been other telephone calls and discussions between Council officers and police as part of the investigation process during periods between the dates detailed.

1. **March 2019** – Matter referred to Kent Police for investigation and a copy of summary report and information from whistleblower provided to outline suspicions and parties involved. Detective Sergeant (DS) and Detective Constable (DC) subsequently appointed to the investigation.
2. **January 2020** – Notification received that a new DC had been appointed as the investigating officer following a retirement.
3. **Late 2020** - Notification received that a new DS had been to the case following a retirement.
4. **May 2021** - Notification received that a new DC had been appointed as the investigating officer following a retirement.
5. **9 February 2022** – Meeting between investigating DC and HIACF for witness statements to exhibit information provided.
6. **11 May 2023** – meeting between council Chief Operating Officer and Investigating DC regarding witness statements, including victim impact statement.
7. **21 August 2024** – HIACF, Chief Operating Officer and Monitoring Officer attended Ashford Police Station for a meeting with investigating DC, DS and Detective Chief Inspector. Advised that case was being reviewed by CPS with a view to agreeing a charging strategy.
8. **November 2024** - Notification received that a new DC had been appointed as the investigating officer.
9. **December 2024** – new DC sent list of evidentiary requirements totaling some 72 pieces of information, which increased to circa 120 by the end of January 2025.
10. **29 January 2025** – Meeting between Medway Head of IT, HIACF and investigating DC regarding access to searchable email records.
11. **24 Feb 2025** – HIACF and officers from Counter Fraud team conducted searches of Medway Archives room for any MCG records that may have been moved to storage following office moves.
12. **14 October 2025** – New Detective Inspector met with HIACF advising that was appointed to Commercial & Complex Fraud Team in July and that there will be a complete review of the case once another matter has been dealt with, which will be conducted by a new team.
13. **1 June 2026** – Email received from Kent Police outlining further information, documentation, and formal clarification from Medway Council required to progress the investigation and ensure evidential standards required for criminal proceedings are met.
14. **9 June 2026** - HIACF, Chief Operating Officer and Monitoring Officer Teams meeting with investigating DS and Detective Chief Inspector. Police outlined concerns around some evidential gaps and period of time since case commenced. Appeared to be seeking Council

view from Council officers on whether to continue and position was clear that case should continue unless Police determined otherwise.

15. **25 June 2026** – HIACF supplied with outline of new statement highlighting gaps in current evidence. Following a review, it was evident that much of the information would not be available due to the passage of time.
16. **13 July 2026** – Formal notification received that the investigation will be closed.