## **ICourts and Tribunals Judiciary**

## SOUTHWARK CROWN COURT

## **REX v DAVID CARRICK**

## **SENTENCING REMARKS**

Reporting restrictions continue to apply in this case. The victims are protected from identification by the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 1992.

- 1. David Carrick. I have to sentence you for 49 offences on two indictments committed over 17 years while you were a serving police officer. Some of those charges represent multiple offences and you have admitted at least 71 instances of sexual violence against 12 victims. You also took advantage of three of those women in brutal controlling and coercive relationships. These convictions represent a spectacular downfall for a man charged with upholding the law and empowered to do so, even to the extent of being authorised to bear a firearm in the execution of his duty. Behind a public appearance of propriety and trustworthiness you took monstrous advantage of women drawn into intimate relationships with you. You brazenly raped and sexually assaulted many women, some you barely knew. You behaved as if you were untouchable. You were bold and at times relentless, trusting that no victim would overcome her shame and fear to report you. For nearly two decades you were proved right.
- 2. But now a combination of those twelve women, by coming forward, and your police colleagues, by acting on their evidence, have exposed you and brought you low. You have lost your liberty, your job, and your status. You have before you, the prospect of a difficult time in custody for many years.
- 3. You joined the Metropolitan Police in 2001. That put you in a unique position, with exceptional powers to coerce and control. You will have sworn the oath taken by all police constables which includes the following promise, "I will to the best of my power cause the peace to be kept and preserved and prevent all offences against the persons and properties of Her Majesty's subjects."

- 4. In summarising the facts of the offences, I will not use names so that none of the victims lose the legal protection they are entitled to. You know who they are and so do they. Nor is it necessary to repeat the detailed recital outlined by Mr Little KC in court this week. Certain themes emerge. Firstly, this violent sexual offending against women commenced almost immediately after you became a police constable and you referred to your job when offending. Just over a year after gaining the office, while you were working in Merton Borough, you met a 20-year-old I will call T, in a bar. You invited her to a house-warming party which you said would be taking place at your flat nearby. You told her you were the safest person she could be with because you were a police officer. She went with you reassured by this reasoning. There was no party, you held her against her will for hours. You raped her vaginally and anally using violence to hold her down. When she struggled you put a black handgun to her head. It felt real but of course she does not know if it was actually real and it has not been recovered. She froze, terrified, believing you were going to rape and then kill her. When you raped her orally you forced your penis with such power she thought she was going to gag. You bit and bruised her during her ordeal. I have to sentence you on the basis that you used an imitation firearm intending for her to believe it was real so as to subdue her to your will. This use of frightening objects, including police issue items, to assert authority and force compliance is the second theme. On the second indictment these offences are Count 1 (false imprisonment) Counts 2 & 3 (multiple vaginal rapes), Count 4 & 5 (anal rapes), and Count 6 (indecent assault).
- Thirdly, you were so confident in the protection your status within the police force and the difficulty faced by those who speak out about sexual abuse that you offended against all sorts of women, including two fellow police officers. The first, M, was working in the same team as you in the Spring of 2004. You flirted, she went to your flat anticipating that you would have vaginal sex, but you ignored her objections and raped her anally, telling her that that was "what you did." Main indictment Count 1 (anal rape). You met F when she was working as a barmaid in 2008 by which time you were stationed in Barnet. She was 21 and you were 12 years older when you started a relationship. She became a police officer, and you bought a house together. You were her first sexual partner but you abused her trust in you raping her vaginally and many times anally. She didn't think she would be believed if she told anyone, including her police colleagues, what you were doing to her. When she finally gathered the courage

- to leave you, you brandished a knife at her and slashed her work shirts gratuitously hoping, no doubt, to cause her trouble at work. Count 2 (vaginal rape) Count 3 (anal rape), Count 4 (anal rape at least twice)
- 6. It is remarkable to note in passing that in 2005 you undertook a police training course on Domestic abuse.
- 7. In 2009 you moved from being a Borough officer to the Diplomatic Protection Group ["DPG"] where you would routinely carry a firearm. At around this time you were part of a martial arts club where you met two further victims D and S. You took D home from a social event where she had become upset. Instead of taking her to her home you took her to your flat where you got naked and put your fingers forcibly inside her vagina. Count 10 (assault by penetration)
- 8. The <u>fourth theme</u> that emerges from your offending is way that the reluctance of victims in reporting your offending because of their knowledge of your status as a police officer, allowed you to continue to offend for as long as you have done. To return to T, your earliest victim on these indictments, when she left your flat, she went to A&E. She was bleeding from her vagina. She was found to have external and internal injuries including bite-marks, bruising and patches of missing hair where you had dragged her around. She had a conversation with the A&E nurse and told her she had been raped by a police officer. The nurse's response illustrates the breadth of barriers to bringing offenders like you to justice. She told the young woman victim that if she complained a charge may not even be brought, that the police would protect you and it might be better for her to just move on with her life. So that is what she tried to do. Indeed, despite being the first of the 12 offended against, she was the last to come forward.
- 9. The police officer you raped in 2004 had herself been trained to deal sensitively with rape complainants but she didn't report you until 2021. The reason was shame, and she didn't want to put herself through reporting an anal rape. She described this as a hypocritical view, but she didn't feel brave enough to do it, so she told herself to toughen up and move on. The police officer you lived with F, and D from your martial arts club, both said they didn't report being raped because they thought they would not be believed because you were a police officer. This widespread attitude illustrates an astonishing degree of moral corruption in the way that complainants, in sexual offences are seen and treated in society. It betrays them and the police officers who work hard to be professional and fair and who deserve the trust the public places in them.

- 10. Your next victim was a woman you had been to school with, N. Having re-connected at a school reunion in 2003 you both attended another reunion over the August Bank holiday in 2009. She ended up sharing a room with another woman and you. You and she were in the same bed and despite her remonstrations you kept touching her intimately. She left the bed and got in with her friend, but you dragged her back, held her arms behind her back and told her it would be your "little secret." She was married. She didn't want to do anything with you and resisted but you penetrated her vagina and anus with your fingers, then you tried to rape her. Count 5 (assault by penetration) Count 6 (assault by penetration), Count 7 (attempted rape)
- 11. That same year you attempted to rape a second woman from your martial arts club, S, after a social evening where you had both been drinking. You charmed her into returning to your home to spend the night together but once upstairs and naked you became aggressive, using force to pin her down on the bed, scaring her and challenging her to overcome you. You then turned her around and tried to rape her but you could not maintain an erection which made you angry. When you encountered each other thereafter you made public comments humiliating her. Count 9 (Attempted vaginal rape)
- 12. From 2015 until your arrest, you worked in the Parliamentary and Diplomatic Protection Unit which replaced the DPG. Typically, your shifts involved static armed protection at sites including Parliament and Embassies. In 2015 you raped, anally K, another old school-friend. You told her you were now a Met Police Officer, and she was attracted to you but after you began to have anal sex with her, she told you to stop because it hurt. You ignored her, she was in pain for days afterwards. She too didn't feel as if she could report it to the police because you were a police officer. Count 8 (anal rape)
- 13. The following year you were engaged for six months in a relationship which you admit was coercive and controlling with a woman, B. You met her through a dating app when she was in a vulnerable position in an unhappy marriage. You were intensely charming, and she agreed quickly to move in with you. She knew you were a police officer and was reassured. You offered to pay her £1,000 a month if she'd be your "slut". You didn't want her to bring her daughter with her, but she did and the child, about 10 years of age, witnessed some of your subsequent abuse of her mother. This was a particularly harrowing course of conduct, and it illustrates the <u>fifth</u> theme I have identified namely

the escalating extreme domination of your victims. Over six months you succeeded in cutting her off from most of her friends and family. You watched her while at work using a camera you had fixed up at home. The degree to which you imposed weight restrictions on her and supervised what she could and could not eat, is demonstrated by her changing from a size 14 to a 6 in a couple of months. In a singular act of cruelty you forced B to have anal sex shortly after she had undergone an operation to remove haemorrhoids. You were violent and angry, in intense pain she fought you and you tore her anus. One night she didn't want to have oral sex because her daughter's school friends were staying over and they might hear but you forced her to take your penis in her mouth and humiliated her, gagging her so she struggled to breathe. Her daughter did hear her mother being raped on that and other occasions. By the time B escaped from you she was suicidal. Count 11 (anal rape) Count 12 (oral rape) Count 13 (oral rape) Count 14 (oral rape) Count 15 (oral rape x 2 – multiple offending) Count 16 (coercive and controlling behaviour)

14. Your next controlling and coercive relationship lasted from March 2017 to January 2019. You met J in a bar in Ely when you were socialising with other police officers. Again, the relationship developed quickly, you wooed her with charm, but this soon dissipated. She too was reassured by your job as a police officer. You controlled who she saw, what she did, ate and wore, even which side of the pavement she was allowed to walk. You told her she belonged to you and must obey you; you humiliated her calling her names such as "whore" and "prostitute". You threatened her with a police baton and sent her a photograph from work of your firearm with the message "remember I am the boss". She worked as a mental health nurse, but you belittled her job and derided people with mental health problems. This included her son, and you stopped her from seeing him for a year. You tracked her using the camera in your house, you even spoke to her through it from work and accused her of being lazy. Sexually, you were aggressive with her raping her anally and orally to ejaculation on many occasions. She would sustain bleeding from her anus. You sometimes used police issue handcuffs to restrain her while you raped her. You would whip her leaving welts on her bottom either as part of sex or to punish her. The court has seen the whip because when she escaped from you, she took it to save other women from harm. Showing utter contempt for her as a human being you would shut her naked into a small cupboard

- under the stairs as punishment, even while she had a panic attack. You would stand and whistle outside.
- 15. J's account, which you now confess is entirely true, is that you gained considerable satisfaction from degrading her by your sexual abuse. You made her have anal sex in a tent next to the tent which her parents were occupying on a holiday and covered her mouth. She felt unable to cry out for help when her father came to ask if she was alright. During oral rape she would gag and vomit, but you carried on regardless. She acquired a sexually transmitted disease from you. You gained sexual excitement from urinating on her and into her mouth, making her swallow. You would go through her phone, you sent her messages ridiculing her and telling her you wanted to piss on her grave. You destroyed her capacity to work for herself. Your shaming of this woman extended to trying to fist her and making her lick your anus. You drilled into her that you were the police, you were the law and you owned her. You were often heavily in drink when you abused her. She didn't report your outrageous behaviour to the police because she didn't think the police would investigate it and she would not be believed. She was terrified of becoming a target but, once she heard you had been arrested in October 2021, she gained confidence to speak out. Count 17 (false imprisonment) Count 18 (false imprisonment x9 – multiple incident) Count 19 (controlling or coercive behaviour) Count 20 (anal rape) Count 21 (anal rape x 9 – multiple incident) Count 22 (oral rape) Count 23 (oral rape x 9 multiple-incident) Count 24 (sexual assault) Count 25 (sexual assault x 4) Count 26 (assault by penetration) Count 27 (causing a person to engage in sexual activity without consent)
- 16. During your relationship with J you continued connecting with women on a dating site and you met W in July 2018. She was a cleaner and you told her you wanted her to clean for you, that you were a police officer and you had carried out a police force check on her. She trusted you because of your job. You let her see text messages to J which were so inappropriate and abusive they made W feel sorry for J. One day you attacked her in the nude while she was cleaning your shower. You put your penis in her mouth and she gagged, unable to breath. You ejaculated in her mouth, and she was sick. **Count 28 (oral rape)**.
- 17. Also overlapping with J was P who you also met through a dating site. P is a vulnerable woman of about the same age as you. She has mild learning disability, and experiences anxiety. She is not able to speak up for herself confidently and this would have been

apparent to you. You told her you worked as an armed police officer. Your relationship with her was exploitative. She came round to clean for you and to start with you were funny and nice but when you were under the influence of alcohol you changed into a monster. She wanted you to like her, but you treated her as a slave and called her one. You orally raped her on at least 3 occasions putting your penis so far down her throat she gagged, couldn't breathe, and vomited. This excited you. On occasions when she performed oral sex, you urinated in her mouth and onto her body. You forced a dildo into her anus until she was screaming and also tried to force youR fist into her. When she screamed you shoved her into the shower and urinated over her. She vomited. Counts 29-32 & 38 (sexual assaults, urinating in mouth, vaginal area and body, hitting with belt), 33-35 (oral rapes), 36 (assault by penetration (dildo)), 37 (attempted assault by penetration)

- 18. In February 2020 you met F through a dating site and she moved in with you in March that year and left in July. She believed you were trustworthy because of your work as a policeman. You quickly gained control over F's behaviour and time. She was afraid of you both because of your aggression and because you threatened to report her to the immigration authorities. The first time you raped her anally she cried from the pain and her anus bled. You told her she was making a fuss. On each occasion she told you she didn't want to do it. You disregarded her clear objections and subdued her. As with other victims you abused and degraded F by forcing your penis into her mouth and urinating or urinating over her face. In July 2021, a year after she left you, these allegations came to the notice of police in Hertfordshire. Count 39 (coercive and controlling behaviour), counts 40&41 (anal rapes x5,) Counts 42&43 (multiple sexual assaults.)
- 19. On Friday 1 October 2021 a woman made a complaint of rape against you dating back to August 2020. That was count 44 on the main indictment in respect of which no evidence was offered and a not guilty verdict entered yesterday. However, when your arrest and charge for that offence on 3 October 2021 was publicised victims began to provide the accounts, I have summarised.
- 20. I have read the statements made by ten of the twelve victims both as to their experiences and the impact it has had. There is powerful and compelling evidence of irretrievable devastation in the lives of those you abused. Survivors of rape and coercive control react and cope in different ways. Those differences are apparent in the statements. Each

one is traumatised. One woman feels as if she has been lost for the last 19 years, encapsulating her experience with you as an encounter with evil which has caused longlasting psychological harm. Denial, anger, hatred, betrayal, shame, self-blame and fear of being labelled a victim, are common emotions. You have shaped their lives, deprived them of the ability to trust men and form relationships. Some have damaged mental health and suffer loneliness. They continue to question their own judgment. They don't trust the police. Some have tried to get back control by behaving in dangerous ways; self-harming, interfering with their own health and relationships, pushing boundaries and almost destroying trust in those they value the most. Those you controlled are trying to recover their self-esteem and lost relationships including with a daughter who selfharms and still has nightmares because of your abuse of her mother. These women are not weak or ineffectual. They were victims of your criminal mindset. The malign influence of men like you in positions of power stands in the way of a revolution of women's dignity. It is remarkable that with one woman being driven to report an allegation against you, despite your position and power, others felt able to act. Even today, courage calls to courage everywhere and its voice cannot be denied.

- 21. You are 48 years old. You were aged between 28 and 45 when you committed the offences for which I have to sentence you. When interviewed about these crimes at various times following arrest, you either denied any sexual activity or other offending or asserted that you always acted with the consent of the woman concerned. You pleaded not guilty to all charges when arraigned at hearings between December 2021 and December 2022. You changed your pleas in December 2022 and January this year. Beyond that you have not expressed remorse or regret for what you have done although you have demonstrated that these proceedings have had a grave impact on you, to which I will come.
- 22. The criminality you have admitted may be called an unrestrained campaign of rape and abuse of women, it could be described as the work of a serial rapist but it may not be possible to encapsulate succinctly the broad devastation you have caused through sexual violence and exploitation, all the time carrying the unique and defining office of a police constable. Various guidelines drafted by The Sentencing Council are relevant to individual offences and some of the over-arching guidelines also apply including the Domestic Abuse guideline, but it is not necessary for me to set out their contents in detail in these sentencing remarks because the gravity of all subsidiary offending can

- be reflected fairly in the overall sentences for rape. Generally, throughout, there is high culpability and greater harm.
- 23. The Guideline for Rape provides that sentences above 20 years imprisonment are appropriate for a campaign of rape. The prosecution submits that such sentences would be appropriate in the individual cases of at least five of your victims. The maximum sentence is life imprisonment. Apart from the guilty pleas there is no material mitigation beyond your lack of previous convictions. I have to bear in mind that the total sentence must be just and proportionate which means, in this case, that it is not right to simply add together all the sentences likely to have been passed for individual counts and impose the total. This would lead to a wholly disproportionate outcome.
- 24. The defence have not served or relied on any psychiatric or psychological report on you. In order that the court had an independent professional assessment of you I ordered a pre-sentence report. You described childhood trauma to the Probation Officer which must have affected your personality. You grew up with parents who drank to excess and neglected you. When they separated you became the target of abuse by a step father in your teens. Like any child you should have been nurtured and taught moral strength and you were not. As an adult you abused alcohol yourself although you were able and careful not to do so when working. This indicates that you were able to control yourself when you chose to. There is no mental health issue beyond the inevitable depressive impact of custody. A less credible part of your account to the Probation Officer is your claim that you are unable to recall your acts of sexual violence and degradation towards women. I have to conclude that this is minimisation because you are yet unable to face the enormity of the abhorrent acts you did while a serving police officer.
- 25. The principle aggravating feature common to all the offences I am dealing with is your use and abuse of the role of a police officer. All the victims were aware of your occupation and affected by it. Some you specifically reassured, tricked or intimidated abusing the trust that the public vest in police officers. Furthermore, the sheer number of offences of rape is relevant to assessing overall criminality and the domestic context in some of the counts represents a violation of the trust and security that normally exists between people in an intimate setting.
- 26. Other aggravating features of particular offences include
  - (a) Repeated violent rapes including when women are unwell
  - (b) Ejaculation

- (c) False imprisonment to facilitate commission of sexual offences
- (d) Use of an imitation firearm, a police baton and a whip to assault and threaten
- (e) Monitoring women through a camera set up in your home,
- (f) Causing women to vomit during sexual violence
- (g) Exploiting vulnerable women
- (h) Presence of others, adult or child nearby
- (i) Isolating women from their families
- (j) Deliberate and sustained humiliation
- (k) When urinating on women, sometimes into their mouths, forcing them to swallow urine
- (1) Forcing women to swallow semen
- (m) Transmission of a sexually transmitted disease
- (n) Offending in drink
- (o) Threatening to report a victim to immigration authorities
- 27. The Sentencing Council guideline on Reduction in sentence for guilty a plea applies in your case by s.73 of the Sentencing Code 2020. The court must take into account the stage at which you indicated your intention to plead guilty and the circumstances in which that indication was given. A sliding scale is applied. You denied all the crimes you were interviewed about. Until the admissions by way of guilty pleas there was no acknowledgment on your part that the accusations made against you were true and the police and complainants prepared for a trial. The case has been opened by the prosecution on a full facts basis. I would have allowed a reduction of 15% in sentence to allow for your late guilty pleas to the majority of the charges which were entered in December 2022 with a trial date of 6 February 2023 having been fixed some months earlier. In respect of the earliest charges (those on the separate indictment on which you were arraigned only in December 2022), you indicated swiftly that you did not contest them (except count 7 which has been left on file) and you pleaded guilty in January 2023, I would have allowed one third reduction.
- 28. In reaching a conclusion on the correct level of credit for your guilty pleas I have recognised the impact of one particular feature. Between July 2022 and December 2022 you were removed from HMP Belmarsh and detained at the Rampton secure hospital. This was because the prison authorities feared you were suffering from severe

depression and after attending court on 22 February you had made a committed attempt to kill yourself. You had used a razor-blade to make deep cuts to your neck, wrist and groin. You were taken to hospital by air ambulance, returning to Belmarsh on 28 February. In defence statements served on your behalf on 24 May and 14 July 2022 you claimed that what the witnesses complained about was either entirely made up or consensual. You were removed to Rampton on 22 July 2022 for assessment and treatment. Thereafter, your lawyers had limited, if any, contact with you or news about you. It was only after the court intervened seeking an update in your treatment that on 16<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November the consultant psychiatrist responsible for you at Rampton Hospital provided a conclusion. This was that you were not suffering from any mental disorder requiring treatment in hospital and you would be returned to HMP Belmarsh when arrangements could be made for you to be kept under 24hr surveillance to protect your life from another attempt at your own hand. Those representing you informed the prosecution and court swiftly after your return to prison, that you would be pleading guilty. In the meantime, the victim T on the separate indictment had come forward and so the further offences were laid against you. As I have said, you changed your pleas to guilty in January 2023. In all the circumstances I will allow 20% guilty plea reduction in the notional determinate sentence that would have been appropriate otherwise. I conclude from all the circumstances and information before me that you were driven to try to commit suicide as a self-pitying reaction to the shame wrought on you by these proceedings, rather than from remorse.

- 29. The starting point, it is agreed between the parties, is an assessment of dangerousness.
  S. 308 (2) Sentencing Code introduced by the Sentencing Act 2020 provides that where a court has to assess whether there is a significant risk to members of the public of serious harm occasioned by the commission by the offender of further specified offences the court
  - "(a) must take into account all the information that is available to it about the nature and circumstances of the offence,
  - (b) may take into account all the information that is available to it about the nature and circumstances of any other offence of which the offender has been convicted....
  - (c) may take into account any information which is before it about any pattern of behaviour of which any of the offences in (a) or (b) forms a part, and
  - (d) may take into account any information about the offender which is before it...."

- 30. Serious harm is defined by s.306(2) as "death or serious personal injury whether physical or psychological." This predictive assessment must be made as at the date of sentencing and on the premise that the offender is not in custody. The author of the presentence report concludes that you pose a high risk of causing serious sexual and physical harm to the public, and presently, to yourself. I am sure the test is satisfied because of the persistence of your commission of serious sexual offences particularly rapes against so many victims over such a long period of time which has already led to serious harm. I am sure that you represent a grave danger to women who might be persuaded to be alone with you in intimate situations and this danger will last indefinitely. I have considered guidance of Lord Thomas CJ in *R v Burinskas* [2014] EWCA Crim 334.
- 31. I have to consider what form of sentence should follow this determination. Section 285 of the Sentencing Code applies to those offences you committed after 4 April 2005 which comprise the majority. I consider that the seriousness of the offences for which I have to sentence you is such as to justify the imposition of a last resort sentence of imprisonment for life. Indeed, only such a sentence will meet the gravity of the offending I have to deal with you for in combination with the risk you pose. Similarly for the five offences of rape which fall outwith the Sentencing Code scheme I am satisfied that life sentences are required to meet the gravity of the offending and the risk you will continue to pose.
- 32. I have assessed very carefully whether given your abuse of position this case should attract a whole life order. The rare sentence of last, last resort is a life sentence with a whole life tariff. In *R v McCann*, *Sinaga and Shah* [2020] EWCA Crim 1676 the Court of Appeal Criminal Division examined conjoined cases involving serious sexual offending on a scale of extreme gravity. Although life sentences with minimum terms to be served of 40 years were appropriate after a trial, none of those cases reached the threshold for a whole life tariff, in the view of the court. None of those offenders was a policeman and the court did not have drawn to their attention any potential scenario close to the one presented to this court. However, the prosecution specifically does not seek to persuade me that your offending fits the description of "wholly exceptional circumstances" which the court indicated would justify such an order.
- 33. I have also scrutinised the judgment of the Court in another recent conjoined case *R v Stewart, Couzens, Tustin and Hughes* [2022] EWCA Crim 1063 in which the offender Couzens appealed against the whole life order imposed on him following a notorious

abduction of a young woman from the streets of London, accomplished while he was an off-duty police officer by use of his warrant card, followed by her rape and murder. The court accepted that police officers are in uniquely powerful positions. In respect of fixing of minimum terms where a mandatory life sentence is required by the law, as set out in Schedule 21 Sentencing Code, a different scheme to the one I have to apply, Lord Burnett CJ stated the principle,

"In our view the correct approach is to focus on the facts which in a rare case might lead to the conclusion that a whole life order is appropriate..."

34. At para 83, having explained the correct route to a whole life order in that case, he continued.

"This was, as the judge said, warped, selfish and brutal offending which was both sexual and homicidal. It was a case with unique and extreme aggravating features. Chief amongst these, as the judge correctly identified, was the grotesque misuse by Couzens of his position as a police officer, with all that connoted, to facilitate Ms Everard's kidnap, rape and murder. We agree with the observations of the judge about the unique position of the police, the critical importance of their role and the critical trust that the public repose in them."

- 35. Had the court in *McCann* imagined the facts of this case would they have equated it to the gravity of the near-miss mass murder attempt or the foiled terrorist atrocity which the court considered would compel a court to attach a whole life tariff to a discretionary life sentence? The stand out feature is the element of abuse of the status of a police constable but having considered the matter with care I have come to the same conclusion as the prosecution. Of the utmost gravity though this is, the "wholly exceptional circumstances" test is not met.
- 36. Thus, the imposition of a discretionary life sentence without a whole life tariff must be accompanied by an evaluation of the notional determinate term that would have been required to mark the gravity of the total offending had a life sentence not been imposed. That term provides the start of the calculation required to reach a minimum term an offender must serve. It must be for the shortest term that is commensurate with the seriousness of the offences before the court (s.231 Sentencing Code.)
- 37. Mr Williamson KC in his succinct and well-focussed mitigation submits that the criminality before this court does not reach the extreme limits found in the cases of the offenders McCann and Sinaga. I do not agree. Your offending was over 17 years and encompassed 12 victims. Moreover, the singular element which elevates your offending

- as a brutal serial rapist into that company is the principle aggravating feature of the explicit or implicit use of your occupation to entice, reassure, or intimidate your victims.
- I have to bear in mind that my function is to impose appropriate punishment and when that is served the Parole Board will determine how to protect the public thereafter. Decades will have passed before that time comes. I conclude that the notional determinate sentence that would provide a just and proportionate punishment is sixty years. To that the guilty plea discount of 20% will be applied. It is to your credit that you did not contest a trial. Your decision deserves this recognition because there is no doubt that a court hearing at which evidence is given and challenged provides a particular ordeal for victims. From the resulting term of forty-eight years I have to set two thirds minus the time spent so far in custody which is 491 days.
- 39. Stand up David Carrick. I have made ancillary orders for Deprivation pursuant to s.153 of the Sentencing Act 2020 and Restraining Orders under ss. 359 and 360 of the Act. They will remain in force until further order. The victim surcharge applies. I make no Sexual Harm Prevention Orders given the nature of the sentence I am about to pass.
- 40. On the main indictment on counts 16, 19, 29, 30, 31, 32, 38, 39, 42 and 43 the sentence is 4 years imprisonment on each concurrent. On counts 24 & 25 the sentence is 7 years on each concurrent.
  - On count 6 on the second indictment, I impose a concurrent determinate sentence of 9 years.
- 41. Thirty-one sentences of life imprisonment are imposed on the main indictment on counts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 40 & 41
  - Also five life sentences are imposed on the second indictment on counts 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5.
- 42. This makes a total of 36 life sentences. The minimum term you will have to serve before the Parole Board can think of releasing you is 30 years, 239 days. You may go down.
- 43. The court salutes the courage of all the victims and their families. I hope that they are able to thrive in the rest of their lives.
- 44. The teams of police officers concerned have worked hard to bring this case to court and keep the confidence of victims. To do so under the fierce scrutiny this case has attracted is promising for the future. The Crown Prosecution Service lawyers and counsel have met tight deadlines set by the court and put the case together fairly and effectively. The

defence team has met the challenge of dealing with an evolving set of grave allegations and a completely disorientated client, with patience and professionalism. The court wishes to recognise that work and thank all of you.

Mrs Justice Cheema-Grubb DBE 7 February 2023