

What NPCC and Metropolitan Police disclosures show about the handling and closure of the December 2021 Covid-19 CRN 6029679/21

Period examined: 20 December 2021 to 21 February 2022

Authored by: Ian Clayton

Date: 13 December 2025

Executive summary

Police disclosures now allow the public to see, with clarity, how serious allegations relating to the UK Covid-19 vaccine programme were received, handled and closed by the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS), with senior oversight and NPCC visibility.

They show that:

a crime reference number (CRN 6029679/21) was created in December 2021;

the MPS confirmed to a member of the public on 18 January 2022 that the CRN was active and undergoing investigation;

by mid-February 2022, a “no crime” outcome had already been approved internally;

national press lines were drafted in advance, anticipating backlash and seeking to neutralise reliance on the CRN;

senior MPS command informed NPCC silver command that the matter was “complete”;

a formal case-closure letter was issued on 21 February 2022.

The closure letter itself relied on factual assertions that were, at best, highly contestable and, at worst, incorrect, raising further concerns about the basis on which the matter was closed.

1. December 2021: a recorded allegation

On 20 December 2021, documents alleging serious criminal offences - including gross negligence manslaughter and misconduct in public office, were submitted at a West London police station.

A crime reference number (6029679/21) was generated.

This confirms that the allegations were formally received and recorded, not dismissed as mere protest or opinion.

2. January 2022: confirmation the CRN was active and under investigation

On 18 January 2022, a member of the public telephoned the Metropolitan Police Service to ask whether CRN 6029679/21 was active and whether it was being investigated.

During that call, the MPS confirmed that the CRN was active and undergoing investigation.

This confirmation came from the police themselves and is a key factual anchor in the timeline.

3. Mid-February 2022: outcome approved before notification

Internal emails disclosed via the NPCC show that by 15 February 2022:

a “no crime” position had already been approved;

a letter to notify those concerned was being prepared;

press lines were to be updated to align with the outcome.

The decision was therefore settled at least 7 days before complainants were formally notified.

4. Senior command oversight and NPCC visibility

On 16 February 2022, the Metropolitan Police COVID Lead, Deputy Assistant Commissioner Jane Connors, emailed Owen Wetherill, a senior NPCC officer and silver commander within the Operation Talla structure, stating:

“FYI this will trigger backlash but it is now complete.”

This demonstrates:

senior-level recognition of public sensitivity;

completion of the decision;

NPCC silver-level visibility of the outcome.

5. Proactive national press strategy

Further disclosures dated 16 February 2022 show:

draft national press lines circulated internally;

approval sought for proactive use;

involvement of the HQ Directorate of Media and Communications;

quotes drafted for DAC Connors to deliver publicly.

The draft press lines asserted that:

no criminal offences were apparent;

no criminal investigation would be launched;

the CRN had been “misrepresented”;

reliance on the CRN by members of the public was framed as disruptive.

This confirms that communications management was integral to the closure process, not an afterthought.

6. The 21 February 2022 closure letter and its stated rationale

On 21 February 2022, Detective Superintendent Tor Garnett, Head of CID (Central West BCU), issued a formal letter closing the matter.

The letter states, among other things, that:

the relevant Covid-19 vaccines had been “approved” by the World Health Organization, the European Medicines Agency, and the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA);

the allegations had “no basis in the available evidence”;

there was insufficient evidence to pursue an investigation;

the matter was recorded as an incident, not a crime.

7. Fundamental factual problems with the closure rationale

Irrespective of the ultimate merits of the allegations, the reasoning relied upon in the closure letter is itself factually flawed at a basic level, including:

(a) Mischaracterisation of “approval”

At the relevant time, Covid-19 vaccines in the UK were authorised under temporary or emergency regulatory mechanisms, not full licensure in the ordinary sense.

Describing them simply as “approved” obscures the legal and regulatory reality which was central to public debate at the time.

(b) Misstatement of the MHRA’s legal role

The MHRA is not a licensing authority in its own right.

It provides regulatory assessment and advice, with legal authorisation powers exercised under specific statutory frameworks and was not a licencing authority which carried responsibility for either authorising or approving The vaccines in question.

Presenting the MHRA as having granted “approval” in a licensing sense is legally inaccurate.

These are not minor technicalities.

They go directly to the substance of the allegations being dismissed.

8. Why this matters

The public interest issue is no longer limited to whether the allegations were justified.

The disclosures raise wider concerns about:

whether the closure decision was taken on a sound factual footing;

whether the public explanation accurately reflected both the regulatory reality and the police's own earlier handling;

whether a live CRN, confirmed as under investigation in January 2022, was later reframed in a way which understated its operational reality.

In short, the issue is process, accuracy and candour - not political views about vaccination.

9. What this briefing does not allege

This briefing does not claim that:

the allegations were true;

criminal offences were committed;

police acted with bad faith.

It confines itself strictly to what the disclosed documents show and to demonstrable factual inaccuracies in the stated closure rationale.

Conclusion

Between December 2021 and February 2022:

a serious allegation was recorded under CRN 6029679/21;

the MPS confirmed it was active and under investigation in January 2022;

a senior-approved “no crime” outcome was reached in mid-February;

national communications were prepared in anticipation of backlash;

the formal closure letter relied on factually flawed regulatory assertions.

The public is entitled to understand how and why that sequence unfolded and on what basis such a significant decision was taken.

Nothing in this briefing depends on disputed interpretations of intent or motive; it arises solely from the documentary record disclosed by the police themselves.

It should be noted too

The internal police communications upon which reliance has been placed in producing the content of this briefing document forms only part of that which has been provided to us.

As our investigations progress further, we shall issue updates and commentary in relation to other, similar internal police communications.