

Police spy Mark Kennedy may have misled parliament over relationships

Inquiry hears claims of 10 or more women having sexual relations with undercover officer who infiltrated eco-activists



📷 Mark Kennedy's evidence saying he had sexual relationships with two people is disputed by women taking legal action against the police. Photograph: Philipp Ebeling

Rob Evans and Paul Lewis

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Mark Kennedy, the police spy who infiltrated the environmental movement, appears to have misled parliament over the number of sexual relationships he had with women while he was working undercover.

Kennedy told a parliamentary inquiry that he had only two relationships during the seven years he spied on environmental groups.

However, at least four women had come forward to say that he slept with them when he was a police spy.

Friends who knew Kennedy when he was living as an eco-activist in Nottingham have identified more than 10 women with whom he slept.

Kennedy was the only undercover police officer to give evidence to the inquiry conducted by the home affairs select committee.

He testified in private, but transcripts of his evidence released on Thursday reveal that he claimed he had sexual relationships with "two individuals".

But three women who say they are Kennedy's former lovers are part of an 11-strong group taking legal action against police chiefs for damages.

A fourth, named [Anna, previously told the Guardian she felt "violated"](#) by her sexual relationship with Kennedy, which lasted several months.

Kennedy's longest relationship was with a woman who used the pseudonym Lisa when giving evidence to the committee. She was with him for six years and said she was left questioning how many other officers were prying into her personal affairs. She said: "Who else was participating in the relationship that I believed was just me and one other person? Who else was seeing every text message that I ever sent him? Who was listening in to our most intimate phone calls? Who made the decisions about my life, where I was allowed to go, who I was allowed to see - which I thought was my free will but actually was being manipulated by this person who was being controlled by other people?"

Lisa spent time living with Kennedy in Nottingham, and also went with him to political events in Iceland, Spain, Germany and Italy. She said she felt cheated out of time she had spent with him.

"When do we get our lost years back?" she asked, "Who is going to give those six years back to me?"

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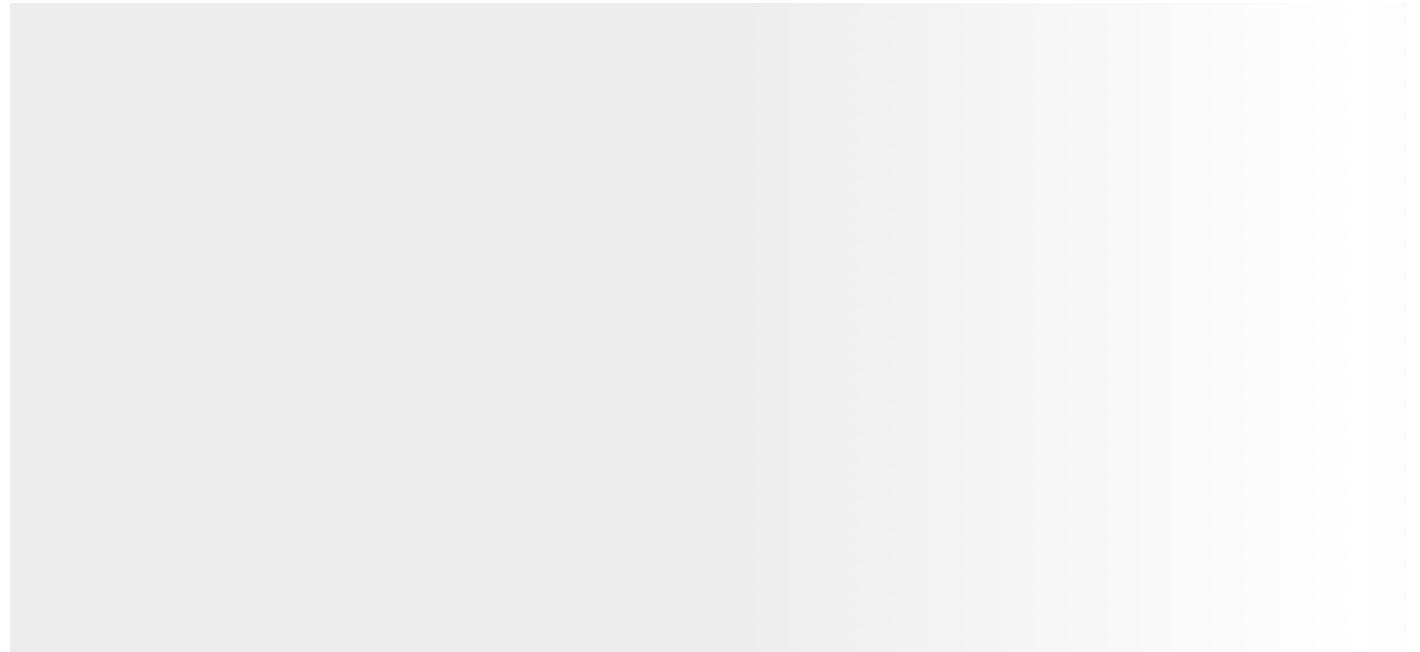
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