

**Q23 Mr Chidgey:** Thank you. I would just like to read out to you a statement in the notes that were made: "In the run-up to the dossier the Government was obsessed with finding intelligence to justify an immediate Iraqi threat. While we were agreed on the potential Iraqi threat in the future there was less agreement about the threat the Iraqis posed at the moment. That was the real concern, not so much what they had now but what they would have in the future, but that unfortunately was not expressed strongly in the dossier because that takes the case away for war to a certain extent". Finally, "The 45 minutes was a statement that was made and it got out of all proportion. They were desperate for information. They were pushing hard for information that could be released. That was one that popped up and it was seized on and it is unfortunate that it was. That is why there is an argument between the intelligence services and Number 10, because they had picked up on it and once they had picked up on it you cannot pull back from it, so many people will say 'Well, we are not sure about that' because the word something is actually quite important" I understand from Miss Watts that is the record of a meeting that you had with her. Do you still agree with those comments?

**Dr Kelly:** First of all, I do not recognise those comments. I have to say. The meeting I had with her was on November 5 last year and I remember that precisely because I gave a presentation in the Foreign Office on Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. I cannot believe that on that occasion I made that statement.

**Q24 Mr Chidgey:** That is very helpful. Can I just be clear on this: I understand that these notes refer to meetings that took place shortly before the *Newsnight* broadcasts that would have been on 2 and 4 June.

**Dr Kelly:** I have only met Susan Watts on one occasion, which was not on a one-to-one basis, it was at the end of a public presentation.

**Mr Chidgey:** Thank you very much, that is very helpful.