

Linda Fabiani MSP
Convener – Committee on the Scottish Government Handling of Harassment Complaints
c/o Clerk to the Committee
Room T1.03
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

28 October 2020

Dear Ms Fabiani

Committee on the Scottish Government Handling of Harassment Complaints

I am writing to you following my provision of oral evidence to the Committee yesterday. As you would expect, I took providing evidence to the Committee very seriously, and prepared for it thoroughly in order to give complete answers to any question asked.

I have reviewed the Official Report and identified that I have inadvertently provided an incorrect response to a question asked by Ms Baillie about whether I had advised any of the complainants that I was going to be appointed as the Investigating Officer prior to that appointment being confirmed. I am writing to you now at the first opportunity to correct the record.

Having reviewed the answer I provided against my records, I can confirm to the Committee that in an e-mail I sent to Ms B, I gave an indication that I would likely be the Investigating Officer. The relevant document reference is JR017 in the pack of documents previously provided to the Committee.

In that e-mail, I provided Ms B with advice about the process that would apply if a formal complaint was received. As part of that advice, I indicated that she would be interviewed and that the interview was “likely to be led by myself”. Although I did not explicitly say that I was to be appointed as the Investigating Officer, I gave a clear indication that it was likely that I would be.

Please accept my apologies for inadvertently providing an incorrect answer and I would be grateful if the record could be updated to reflect the correct information provided in this letter.

I indicated during my evidence session that I would follow up in writing on some issues that I wasn’t able to immediately respond to. I will write again shortly to provide that information.

Yours sincerely

Judith Mackinnon
Head of People Advice