



Letter sent by email

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

26 October 2020

Dear Convener

Committee on Scottish Government Handling of Harassment Complaints

I refer to my previous oral evidence session dated 15 September 2020. During questioning I was asked a question by Ms Baillie about whether I had received a specific text message. I answered to the best of my recollection, which was that I had not received the message. The message in question was dated over 18 months previous, and I was on holiday at the time at which it would have been sent. However, as Ms Baillie did not seem satisfied by my response, I wrote to the Committee on 21 September advising that I would ask for a further search for this message to be carried out.

A further search of my own records did not produce any results. Therefore I asked the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal's Service to provide me with a copy of material which they retrieved from my mobile phone in the context of a criminal trial. I received that material on 23 October. That material confirms that I did indeed receive the message. Therefore, in line with the Scottish Parliament's 'Guide for witnesses' (<https://beta.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/committees/guide-for-witnesses>) I would like to take the opportunity to correct the unintended inaccuracy in my previous statement. I received this message on 8 January 2019 and I sent a reply on the same date.

The text of the message and my reply are noted below:

L Evans 'Thanks Barbara – battle maybe lost but not the war. Hope you are having lovely & well deserved break. L'

B Allison 'Thanks Leslie. It is lovely here. My mind and thoughts are with you all there tho. Best wishes. Bx



I trust this is of assistance to the committee.

Yours faithfully

Barbara Allison
Director of Communications, Ministerial Support & Facilities

