

## Helen Sargeant

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**From:** Rubena Miah  
**Sent:** 22 December 2008 09:59  
**To:** Helen Sargeant  
**Subject:** FW: Letter

For your records.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rubena Miah **On Behalf Of** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 19 December 2008 15:43  
**To:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Cc:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** Letter

Please see attached letter.



Letter to **Richard**  
Barnbrook 19,...

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
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## Legal & Procurement Group

City Hall  
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London SE1 2AA  
Switchboard: 0207983 4400  
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Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)  
Our Ref: HS/Legal/Sept-05  
Your Ref:  
Date: 19 December 2008

Richard Barnbrook

[Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Barnbrook

### Ref: Sept-05

I write further to my letters dated 5 and 11 December 2008.

We have since been notified that the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham have also considered the same complaint and have decided that the complaint merits further action. We have been discussing this matter with Barking & Dagenham legal team, and have decided that the most appropriate way to consider this matter is by way of a joint investigation.

In order to progress this investigation, we (myself, Satish Mistry – Deputy Head of Law at the GLA, and Sanjay Prashar, Deputy Head of Law – Employment and Governance at Barking and Dagenham) would like to meet with you, and I should be grateful if you could let me know if you are available on any of the following times and dates:

Anytime from 10.30 am onwards until 4pm at City Hall on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009

Anytime from 10.30 am onwards until 4pm at City Hall on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2009.

We estimate that the meeting should last an hour. It would be helpful if you could bring to this meeting copies of any documentation that you have with regards this matter. If you cannot make any of the above times, then please let me know and I will co-ordinate some other dates.

We still hope to have a preliminary report drafted by the end of January with a Standards Committee meeting in February to consider the report.

If you have any queries Satish Mistry can be contacted directly on 020 7983 4124 by emailing [satish.mistry@london.gov.uk](mailto:satish.mistry@london.gov.uk) and my contact details are below. Please quote the reference number on all correspondence.

Yours sincerely

**Helen Sargeant**

Senior Legal Adviser  
Employment & Governance

020 7983 4483

[Helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk)

**Helen Sargeant**

---

From: Simon Darby  
Sent: 22 December 2008 15:21  
To: Helen Sargeant  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Helen,

I'll discuss this with Richard and have a date and time confirmed no later than tomorrow

Thanks,

Simon

Simon Darby  
PA, Richard Barnbrook AM  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

0207 9834173

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rubena Miah **On Behalf Of** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 19 December 2008 15:43  
**To:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Cc:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** Letter

Please see attached letter.

<< File: Letter to Richard Barnbrook 191208.doc >>

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

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**Helen Sargeant**

---

From: Helen Sargeant  
Sent: 21 January 2009 17:15  
To: Simon Darby  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Simon

Many thanks. I will send out a formal letter confirming this, but if you could block out 2 - 3.30 at the GLA for now that would be great.

Thanks, Helen

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Simon Darby  
Sent: 20 January 2009 15:09  
To: Helen Sargeant  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Helen,

Richard has indicated that Feb' 6th at the GLA will be fine. I suggest an afternoon appointment, but I will leave the specifics to your suggestion. [REDACTED]

Thanks,

Simon

Simon Darby  
PA, Richard Barnbrook AM  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

0207 9834173

-----Original Message-----

From: Helen Sargeant  
Sent: 20 January 2009 15:04  
To: Simon Darby  
Cc: Richard Barnbrook  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Simon

We have discussed, and I have an extra date to suggest of 27th January at Barking and Dagenham

Thanks, Helen

Helen Sargeant

Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

Appendix 6a

T: 020 7983 4483  
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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 20 January 2009 12:29  
**To:** Simon Darby  
**Cc:** Richard Bambrook  
**subject:** RE: Letter

Dear Simon

Richard is able to bring a friend, political assistant or legal adviser to the meeting.

I would therefore like to invite Richard to a meeting on either the 3rd or the 6th February at either the GLA or Barking & Dagenham. Present at the meeting will be myself, Satish Mistry, Deputy Head of Law at the GLA, and Sanjay Prashar, Deputy Head of Corporate Law and Governance at Barking & Dagenham. Please confirm which day and available times that Richard will be able to attend, and I will then send him a meeting invite.

Thanks. Helen

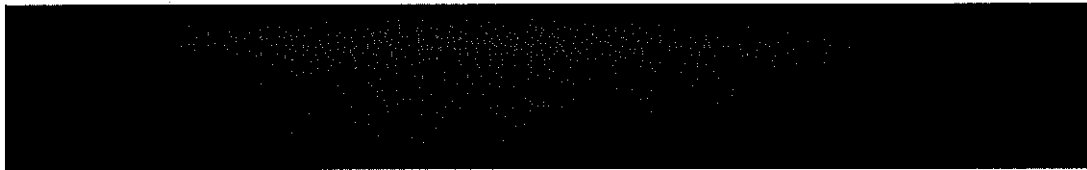
Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
F: 020 7983 4700

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Simon Darby  
**Sent:** 13 January 2009 13:55  
**To:** Helen Sargeant  
**Cc:** Richard Bambrook  
**Subject:** RE: Letter

Dear Helen.



Simon

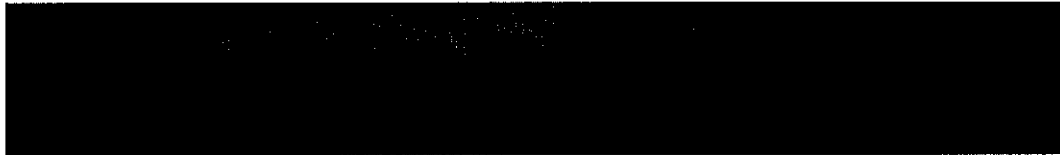
Simon Darby  
PA, Richard Bambrook AM  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

02079834173

-----Original Message-----

From: Helen Sargeant  
Sent: 09 January 2009 17:09  
To: Simon Darby  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Simon



Thanks, Helen

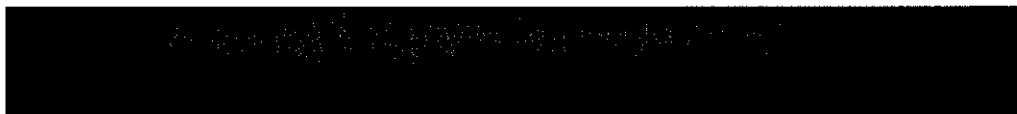
Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
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London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
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-----Original Message-----

From: Simon Darby  
Sent: 07 January 2009 14:04  
To: Helen Sargeant  
Subject: RE: Letter

Dear Helen,



Simon

Simon Darby

**PA, Richard Barnbrook AM**  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

0207 9834173

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 06 January 2009 14:08  
**To:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** RE: Letter

Dear Simon

I look forward to hearing from you, and note the contents of your email.

Kind regards

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

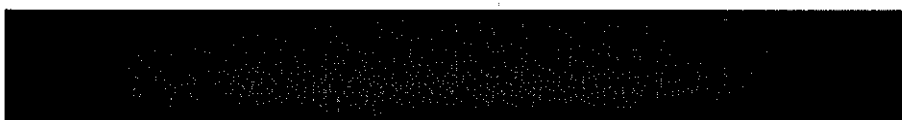
T: 020 7983 4483

F: 020 7983 4700

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Simon Darby  
**Sent:** 06 January 2009 13:37  
**To:** Helen Sargeant  
**Subjeb:** RE: Letter

Dear Helen.



Kind Regards,

Simon

Simon Darby  
**PA, Richard Barnbrook AM**  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

0207 9834173

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 24 December 2008 10:50  
**To:** Simon Darby  
**Cc:** Richard Barnbrook; Satish Mistry  
**Subject:** RE: Letter

Dear Simon



Thank you for your email.

Could you let me know in the first week of January with regards this, and are you also able for me to share this information with the investigator and Monitoring Officer at Barking & Dagenham?

Kind regards  
Helen

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
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-----Original Message-----

**From:** Simon Darby  
**Sent:** 23 December 2008 11:53  
**To:** Helen Sargeant  
**Cc:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Subject:** RE: Letter

Dear Helen,



Kind Regards,

Simon

Simon Darby  
PA, Richard Barnbrook AM  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE21 2AA

0207 9834173

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Rubena Miah On Behalf Of Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 19 December 2008 15:43  
**To:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Cc:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** Letter

Please see attached letter.

<< File: Letter to Richard Barnbrook 191208.doc >>

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
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020 7983 4700

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020 7983 4700

## Helen Sargeant

---

From: Rubena Miah on behalf of Helen Sargeant  
Sent: 23 January 2009 14:24  
To: Richard Barnbrook  
Subject: Letter

Please see attached letter



Letter to Richard  
Barnbrook 23...

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
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T: 020 7983 4483  
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Richard Barnbrook  
Assembly Member  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London  
SE1 2AA

[Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk)

By email and internal post

**Private & Confidential**

Dear Assembly Member

**Ref: Sept-05**

Following previous correspondence on this, I am writing to confirm the interview arrangements for Friday 6 February 2009 at 2pm at City Hall and to give you some additional information. The meeting will be held in conference room 8 on the lower ground floor.

The interview will be conducted by myself, Satish Mistry, Deputy Head of Law at the GLA and Sanjay Prashar, Deputy Head, Corporate Law and Employment at the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham it will be conducted further to the powers set out under the Local Government Act 2000.

We will be taking notes, and are minded to record our conversation. If we wish to record the interview we will ask you to give your consent beforehand. If we rely on information gained during this interview in a report, we will send you a copy of the Interview record and give you an opportunity to comment on it. If we do not send you a copy of the interview record, you may request it. It is possible that what you say at interview may be disclosed in the report.

Please inform me in advance if you will be accompanied and if so by whom. You may have a friend, political assistant or adviser with you during the interview. However, the person who accompanies you should not be a member of the standards committee, a GLA or council officer (except a political assistant) or a potential witness.

I estimate the interview will take approximately one to one and a half hours.

I enclose the following documents that may be required at the Interview. We will also have copies available at the interview.

- A transcript of your blog article entitled "A tale of two Cathedrals"
- An extract from the Ilford Recorder dated 11 December 2008
- A letter from Hugh Boyle, Inspector, Performance and Review Unit, Barking & Dagenham Police to Councillor Val Rush, dated 9 December 2008

it is also important that you have copies of any other relevant documents with you, as they may be needed during the interview. If we receive any further documents before the interview we will forward these onto you.

When the investigation is finished, we will report to both the GLA and Barking & Dagenham Standards Committee. The respective standards committees will decide whether there has been a breach of the Code, and what action should be taken including whether to refer the matter to the Adjudication Panel for England.

Before we complete this investigation, you will be sent a draft of the investigation report to enable you to make any representations you consider necessary. Having considered these, we will then issue the final report.

I must also ask that you treat any information provided to you during the course of the investigation as confidential. In addition, there are statutory restrictions on the disclosure of information obtained by the monitoring officer. This is covered by section 63 of the Local Government Act 2000 and disclosure of information contrary to this is a criminal offence. Anyone who accompanies you to your interview should also be made aware of the restrictions on disclosure of information.



If you have any queries prior to the interview, please do not hesitate to contact me on 020 7983 4483 or by email to [helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk](mailto:helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'HS'.

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

T: 020 7983 4483  
F: 020 7983 4700

**Helen Sargeant**

---

**From:** Matthew Kleebauer  
**Sent:** 03 February 2009 17:18  
**To:** Helen Sargeant  
**Subject:** FW: Investigation Sept 05

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Matthew Kleebauer  
**Sent:** 03 February 2009 17:09  
**To:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Cc:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** Investigation Sept 05

**Please see attached**



Letter to Richard Barnbrook.doc...  
Questions.doc (149 KB)

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY  
Legal & Procurement Group

Richard Barnbrook

[Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk)

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The Queen's Walk  
London SE1 2AA  
Switchboard 020 7983 4000  
Minicom: 020 7983 4458  
Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)  
**Our Ref: REF SEPT 05**  
**Your Ref:**  
**Date: 3 February 2008**

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Assembly Member

Re: Code of conduct investigation

You will be aware that we are currently undertaking a joint investigation with the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham into a complaint that there has been a breach of the respective codes of conduct

For this purpose we are due to interview you this Friday 6 February at 2 pm at the GLA offices.

To assist you we have agreed to let you have a framework of the questions, which we now attach.

For your information I will be accompanied by Helen Sargeant, Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance at the GLA and Sanjay Prashar, Deputy Head, Corporate Law and Employment, Barking and Dagenham.

We look forward to seeing you

Yours sincerely

Satish Mistry  
Deputy Head of Law and Governance  
02079834093  
[Satish.Mistry@london.gov.uk](mailto:Satish.Mistry@london.gov.uk)

Enc. Framework of Questions

**Direct telephone:** 020 7983 4093 **Fax:** 020 7983 4700 **Email:** [Satish.Mistry@london.gov.uk](mailto:Satish.Mistry@london.gov.uk)

**GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY**  
**Legal & Procurement Group**

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Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)

Questions:

1. For how long have you used website blogs in your political capacity as a tool for communicating to the electorate?
2. We understand that the blog can be viewed on You Tube and the Daily Telegraph website. Is it posted elsewhere?
3. Do you know how many hits have been entered against the blog?
4. You were specific in your comments that there were 2 incidents of knife attacks in the B&D area within a stated period resulting in 3 deaths. From where did you source this information?
- 5.. Do you have a system for verifying statistical data or other factual information before publicising it?
6. Do you accept that the details regarding the murders which you gave on your blog were factually inaccurate?
7. Do you regret making the statement?
8. The complainant has referred the investigation officers to a letter sent by yourself to 2 local newspapers in December 2008. In the letter you suggest that it made no difference as to how many deaths there had been. Do you still subscribe to that view and if so why?
9. If you knew the information to be inaccurate why was it (the video) left on the blog at the time of the letter being published?
10. Are you aware of whether it(the video) is still on the blog?
11. As a local politician do you feel you have a role in managing the public's perception of crime both in Band D and in London generally?
12. What would you say in response to the proposition that the comments which form the subject matter of this investigation would have had the effect of undermining the public's trust and confidence in Local Government and in the Police?



**Helen Sargeant**

---

**From:** Helen Sargeant  
**Sent:** 13 February 2009 16:24  
**To:** Richard Barnbrook  
**Cc:** Simon Darby  
**Subject:** Record of meeting 6 February 2009 - By email and internal mail

Please find attached letter and record of meeting.



Letter to Richard Barnbrook 13...



Record of meeting 6 Feb 09.doc...

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and Governance  
Legal and Procurement Group  
Greater London Authority  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA

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## Legal & Procurement Group

Richard Barnbrook,  
Assembly Member

[Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.barnbrook@london.gov.uk)

Private & Confidential

City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
More London  
London SE1 2AA  
Switchboard: 020.79834030  
Minicom: 0207903 4458  
Web: [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk)  
Our Ref: **HS/Legal**  
Your Ref:  
Date: 13/02/2009

Dear Mr Barnbrook,

Ref: **Sept/05**

I write further to our interview of 6 February 2009 and enclose as agreed two copies of the record taken from the interview.

Record:

I would be grateful if you could review the record and make any alterations you consider necessary from your recollection of the interview. Please then sign and date the declaration at the end of the interview record and initial the bottom of each page, returning one copy to me to the above address by Friday 20 February 2009. Should you not sign and return a copy of the Interview record by this date I will assume that you accept and agree with its content.

The copy of the interview record has been provided to you solely to enable you to confirm the accuracy of the interview. It should not be disclosed or used for any other purpose. You are, however, able to disclose these documents to your solicitor, should you choose to appoint one, or other representative, for the purpose of seeking advice in relation to this investigation.

If, on reading the interview record, you have any additional comments that you feel are relevant to the investigation, please address these to me in writing in a separate document and send it to the above address, or by sending an email to [helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk](mailto:helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk). Alternatively you can telephone me directly 020 7983 4483.

Yours sincerely

Helen Sargeant  
Senior Legal Adviser - Employment and **Governance**

Direct telephone: 020 7983 4486 Fax: 020 7983 4700 Email: [Helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk](mailto:Helen.sargeant@london.gov.uk)

Notes of Standards Investigation with Councillor and Assembly Member Mr R Barnbrook

Friday 6 February 2009  
Committee Room 8  
City Hall  
14:00 - 15:30

Present:

Councillor and Assembly Member Mr R Barnbrook (RB)  
Sanjay Prashar, Deputy Head- Corporate Law and Employment LBBB (SP)  
Helen Sargeant, Senior Legal Adviser Employment and Governance (HS) - GLA  
Satish Mistry, Deputy Head of Law (SM) - GLA  
Lisa Newman, Trainee Solicitor (LN) - GLA

RB stated that he thought this complaint was a personal attack on him and was upset about other recent complaints that had been made about him, which he considered to be personal also.



**HS Question 1. For how long have you used website blogs in your political capacity as a tool for communicating to the electorate?**

RB said that he hasn't and that he doesn't use blogs. He said he hasn't got the knowledge to do this. RB said that this is either done by his aides or the BNP film crew. HS asked how long RB had appeared on blogs.

RB said from approximately 2004/ 2005. RB said that he doesn't use 'google' as a means of disseminating information but that he understands that other websites lift and use the content from his blog.

**HS Question 2. We understand that the blog can be viewed on You Tube and the Daily Telegraph website. Is it posted elsewhere?**



SM asked if he checked the content.

RB said he did and that he takes responsibility for this.

SM asked RB if he had looked at the statement in question on his blog.

RB said no, that he didn't recall looking at this one, and that he didn't have time to see the final version.

**HS Question 3.** Do you know how many hits have been entered against the blog?

RB said he was too busy to look at these and that he doesn't follow them.

**HS Question 4.** You were specific in your comments that there were **2** incidents of knife attacks in the **B&D** area within a stated period resulting in 3 deaths. From where did you source **this** information?

RB said that prior to the video going out, there was a murder of a young African Caribbean woman in Barking and Dagenham. The other incidents were two fatal attacks in Gorsebrook ward and Parsloes ward.

HS read out what the blog said about these three incidents. RB clarified that the woman who was killed was from Barking and Dagenham, but was killed outside the area in Newham.

SM clarified with RB that he said on the video that the attack was in Barking and Dagenham.

RB said that this statement "came out wrong" because of the speed of his delivery. RB meant to say that the woman was from Barking and Dagenham and murdered in Newham.

SM asked whether there was evidence to support this? RB said yes.

SM clarified that what RB meant to say was that there had been a murder of a girl from Barking and Dagenham. RB said this was correct and what he had meant. RB said he has evidence to show the occurrence of this.

SM referred back to the second statement on the blog where RB had said that there were two murders. RB said that this is what he had said - but that the two people didn't die, they were critically ill, but didn't die. RB said he "spoke too soon." He knew at the time of the statement that they were on life support.

HS asked if this statement was still on the blog? RB said he didn't know because he doesn't check it and hasn't been asked to pull it.

SM said "before we move on, can I put something to you. You said that you don't check the blog, but you said you take responsibility for it and you didn't know [about the possible inaccuracy] until you got the complaint. You then took the opportunity to view the blog?"

RB said "no, well I was in front of the camera, I generally know what I say, but no...that's not true, I did look at the blog. Christine Evans (Mothers Against Knives) told me about the complaint. I then had a brief look at this". He said that he now accepts that there were two inaccuracies.

RB said the videos are usually on the personal blog for three weeks.

SM asked whether RB had looked at the blog and noticed the inaccuracies?

RB said "no". He said that the national BNP party including legal asked him whether he wanted to leave it up as he did believe that the overall tenor still stands that it should be left on there regardless of the misstatement and that he said yes. RB said his belief in gun-crime is strong enough to keep it on the website and that he was of the view that this would be removed in 4-6 weeks anyway.

RB said that he felt because Christine Evans had made comments about the school, then the blog should remain.

**SP Question 5.** Do you have a system for verifying statistical data or other factual information before publicising it?

RB said verification was from three sources:

1. Media
2. Police
3. Public

He said that the information from the public was very important and said "I always believe without question and will report. This is the same in this situation, I was told [about the incidents] by the public and I confused what they were saying".

RB said that he did have a system to verify the information that the public gave him in this case. He said he got the information as to the location of the attacks but that he mixed up exactly where the attack took place.

SP "from what you have said, can you tell us if there is an audit process for screening information before publishing it?"

RB said "yes", by using 1. the press 2. the police and 3. local community (leaks). RB said he sometimes used his first-hand notice of witnessing the incident, such as witnessing a cordoned off crime scene and asking the police what has happened.

SP said "we are concerned that this wasn't the case here. Your statement was inaccurate."

RB said that in this case, it was because he spoke too quickly and got it wrong. RB said the filming was very rushed and he spoke too quickly. "I dispute that. I didn't try and cause scaremongering. That's just politics and I made a statement."

SP asked "why wasn't this picked up on the video before going on the blog?"

RB said that "they must have assumed that the details were correct. There have been attacks in Barking and Dagenham so it would be likely that this could be true."

**SP Question 6.** Do you accept that the details regarding the murders which you gave on your blog were factually inaccurate?

RB said he accepted that the evidence was factually inaccurate but that he will not make an apology. "I won't accept the fact that knife crime doesn't exist. I will take responsibility, but will not apologise".

SM asked whether RB would apologise for the statement being inaccurate?

RB said "no, I would say that the information that was given over was not correct. But until knife crime is over, I will not apologise". RB said that a mistake was made, it was not malicious but could be seen as aggressive. RB said that he did not regret making the statements, but he did regret not putting the correct information over, and it would be have been better if the correct information had been put across. He regretted saying that there were two murders when there were not.

SM clarified that the officers present are not responsible for making a decision in this case.

SP said "can I just say that we will not be taking a decision on this, we are just. We are just looking at whether you have brought your office into disrepute".

RB asked for clarification on what 'disrepute' means

HS. SM and SP all said that this depends on what facts are established in this case

**SP Question 7.** Do you regret **making** the statement?

RB said "No, i do regret saying that two people died and they didn't, but I don't regret saying about the murder".

**SP Question 8.** The complainant has referred the investigation officers to a letter sent by yourself to 2 local newspapers in December 2008. In the letter you suggest that it made no difference as to how many deaths there had been. Do you still subscribe to that view and if so why?

RB said that what he was saying here is that nothing is being done in the Borough, even if one person dies or twenty, something still has to be done.

**SM Question 9.** If you knew the information to be inaccurate why was it (the video) left on the blog at the time of the letter being published?

RB said "I thought it would have been pulled."

**SM Question 10.** Are you aware of whether it (the video) is still on the bloy?

RB said he thought it would have been removed, especially if there are inaccuracies.

HS asked if the video was still on there?

RB said they will be removed because of the inaccuracies, but it was not an apology.

**SM Question 11** As a local politician do you feel you have a role in managing the public's perception of crime both in B and D and in London generally?

RB asked "can you be more accurate as to 'control'? i think that the politician should report what is happening."

SM said "but the difference here is that they were inaccurate. Do you accept that you have a higher level of responsibility?"

RB said "I could have said that three murders took place, that wouldn't have been inaccurate, murders have happened in the Borough, it was the speed of my delivery. I could have said that people are dying by the knife and that would have been accurate. I don't believe that I misled them, there are murders happening."

RB said that 3 murders took place at Chadwell Heath.

SM said "you say that but police figures say the number of knife crime is decreasing."

RB said that he can see that knife crime is happening.

SM said "but you were talking about murders [in this statement]."

RB said that he didn't trust the figures and that he had made a Freedom of Information Act request and had different figures returned.

SM said that the Monitoring Officer would need to see those figures. SM said that if RB's figures were different, that was important.

RB said he also had figures from local papers.

SM clarified that the police figures show that there were no murders in the period RB was talking about.

RB said that there were figures from the Metpolice coming out at that time, showing that there were murders in London.

SP said that RB's statement was in relation to Barking and Dagenham, and not London as a whole.

SM agreed and said that it was important to compare figures before this can be investigated further and asked RB to provide the documentation.

SM Question 12. What would you say in response to the proposition that the comments which form the subject matter of this investigation would have had the effect of undermining the public's trust and confidence in Local Government and in the Police?

RB said that he doesn't believe this to be the case. He said the police don't have the resources. it doesn't undermine the police as the police don't have the power to deal with this.

SM asked whether RB thought his comments undermined politicians?

RB said "no, politicians should say what is happening. They should tell people that they should petition government to solve this problem. I feed back to the community what is happening in real life."

RB said that parents say to him that the police can't do anything because they have no resources, and therefore what is the point of me complaining because the police are not able to do anything.

SP said that he thought the interview should go deeper at this point. "I accept what you are saying, but whenever you provide factual data, you have (as a politician) got to make sure that this is accurate. if you say there have been two murders and there hasn't, this will raise the fear of crime. This is what is in contention. No one is questioning your role as a politician, but if you rely on information to make a point, this must be accurate."

RB said "I accept that, but i could have made lots of other reports if I'd wanted to undermine police and the Borough. If I had to go through this again, I would do it again, but making sure it was accurate." RB said his comments were to show that this is happening, it was not enough for politicians to say it is all going nicely.

SM said that he thought that completed the questioning and asked RB if he had any questions.

RB said that his actions weren't intentional.

SM told RB that this would be dealt with independently and asked what documentation RB would like to leave for the Monitoring Officer.

RB said he would like to leave all of the evidence he had and that he had lots about knife crime in the Borough.

SM clarified whether RB would be using this as evidence to show the level of knife crime in the Borough? He asked RB to identify what relates particularly to this complaint and police statistics.

RB said he would ask Simon Darby to do this

It was agreed that RB would submit his evidence by Friday 13 February 2009.

I have read these notes and accept them as a true and accurate record of the interview

Signed.. ..

Dated.. ..



Meeting Fri 6/2/09

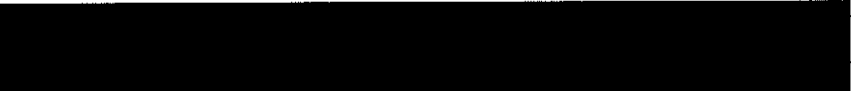
Appendix 6a  
of Conduct Code

- 1. some difficulty finding relevance  
- what is relevance + by Friday



Private direct attacks on me by Cllr Pugh


recent complaint - by Cllr Pugh - to apologise for being called by first name



But - may have been said too quickly - mix up 2 reports

Referral to press

- 1. Blogs - aides or by film-making crew -  
2004/5 approx. I/we do not use google. Go into website + blog

 Nothing to do with me whatsoever  
 People who post it - read out + then check it.  
 accept responsibility. Didn't look at it.  
 London M.A.K - statement came after Nat. Not on website.  
 Appear/purpose

4. Pic + 2 videos

① 1 month copy - murder in Newham <sup>from</sup> B + D - knifed her  
 factually poor - has evidence

② 2 ~~fatal~~ knives } casually but didn't die  
 Saesbook word } intensive care / life-threatening knife attacks.  
 Paleslow used } - at the time, knew they were a life support  
 in B + D

meant 2 say murder in Newham from B + D.

Not been requested to put it. Not as correct.

3 murders did take place

Did look thru the blog ∴ Christine Glas CHAK

when looked at it - now accept there were 2 inaccuracies  
- yes

Instructed ∴ of complications - footage

∴ Christine Evans make comments about sch.

∴ press knife crime in borough

These videos - max 3 weeks - taken off.

said to national website - BNP - legal

- do u believe that overall tenor still stands that it did to left  
regardless of misstatement at time

Thought 4-6 weeks would come off. Thought they deleted

Blog - after complaint raised. Accept inaccuracies.

∴ Glas thought it could come off.

Not done intentionally.

### S. media

discussions w/ police

public - if public come round ~~and~~ + ask a few  
times

→ said mentioned it 2 RB - RB got mixed up few  
where.

smears made - attacks

mening bit 2 schools, 8 stab - attacked

1 of those attacks

other attack in Parklaw Park } youths from  
J sep

90% of info goes out

- press, local community, from locals.

police

Slip-ups

if socioeconomy - politics

human error -

Didn't recognise that mistake

RB - ∴ of knife attacks in murders

realise far escalation

national party - could be factual situation

if news subject - are u. sure about this.

BUT, ∴ it is an issue

accept factually accurate - not make a formal  
apology. slipped up on  
words

prob is still there.

RB - info gives over not full facts

- not apologise

- mistake made - not malicious, <sup>not do b seen</sup> aggressive

- 2 fatalities

- doesn't regret making statements:

regret not putting correct info over. Better if correct info through.

If don't do sthing murders

Regret saying 2 died whereas didn't.

8. If 1 person died or more doesn't matter.

Here - nothing happening

1 is too many.

11 December - didn't know if both had died at the ~~same~~ time.

9. Thought it had been pulled.

10. Thought it had been removed.

Now that it is removed.

If they are still as there - will be pulled  $\therefore$  of inaccuracies, not  $\therefore$  of apology.

11. ~~deated~~ <sup>ollihuca</sup> ~~people~~ - higher level of responsibility.

3 murders took place @ Chadwell Heath. Even if inaccurate, but murders do take place @ Chadwell Heath.

Mac time ~~sd~~ have been taken.

knife crime in the home

not responsib to <sup>tell people</sup> knife crime.

RB - knife crime.

- doesn't trust the figures from the letter.

\* FBI - Simon Darby - Met. Bixie say  $\uparrow$

lesser + RB

B + D - Stabilised or  $\uparrow$

copy doc

12. not enough people.

Society - too aggressive  
hold a knife

pol. - take issues that r paramount & goodwill  
of commy

not job & fix other issues

failing in my job - LMAK petition - to send  
message k. holding + carrying knives.

pol's job

parents - police can't do anything 'i' no resources

- what is the point we complaining 'i'

police not doing anything.

If you are providing data in support of your  
pol's

- take effort & provide std<sup>b</sup> accuracy

RB not doing work

fear of crime going & go up

lot of PCOS stopped down.

police - lacking ..

fear - 50/60 complaints that have come & live.

RB - if I wanted a u-m police + council

could have made a car stronger street

- this was saying this is happening

not enough k jobs & say all going nicely

wld do t same thing also make sure

not inaccurate.

907.

Docs - knife crimes in boroughs, sounds

violent related crime

all the data - → shows the prob of knife crime

in boroughs.

Staks - Mon/Tues - Simon Darby 4 murders in book <sup>Appendix 6a</sup>  
Wed - latest info.

RB Local Investigation 06/02/09 CR8

Evidence → ask B.D. <sup>committee to clarify the purpose of the</sup> supplementary evidence. What does she want to rely upon? Ask Pat a response by 13.02.09


→ provide an RB for making a comment.  
→ upset about types of complaints e.g. latent.

Q1. HS

RB → haven't, don't use blogs. I haven't got (I would go to go. Either done by aides or film crew of BNP.

HS → but how long have you appeared on

RB → 2004/2005

RB → we do not use Google. I understand that the websites use the content. Q2 HS have seen on Telegraph or the  But I take resp.

for the my blog

SM → but you check the content?

RB → yes, I check and accept responsibility

SM → did you look at the particular one in question?

RB → no, I don't recall looking at this one. Didn't have time to see the final one

SM

SM

Q3 → To be sure to look at these could be B.S.K., ok  
I don't follow them

Q4 RB Prior to video going out, there was a murder of a young African Caribbean woman <sup>who was from</sup> the B&D  
 other were 2 fatal attacks in Cusbrook Wood and  
 Sandlaw

HS clarifying blog RB said not one from B&D, but  
 killed outside B&D area in Newham

SM → but you said the attack was in B&D

RB → but it came out wrong. I meant she was <sup>from</sup> B&D and murdered in Newham.

SM and evidence supports this? RB → yes

SM → just to make the point → you meant to say that  
 there was a murder of a girl <sup>from</sup> B&D

RB → yes → that's what I meant. → and have evidence  
 to show this.

SM → going back to 2nd statement on blog → you said  
 2 murders. RB → yes, but they didn't die, they were  
 critically ill, but didn't die. I spoke too soon. ○

HS → this is still on the blog?

RB → I don't know. I don't check it. I haven't been  
 asked to pull it.

SM → before we move on, as I put something to you  
 → you said you don't check the blog, but you take  
 responsibility for it and you didn't know that  
 then until you got the complaint you then took the  
 opp to view the blog? RB → no. well, I was in  
 front of the camera, I generally know what I say. ○

but no that's not true, I did look at the blog. Christine Evans (max) told me about the complaint & then had a brief look at this.

The videos are usually on the personal blog in 3 weeks

SM → but did you look at the blog and notice the inaccuracies?

RB → well, no. the national BNP website said do I want to leave it up. I said yes, my belief in gun crime is strong enough to keep it up, if the news that this would be wiped off between 4-6 weeks.

RB I felt what Christine Evans's experiences were sufficiently strong enough for me to carry on with this, despite a glitch.

Q4

1. Media
2. Police
3. Public → v. important, I always believe without question and will report. This is the same in this situation. I was told by public and I confused what they were saying.

Q5 RB → yes, I have a system for verifying. I get information as to the location of the attacks. There was a

Sanjit → From what you've said, can you tell us if there is an audit process for screening info before



going to public.

RB → yes

1. Press

2. Police

3. Local comm. (leaks).

also, sometimes this is first-hand notice of witnessing the incident.

SP  
Sally

→ we are concerned that this wasn't the case. Your statement was inaccurate.

RB → no, in this case it was because I spoke too quickly and got it wrong. Filming was very rushed and I spoke too quickly.

I dispute that I didn't try and cause scaremongering that's just politics and I made a statement.

Sally → why wasn't this picked up on the video before going on the blog?

RB → <sup>they must have</sup> assumed that the details are correct. There have been attacks in B&D so would be likely that this could be true.

QB → RB I accept the evidence was factually inaccurate but I will not make an apology. I won't accept the fact that knife crime doesn't exist. Will take responsibility, but not apologise.

SM → would you apologise that the statement was inaccurate?

RB → No. I would say that the info. that was

given over was not correct.

until the crime is over, I ~~would~~ will not apologise.

SM → This is a matter for someone else

SP RB → yes.

~~Don't~~ → can I just say that we will not be making a decision on this, we are just looking at all facts for the non office. We are just looking at whether ~~we~~ <sup>you</sup> have brought your office into disrepute.

RB → what does this mean? we have to establish facts first.

Q7 <sup>Prison</sup> Do you regret your comments?

RB → no, I do regret saying that 2 people died and they didn't, but don't regret saying about the murder.

Q8 SP → what is being put here is that nothing is being done in the borough, even if one person dies or 20, something still has to be done

Q9 → ~~RB~~ RB → I thought it would have been pulled.

Q10 → RB → thought it would have been removed, esp if there are inaccuracies

HS → if they are still as there?

RB → they will be removed because of inaccuracies

Q.11 RB can you be more accurate as to control?  
I think that the politician should report what is happening.

SM, but the difference here is that they were inaccurate? Do you accept that you have a higher level of responsibility?

RB → I could have said 3 murders took place, wouldn't be inaccurate, murders have happened in the borough. It was the speed of my delivery. I could have said 'people are dying being by knife', would have been accurate. I don't believe I misled them → there are murders happening.

SM. You say that, but police figures say the number of knife crime is decreasing.

RB → I see that this is happening.

SM → But these are murders.

RB → well I don't trust those figures, I have made a FOI request.

SM → well we need to see that. If your figures are different, that is important.

RB → I have figures from local papers.

SM → well the police figures show that there were no murders in the period you are talking about.

RB ~~SM~~ → well there were figures from police coming out at that time showing figures of murder in London, that there were murders.

SP → these police figures are re-London B&D, not London.

SM → yes → we need to compare figures.

Q12

RB → no → the police don't have the resources. It doesn't undermine the police. Police don't have power to deal with this.

SM → condemn politician?

RB → no, politicians should say what is happening. Should tell people that they should petition government to solve this problem.

○ I lead back to the community what is happening in real life.

SP → I think we should go deeper. I accept what you're saying, but whenever you provide factual data, you have (as a politician) got to make sure that this is accurate. If you say there have been 2 murders and there hasn't, this will raise the fear of crime. This is what is in contention. No one is questioning your role as a politician, but if you rely on info to make a point, this must be accurate.

RB → I accept that, but I could have made lots of other reports if I'd wanted to undermine police and the borough.

If I had to go through this again, I would do it again, but making it sure it was accurate.

○ SM → I think that completes the questioning, do you have any questions?

RB Not intentional.

SM → we will deal with this independently.

→ what doc. would you like to leave us with?

RB → all of it → tot of evidence of knife crime in the borough

SM → you will say that this shows level of knife crime in the borough. Can you show us what relates particularly to this complaint and police practices.

RB → yes, will do this. Simon Dobby

