



# ISLINGTON

## **Councillor Terry Stacy JP**

Deputy Leader and

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Liberal Democrat Member for Highbury East

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Councillor Phil Kelly  
Labour Group  
London Borough of Islington

11<sup>th</sup> September 2008

Dear Phil

I am writing in response to your email dated 28<sup>th</sup> August. I apologise for not replying before now as I have been on holiday.

Your initial complaint that two items in the website article were inaccurate has been taken on board. The reference to 'leading Labour councillors' has been amended. It has also been made explicit in the article that the link showed Lisa Spall's name on the list of supporters as of 2<sup>nd</sup> July and that her name has since been removed. This is fact. In your own email to me dated 10<sup>th</sup> July 2008 you admitted:

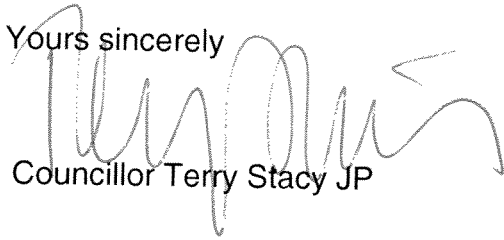
*"Lisa supported Miranda Grell before the allegations against her were proved, on the understanding that everyone is innocent until proved guilty. As soon as it was drawn to Lisa's attention that the list of supporters had not been altered after Ms Grell was found guilty, Lisa had her name removed."*

As you know, Miranda Grell's conviction was upheld in November 2007. The story on the website was originally published on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Lisa Spall's name remained on the list of supporters all this time – a gap of more than seven months. Your decision to remove Lisa Spall's name from the list of supporters was only made after the original website article was published. The website article has been amended to highlight this fact and refers to Lisa Spall's support up to the date in question.

The Initial Assessment Sub Committee of the Council's Standards Board's decision was that I be asked to consider whether it is still appropriate to have the complete article posted on the website and to consider its removal. As requested, I have therefore given the Committee's request careful consideration. However, I do not feel that I can agree to the article's removal from our website for the reasons given above. The requested factual amendments have been made as requested. However, the general facts around the story still stand and I do not see therefore why the story should be removed.

I am copying this letter to the Monitoring Officer for information and for circulation to the Standards Committee members.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terry Stacy', written over the words 'Yours sincerely'.

Councillor Terry Stacy JP

cc Monitoring Officer  
All members of the Standards Committee