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APPENDIX 26

Cllr Charles Adje

78 Warwick Gardens

London, N4 1JA

27th August 2010

Martin Walklate

c/o Dianna St Hilaire

PA to John Suddaby

Head of Legal Services & Monitoring Officer

Haringey Council, River Park House

225 High Road, Wood Green, N22 8HQ

Private and Confidential

Dear Mr Walklate

Thank you for your letter of 10th August in which you enclosed a copy of your findings for my comments.

I make the following general points;

Whilst I am pleased with the outcome of your investigations, I am however very concerned with your conclusion that I breached Part 5 of the Members Code.

I am very disappointed with the assertion that either Mr Holder was pressurised or that the briefing he provided which I asked for was suppressed. As you state, if Mr Holder, as a senior local authority officer who had prepared a briefing for the Chair, and then subsequently prepared a report to Committee having sought legal opinion, felt oppressed or pressurised, why he did not raise it with either the Chair, the Chief Executive of the Authority, or with the Monitoring Officer? You have stated that it was his duty to write a report to the Committee, and one wonders why he did not reflect this in his report.

I do not accept that I deliberately withheld relevant information from my colleagues which would have affected the outcome of their decision. I am sure, too, that if Mr Holder, as a responsible officer, had felt that his professional judgement was being undermined, he would have done something about it. I suppose my only regret was not to have asked him to put his 'change of mind' advice (when he said that it was OK to transfer) in writing. I was obviously too trusting. I refer you to your paragraph 113 where he stated "Not at the time" and to paragraphs 89 and 90 of the report.

I asked for the briefing and, as a former local authority officer, you know that not all briefings are made available to other Members or made public, especially where there is no requirement for this. I do not believe that the briefing would have had any effect on the decision of the Members, as the organisation was trading at a loss and was therefore insolvent and being liquidated. The non-executive directors had left following this situation and advice from Mr Holder.

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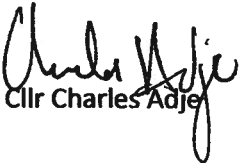
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This was the basis on which Mr Holder changed his mind, albeit with his advice being given verbally, (and which he seems now to deny).

It would also appear that you seem not to have taken into account the fact that Mr Holder had retired and was on a two year contract as a consultant. The issue of the possibility of him being eased out is a red herring. Furthermore, the advice given by Andrew Travers against Mr Holder working for both Firoka and the Board has also, it would appear, been omitted in your submission. On the issue of the financial loss to the Authority, I maintain that were it not for Mr Carter and his associates who brought the judicial review, the loss would not have been sustained, and the transfer and current issues would have been avoided. Ironically, they have not come up with any tangible proposals as to how to maintain the asset, beyond stating their opposition to seeing the site regenerated and transformed for the benefit of the people of the Borough in particular and the public at large.

I came into politics for the benefit of the people of the Borough and my record on the Authority, especially during my time as Leader is a testament to this. I am therefore really disturbed by this continued attempt to continue to defame and tarnish my good reputation.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Charles Adje

Code of Conduct Investigation**Timeline covering known key dates****Key Dates (on or about)**

January 2006 After a public tender process, Firoka is selected as the preferred developer by the AP&P Board

22 May 2006 Cllr Adje served as Chair of the AP&P Board.
to 21 May 2007

November 2006 After negotiations on the terms of the proposed lease and related agreements, the AP&P Board authorise the signing of the "Master Agreement" which commits the Council as trustee to grant a long lease of the Palace to Firoka, subject to procedural requirements

November 2006 Charity Commission undertake public consultation
to January 2007 on draft Order which would permit the Council as trustee to grant a long lease of the Palace to Firoka

January 2007 Charity Commission consider representations
to April 2007 received in response to public consultation

11th April 2007 Meeting takes place between Firoka, Cllr. Adje and Keith Holder

14/15 April Alleged telephone discussions between Cllr. Adje and Kassam take place

16th April Understanding that draft Charity Commission Order is about to be approved.

17th April Keith Holder emails Cllr. Adje briefing note on potential for Firoka withdrawal apparently on Cllr. Adje's request.

Within this period Meeting takes places between Cllr. Adje and Cllr Meehan and, allegedly, Chief Executive (Denied by CE)

According to Cllr. Adje, CE to speak to Holder to require licence development to proceed.
According to Holder, discussion is with Cllr. Adje. Holder, allegedly, told to produce report.

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24 th April 2007	Report produced and tabled to meeting of AP&P Board recommending transfer of business to Firoka
27 April 2007	Charity Commission make Order permitting grant of lease to Firoka
within this period	David Loudfoot was advised that he would need to sign licence when it was prepared
1 st May	Keith Holder commences consultancy contract David Loudfoot commences as General Manager
4 th May	Licence to Firoka signed and becomes operative a few days later
4 th May	Charity Commission confirm their Order
26 th July	Jacob O'Callaghan lodges application for Judicial Review of the Charity Commission's Order. Council as trustee is second defendant to action
1 st August	Original 3 month term of the Licence expires. Meeting of APTL takes place to consider position.
5 th October 2007	Judicial Review Successful. Charity Commission's Order quashed. Lease to Firoka cannot proceed.
10 th October	Meeting of AP&P Board takes place to consider Judicial Review Outcome
21 st October	Meeting between AP&P Board officers and Firoka to consider options for way ahead
Early November	Meeting between officers of LBH and AP&P Board to consider Firoka requirements
7 th November	Legal Advisor to Trust receives first copy of licence
15 th November	Meeting between Officers and Members of LBH and AP&P Board to consider strategy
26 th November	Chief Executive meets with Firoka
5 th December 2007	AP&P Board takes decision to revoke licence to Firoka
7 th January 2008	End of Firoka's occupation of the Palace. Fresh licence granted by AP&P Board to APTL.