
From: Rodric Williams [GRO]
Sent: Wed 09/09/2015 4:49:08 PM (UTC)
To: Susan BARTY [GRO]
Cc: Tom Reid [GRO]
Subject: FW: BBC [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]
Attachment: 150904 Panorama Rebuttal.pdf
Attachment: 150907 Baroness Neville-Rolfe 7 September 2015.pdf

Susan - in case it assists revising the draft letter of complaint, I attach the "rebuttal document produced for BIS" referred to in Mark's email below.

I also attach the covering letter which accompanied it.

Kind regards, Rodric

Rodric Williams
Solicitor, Corporate Services

Post Office Ltd
20 Finsbury Street, London EC2Y 9AQ

[GRO]
[GRO]

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

From: Mark R Davies
Sent: 07 September 2015 11:49
To: BARTY, Susan
Cc: Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Melanie Corfield; Tom Wechsler; Mark Underwood1; Jane MacLeod; Jane Hill; Reid, Tom
Subject: RE: BBC [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]

Hi

Thanks Susan. Further to my email below, I think we should build out a section on Nick Wallis' involvement. In a nutshell I would be looking to say that (a) Mr Wallis' has clear views which threaten BBC impartiality (b) this point is underlined by the BBC previously requesting that he remove a blog post on this issue (c) we were not informed that he was involved in Panorama, which seems a breach of good faith and (d) we know he was involved because he has boasted about it on his Facebook page. In adding this point I think we should provide examples (Mel has them) outlining where he has gone, on his blog, beyond journalism and into campaigning against PO.

I would also use this letter to formally question why when approaching contributors, the BBC has never featured the views of the NFSP. Even if the NFSP has declined approaches, there is on the record footage of George Thomson talking about the issue.

I think we should ask for errors in the current BBC News Online story by John Sweeney to be corrected (i.e. it states at present that we pursued despite there being no evidence of theft - this is simply incorrect). I think we should also ask for the programme to be removed from iplayer.

We should refer to the lack of use of public record transcripts, and cite specific points which would knock down some of the Panorama points. We might even consider using the excellent rebuttal document produced for BIS as an annex to our complaint.

Thoughts?

Mark

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

From: BARTY, Susan [GRO]
Sent: 04 September 2015 19:39
To: Mark R Davies

Cc: Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Melanie Corfield; Tom Wechsler; Mark Underwood1; Jane MacLeod; Jane Hill; Reid, Tom
Subject: RE: BBC [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]

Thanks, Mark.

That sounds a good idea.

Best wishes

Susan

Susan Barty
Partner

T [GRO]
M [GRO]
F [GRO]
E [GRO]

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

From: Mark R Davies [GRO]
Sent: 04 September 2015 19:36
To: BARTY, Susan
Cc: Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Melanie Corfield; Tom Wechsler; Mark Underwood1; Jane MacLeod; Jane Hill; Reid, Tom
Subject: Re: BBC [CMCK-UK.FID8673510]

Thanks Susan. I would like to review the complaint again in the light of the meeting: actually to make it even more comprehensive. I think we need to formally note the views and involvement of Nick Wallis.

Thanks
Mark

Mark Davies
Communications and Corporate Affairs Director Post Office Ltd

Mobile: [GRO]

> On 4 Sep 2015, at 18:39, BARTY, Susan [GRO] wrote:

>

> Thanks, Mark.

>

> We look forward to the further update, and will need to reflect on anything to be changed in the letter as a result. Accepting that we will probably not refer expressly to the meeting.

>

> Best wishes - and good weekends all

>

> Susan

>

>

> Susan Barty

> Partner

>

> T [GRO]

> M [GRO]

> F [GRO]

> E [GRO]

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>
> -----Original Message-----
> From: Mark R Davies [GRO]
> Sent: 04 September 2015 18:27
> To: Rodric Williams; Patrick Bourke; Melanie Corfield; Tom Wechsler;
> Mark Underwood1; BARTY, Susan; Jane MacLeod; Jane Hill
> Subject: BBC
>
> All
>
> Rod and I met James Harding, BBC director of news and current affairs, and Ceri Thomas, editor of Panorama today as you know. The BBC's head of complaints also attended.
>
> It was useful to have the opportunity to land our points about the BBC approach and the reality of the cases featured. I am really grateful to Rod for attending and his excellent support, and Mel for her pack.
>
> James Harding listened and responded positively without making any commitments, as we would expect. But we have landed key points.
>
> We were encouraged to go ahead with a complaint, which we will do. We were also assured that future interview requests will reflect the constraints we are under.
>
> I will update you more fully on Monday.
>
> Best wishes
> Mark
>
>
> Mark Davies
> Communications and Corporate Affairs Director Post Office Ltd
>
> Mobile: [GRO]
>
>
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