

Councillor Clare Whelan
Social Services Spokesman for the
Conservative Opposition
Thurlow Park Ward Member

LAMBETH

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Mr Herman Ouseley
Chief Executive
London Borough of Lambeth
Lambeth Town Hall
London SW2 1RW

25th September 1992

Dear Chief Executive,

Thank you for your letter of 23rd September.

I would like to make a number of points clear:

Allegations of serious criminal activity were made to me. It was wholly appropriate that this information should be passed immediately to the police. It is not within my remit to ascertain whether or not these allegations are correct.

I discharged my duty to Lambeth by informing you of the action I had taken. The responsibility was then yours to take whatever steps you felt necessary and to inform the Director of Social Services.

I note the request in your final paragraph. I have already told you of the allegations and these for the most part are reflected in the four points in your letter. (I assume the word 'implemented' in your letter should read 'implicated'.) I also note that the Director of Social Services will be able to provide me with a full explanation of these matters. I await this urgently.

I have to say I am shocked that, as Opposition Spokesman on Social Services, I have not been informed by the Director of Social Services in confidence of any internal or external investigations of this nature and wish to be assured that I will be kept fully informed from now on. Apart from other considerations it would clearly be of assistance in assessing any information I receive from other sources. Are there any other such investigations?

Yours sincerely,

DPA

Councillor Clare Whelan