

Heywood and Middleton by-election which had a couple of wards in it that I used to represent. Labour subsequently went on to win it.

In relation to Martin Digan's statement as regards an alleged telephone call conversation between him and myself resulting in an appointment being made but then cancelled, I do not recall it and if he wanted a meeting all he had to do was to attend my surgery at the Town Hall. In fact that would have been what I and my office would have suggested, definitely not a separate time and place for a meeting. I also doubt very much that there would be a protracted conversation over the telephone about child abuse.

However, more recently I decided to look into it myself and I was sent a press cutting from the Rochdale Observer which is dated 6th March 1996, in which it states I wrote to Mr Digan and also wrote to Valerie Mellor. So, based on that article, even though I do not remember, I must have had communication with Martin Digan and I acted on it, by writing to Mrs Mellor. I feel this does vindicate me, particularly with regard to the article in the Guardian.

I have been shown Exhibit DCH/30, which is a press article in the Rochdale Observer dated 19th July 1995. I do not remember it at all, which is awful and I do not remember the documents allegedly given to me by Martin Digan. Nor can I remember attending any meeting with Paul Rowen and Ian Davy which the article suggests was going to occur, but I cannot state that it did not happen. I simply do not remember.

If I had received a dossier I would have sent it on somewhere, probably to the relevant Secretary of State such as Gillian Shepherd or the Director of Education at the Council with a covering letter asking them to look into it and I would have sent a letter to Mr. Digan saying I had forwarded it on and would send him a reply as soon as I received a response. Unfortunately I do not think there is any way I can check up, owing to the passage of time, but I wonder if my former secretary, Elaine Machin, can remember documents and any letters that might have been sent at that time.

Signature: Liz Lynne
2016

Signature witnessed by: