



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr Andy Burnham  
Mayor of Greater Manchester  
Greater Manchester Combined Authority  
Churchgate House  
Oxford Street  
Manchester  
M1 6EU

Our Ref: JD2454

10 June 2020

Dear Mr Burnham,

**Re: Shukri Abdi**

I am writing to you regarding the tragic death of 12 year old, Shukri Abdi in June last year.

Shukri Abdi and her family lived in Bury and she attended a local school. As Police and Crime Commissioner for the area I am sure you are aware of the circumstances surrounding Shukri's death.

As you are further aware, these events occurred prior to my election to office in December 2019 as Member of Parliament for Bury North. Following a telephone call with your office, I am reassured that you are asking Greater Manchester Police to review the case in light of the concerns expressed by Shukri's family and others. I have been informed that further witnesses have now come forward and I would request that you ask the police to interview all those who could potentially provide vital new evidence.

I understand the police have already carried out an investigation and the matter is now being investigated by the coroner. Would you please provide me with an update on the current status of the case within the justice system so I am able to update my constituents - and all those who expressed grave concerns regarding the circumstances of Shukri's death. Can I ask you to confirm that the case has not been closed. I have been advised that the Coroners Inquest is currently adjourned indefinitely. Can I ask the reason for this adjournment and if and when you expect the case to resume.

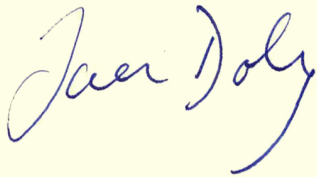
As the Mayor of Greater Manchester, would you also confirm whether any independent investigation has ever been carried out into the serious safeguarding issues raised by Shukri's case and what discussions either yourself or your officials may have had with Bury Council regarding the complaints of systematic bullying that had been made by Shukri's family prior to her tragic death. Have any lessons been learned and have any new procedures been adopted by public bodies in light of these events?

I note the relevant Cabinet Member on Bury MBC was also a member of the Police and Crime Panel for Greater Manchester at the time of these events. Bury MBC website still lists this Council Cabinet member as a member of the GM Police and Crime Panel and, in fact, GMCA still lists this Council Cabinet Member as the Chair of the Police and Crime Panel. Would you confirm if this is correct and what role, if any, the panel play in supervising such sensitive cases.

Although we have not spoken directly, I note from newspaper reports that you will “look into“ the death of Shukri. In light of potential new evidence, the ongoing concerns of Shukri’s family and the wider public interest, would you confirm by return the action you will be taking to ensure all evidence in Shukri’s case is reviewed by the police and the coroner. Please also confirm, in your role as Mayor of Greater Manchester, your support for the instigation of an independent investigation into the role of all those within Bury Council who were aware of the clear safeguarding issues highlighted both before and after the tragic death of Shukri Abdi.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James Daly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Daly MP