

MSP REPLIES – APRIL 2004

Dear Mr Mckie

Thank you for your email of 26th April.

I am of course aware of the Asbury case and indeed the case involving your daughter specifically and clearly there are many unanswered questions.

I am looking further into this matter and I will reply to you more fully shortly.

Yours sincerely

Bill Aitken

Dear Iain,

Thanks for your email. I have followed this case as it has appeared in the press, and I must say that from only a superficial knowledge, the moral rights of the case appear to be entirely with Shirley. I would be very happy to give my support to any cross party action in support of your daughter. As an individual MSP there is not a huge amount I can do relating to police matters, but I would certainly have no problem with your using my name in your support, and if there is any other action I can do to help, please phone my assistant, Michael Collie on the number below to talk it through with him.

Best Wishes,

Chris Ballance msp,

Dear Mr McKie

Thank you for your email about what happened to Shirley. This is indeed a terrible injustice. It is appalling that the Scottish Executive has not settled Shirley's claim for compensation.

I have signed Alasdair Morgan's motion criticising the recent attempt by Strathclyde Police to recover costs.

You have my support for an early resolution of Shirley's claim.

Yours sincerely

Frances Curran

Dear Mr McKie

I hope so to. It is anon party and non partisan issue and must be treated that way. However it is at the root of the reason for having a parliament and therefore action should take place.

Kenny MacAskill

Dear Mr McKie

Thank you for your note. I am very familiar with your daughter's case and know that some of my colleagues have been very active in supporting her. I am totally supportive of her case and horrified that her ordeal continues at the hands of the public authorities in Scotland.

I will ensure my colleagues continue their active work on your daughter's behalf.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely

John Swinney MSP

Thanks for your e-mail. As you will know a motion has been put down in the Scottish Parliament which I have signed. I think it is a disgrace that the Police in Strathclyde have asked your daughter for money back.

Mike Pringle MSP

Thanks for the email. I have of course followed the case in the media and I believe Shirley has been incredibly badly treated, both in the original injustice and the subsequent claim against her. I also think the case raises huge issues, as the reliability of fingerprinting was something I wouldn't have questioned before. It's very worrying if they're even considering using an unreliable technique for possible ID cards, let alone possible other miscarriages of justice that may not yet have come to light. I wish you well in your campaign.

Eleanor Scott

Dear Iain,

I write to offer the full support of the SSP and our 6 MSP's for your daughter's fight for justice. Shirley has been and continues to be treated disgracefully by the police, the Scottish Executive and the justice system. We are with you and Shirley all the way. Stay strong. Yours in Solidarity,

Tommy (Sheriden)

Hi Iain,

Thanks for this. I do offer support and believe Shirley should not have to go through any more trauma and that all parties; police, the Executive etc should own up and pay up. I'd be happy to submit questions etc as you consider appropriate on her behalf. Although Colin Fox would perhaps be the most appropriate person as our Justice spokesperson.

All the best,

Carolyn (Leckie)

Dear Mr. McKie

I have signed the motion in her favour, and have every sympathy with her case

Robin Harper MSP

Dear Mr McKie.

I have a great deal of sympathy with your daughter's case, but I'm afraid that it is outwith my remit as the MSP for Galloway and Upper Nithsdale to deal with. I have to refer you, therefore, to either your constituency, or your regional MSPs, within whose remit your daughter's case falls. I am aware that my colleague Phil Gallie is extremely supportive.

I regret that I cannot be of greater assistance.

Yours sincerely,
Alex Fergusson.

Thanks for this. I have advised colleagues who have asked me that your statement aligns with facts as I know them and that in my view Scottish ministers should act to compensate and Strathclyde Police should drop their disgraceful action.

In earlier contact I stressed my anxieties over the effect of what I saw as SCRO error and what I suspected was collusion this because of the effect on criminal trial and appeal outcomes where fingerprint evidence had a part to play. My hope was that the executive would ensure that a system could be put in place to ensure accuracy and restore confidence. by continuing to act as they are now they are failing in their objective as well as persecuting the one person in this sorry affair who comes out bathed in honesty.

Phil Gallie

Thanks for the message. I am aware of the case, and I agree that she should have had compensation for the stress caused her, and the career which was ruined. I do not believe that the police should be pursuing her, and I will be happy to support a suitable motion, if one is lodged by one of her MSPs.

Murray Tosh

Dear Iain

Thanks very much for your EMail. I've been kept informed by Michael Russell about the continuing injustice to Shirley but I appreciate the time you have taken to get in touch with me.

Best wishes to you and Shirley

Tricia Marwick

Iain,

I have kept a close interest in Shirley's case from the first time it was reported in the media and I totally accept the position that Shirley, you and Mike Russell have taken on the matter.

As well as the shadow this casts over Shirley, the whole affair damages Scotland, its reputation and our own self-esteem, when something like this can happen in our name.

You have my wholehearted support and I am more than happy to add my name to any cross party call for an early and appropriate resolution of the matter.

Best regards to you and Shirley,

Jim Mather

I am aware of your daughter's case. I agree that she has been served badly so far and signed the recent parliamentary motion lodged by Alasdair Morgan MSP

Brian Adam MSP

I do and I fully support the involvement of Mike Russell and Alex Neil and others in continuing to campaign for justice for your daughter.

Christine Grahame

Dear Mr. McKie,

Thank you for your letter. I have kept reasonably up to date with this and am sympathetic to the issues raised by your daughter. However, it seems to me to be primarily a matter for the legal process in terms of your daughter's claim for compensation, and, beyond that, for your local MSP to take up with the Minister.

It would not normally be proper for me to take up a case outwith my own constituency.

I would however be interested in being kept advised of progress.

best wishes,

Robert Brown MSP

Thank you Mr. McKie - I'm already a supporter of your daughter's case.

Regards, **Linda (Fabiani)**