

Ms. Cressida Dick

18.09.17

Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police

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Dear Madam Commissioner

We act for Professor Joshua Silver of the University of Oxford - who is supported by many others - to check whether standard procedures are being adopted concerning the widely discussed alleged offences of bribery contrary to the Bribery Act 2010 arising from the government's confidence and supply agreement with the DUP.

There are, we know, civil legal proceedings being pursued over this and related issues. In Judicial Review pleadings the government says little more than that the agreement for the additional £1bn is not intended to and does not induce the DUP to act improperly

There has been no other public explanation of why the Act does not apply to this agreement. On a straightforward reading of the Act offences would appear to be made out and the limited response in the Judicial Review proceedings simply begs the question of criminality raised by consideration of the terms of the Bribery act together with other helpful documents such as Codes of Conduct relating to the performance by MPs of their work. So there is no apparent reason for the police *not* to investigate crimes of such potential gravity as these, given that if bribery is indeed made out then any decision of the House of Commons affected by bribery might be of no effect.

It seems to Professor Silver, consistent with our advice, that it would be better to test this immediately in the normal procedural way by investigation, (assuming potential crimes are revealed), interviewing of witnesses, DPP consent and prosecution. If this is not done immediately, then after some unspecified time retrospective and potentially influential opinions may be formed on the basis that this fundamental step was not taken when it should have been.

It may very well be that this is already well in hand and we hope you will excuse us adding to what have been other voices seeking confirmation of what we seek.

Professor Silver has secured over 1100 registrations interest on the website: <http://www.dupbribe.org.uk/>.

Yours faithfully

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