

LONDON ASSEMBLY

Liberal Democrat Group



Hina Bokhari AM

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28 June 2023

David Bellamy
Chief of Staff
Mayor of London

[SENT BY EMAIL]

Dear David,

GLA Oversight Committee: International Trips

At the meeting of the GLA Oversight Committee on 20 June 2023 I asked you about a day-trip to Mumbai made by the Deputy Mayor for Business in April 2019.

You said “I find it hard to believe there was a day-trip to India” and that “the details I’m looking at [at] the moment don’t reflect that at all.”

You went on to say that “[in] April 2019 the Deputy Mayor was in Berlin, which is Germany not India.”

The trip in question was listed in Appendix 2 to the Committee brief for the meeting. This list was based on a written answer to a Mayor’s Question provided on 17 March 2021 (Question number 2021/0577). The Question asked for a list of all dates since May 2016 when the Deputy Mayor for Business went on an overseas trip.

The written answer from the Mayor stated as the penultimate entry in its list:

Mumbai – April 2019

Visited Mumbai for one day on the 18th April and during this time he met with: Ms Alice Vaidya, Chairperson General Insurance Company and Mr Deepak Parekh, Chairperson HDFC Ltd and London Ambassador. He also had a potential investors lunch meeting with 10 FDI clients and the Trade Commissioner DIT.

The same answer included a trip to Berlin in March 2019, which is not April 2019.

I have asked my colleague Caroline Pidgeon to have the record corrected at the next meeting of the Oversight Committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hina Bokhari". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'H' and 'B'.

Hina Bokhari AM

Liberal Democrat London Assembly Member