

Mr Matt Parr

HM Inspector of Constabulary
Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary
6th Floor
Globe House
89 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PN

21 March 2017

Dear Matt,

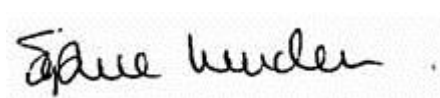
You will be aware of allegations of electoral fraud in the London Borough of Tower Hamlets relating to the conduct of the 2014 election for Mayor of Tower Hamlets. The Metropolitan Police Service investigated a number of allegations relating to this election at the time, and subsequent to the Election Court ruling that saw the result of the election overturned. No convictions have resulted from these investigations.

A number of concerns have been raised with me about the conduct of the police investigation into these, and connected, matters. It is right, particularly in cases such as these, that there is no political pressure whatsoever applied to the police, and that they should be able to carry out their investigations, which are ongoing, without fear or favour. That said, I am keen to ensure that the investigations can command the trust and confidence of Londoners and particularly residents of Tower Hamlets, who are keen to see the integrity of the democratic process robustly secured. The public need to have the highest level of confidence that any and all criminal prosecutions have been considered and pursued.

To that end, I would like to exercise my powers provided for in Section 54 of the Police Act 1996, as amended by the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act 2011, to invite you to carry out an inspection into this case and make recommendations for future improvement.

I look forward to discussing this, including appropriate timescales, with you in more detail shortly.

Yours sincerely,



Sophie Linden
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime