



Committee of Privileges

House of Commons · London · SW1A 0AA

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From the Chair

Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP

Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
House of Commons
London SW1A 2AA

22 March 2023

In confidence

Privileges – matter referred on 21 April 2022

Dear Boris,

I am replying to the letter from your solicitors Peters & Peters delivered to us at 9.42 am this morning.

The Committee received the interview records taken in the Sue Gray investigation in confidence and subject to undertakings given to the Government not to make that public.

The Committee decided not to rely on that material because it is not evidence and the civil servants had not had a chance to verify the material (as you know, the interview notes are not transcripts and were not shown to those who were interviewed).

We gave them that chance and rely only on evidence statements verified by statements of truth.

You have had disclosure of all that material for more than two weeks. You could have asked for any of this material to be verified by the witnesses concerned. You have not done that and you have not asked the Committee to do that.

The Committee takes its obligations of confidentiality and to junior civil servants very seriously. You only asked to rely on material that is not evidence at 3.21 pm on Monday this week, less than 48 hours before the evidence session.

This inquiry does not finish with today's evidence session. You are entitled to obtain witness statements which we will consider. You have all the material in the master bundle and you can refer the Committee to that without prejudicing confidentiality.

I do hope that this late demand is not being used as a distraction from the work of the Committee. The remedy is in your hands.

Yours ever,

Rt Hon Harriet Harman MP
Chair, Committee of Privileges