

Caribbean Labour Solidarity
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Sir Mark Rowley - Metropolitan Police Commissioner
Metropolitan Police Service
New Scotland Yard
Broadway
London SW1H 0BG

Email: new.scotland.yard@met.police.uk

2024 03 17

Dear Sir Mark Rowley,

Re: Ms Diane Abbott MP

I am writing this open letter to you on behalf of our organisation Caribbean Labour Solidarity (CLS) regarding information that we have received in respect of Diane Abbott MP.

As you know, it has been reported in the press, radio, television and on social media that Frank Hester, a business person and significant Conservative Party donor, has made remarks about Diane Abbott that are most derogatory to her, women in general and black women in particular. He is quoted as saying: -

"...you just want to hate all black women because she's there..."

It has further been reported that he also remarked, at a 2019 meeting of his company, The Phoenix Partnership, that he wishes for her to be shot. This comment was made subsequent to the assassination of Jo Cox MP for Batley and Spen.

We are extremely concerned about these remarks; their effect on Ms Abbott and the palpable fear that it creates for non-white persons in the UK.

We are aware that these remarks may amount to a breach of the criminal law, such as incitement to racial hatred, possibly contrary to the Public Order Act 1986, section 18 (1) (a) or (b) and/or the Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006.

Likewise, wishing for someone to be shot could amount to incitement to do grievous bodily harm. In this case to the MP, Ms Abbott. This is a matter of great concern in the light of the murder of Ms Jo Cox MP, as mentioned above. We are requesting that you consider these representations as we believe that they could amount to a breach of these and other laws. If so we call on you to take the appropriate action.

Should you wish to contact us further about our position on this matter we can be contacted on +44 07401 625 276, +44 7921 816101 or 07598 282 834.

Yours sincerely

pp

Luke Daniels
President - Caribbean Labour Solidarity

Who are we

President Luke Daniels **General Secretary** Cauline Braithwaite **Secretary** Frank Murray
Treasurer Raphael Andrews **Cutlass Editor** Steve Cushion

CLS is a well respected organisation, established in the UK in 1974 as the Jamaica Trade Union Solidarity Campaign by prominent Caribbean activists and persons of standing in the settled community. We subsequently adopted the name Caribbean Labour Solidarity and have so existed for over 50 years. Details about our activities and ourselves and can be found at <https://cls-uk.org.uk>.