

Baxter, Clare

From: Gowdy, Clive
Sent: 12 May 2004 11:53
To: Mulhern, Kevin
Cc: Carson, Ian; McCarthy, Miriam; Campbell, Dr Henrietta; Burne, Alison; Shannon, Colm
Subject: RE: Lucy Crawford

Kevin,

We need to be careful that the story does not suddenly become the reluctance of the Minister to deal with these issues. I would suggest a slight tweaking of the line, as follows:

"The Minister has many demands on her time at present and unfortunately cannot spare the time to conduct an interview with you in the foreseeable future. However, to be as helpful as possible to you, she is very willing to deal frankly with the issues surrounding this case which you wish to raise with her and she is prepared to write personally to you in response to any of the issues that you say remain. I do not believe that this is unreasonable and it will facilitate you in writing your story."

If you see any problems with this amended line, please let me know.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mulhern, Kevin
Sent: 11 May 2004 16:48
To: Gowdy, Clive
Cc: Carson, Ian; McCarthy, Miriam; Campbell, Dr Henrietta; Burne, Alison; Shannon, Colm
Subject: FW: Lucy Crawford

Secretary

With regard to Denzil McDaniel's persistent requests for an interview with the Minister (see correspondence below) over the Lucy Crawford case I would propose issuing the line below. Also be advised that Press Office continue to believe that both the Impartial Reporter and UTV are collaborating over this story as the bid below followed less than one hour after the UTV telephone enquiry today.

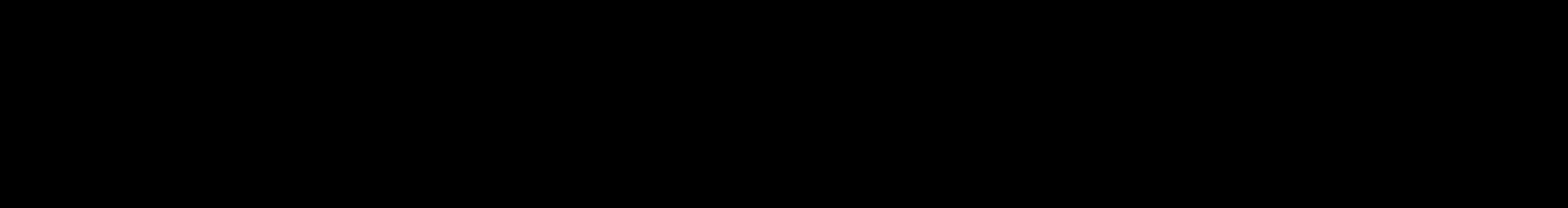
Happy to discuss

Kevin

Line to Take

The Minister is prepared to personally write to you dealing with any of the issues that you say remain. The Minister does not think that this is unreasonable.

-----Original Message-----

From: Denzil McDaniel [mailto:dmdaniel@
Sent: 11 May 2004 15:23
To: Mulhern, Kevin
Subject: Re: Lucy Crawford

Kevin.

Thank you for your offer suggesting the Minister will write to me personally. As I have explained, from my point of view this is not a satisfactory way forward. On Tuesday 5 April, at your suggestion, I sent a

list of questions (seven in total). I received a statement from the Minister which, in my opinion and with all respect, did not address any of my questions. I hope you and the Minister will, therefore, understand my reluctance to go down that route again.

I recall I first telephoned you about this subject on Friday, 2 April, and in the five weeks since I have forwarded a total of seven requests for an interview.

Therefore, and in view of your latest reply, I believe it is pertinent to ask:

Is the Minister ever prepared, diary commitments permitting, to give an interview to me on the subject of the death of Lucy Crawford?

I await your reply before deciding how to proceed with this story.

Denzil

> From: "Mulhern, Kevin" <Kevin.Mulhern@ [REDACTED]>

> Date: Thu, 6 May 2004 17:26:14 +0100

> To: "'Denzil McDaniel'" <dmcdaniel@ [REDACTED]>

>

> Denzil

> I am not able to give you any indication when the Minister's diary would be
> free. I would re-emphasise her offer to reply personally in writing to you
> and I would stress that you forward the outstanding issues that you believe
> remain.

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> Kevin

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