DAMIAN COLLINS MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON SW1A 0AA

Jack Dorsey, Esq. CEO, Twitter 1355 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94103

14 December 2017 Our Ref: DC/JW

Dear Jack,

I am writing to you following the previous letters I have sent to Mr Nasr, Managing Director of Twitter in the UK on 19th October and yourself on 3rd November requesting data regarding the use, through your platform, of bots and foreign interference in the political discourse of the United Kingdom.

The information you have now shared with us, in the form of a copy of your response to the Electoral Commission, is completely inadequate. In the letter I sent to you on 3rd November I requested "that Twitter provides to the Committee a list of accounts linked to the Internet Research Agency and any other Russian linked accounts that it has removed and examples of any posts from these accounts that are linked to the United Kingdom."

Additionally, I wrote to Mr Nasr, Managing Director of Twitter in the United Kingdom regarding some 13,493 suspected bots highlighted in a study carried out at City University and asking the following:

- 1) Were these accounts legitimate users or bots?
- 2) Who controlled these accounts?
- 3) What was the reach of the tweets that originated from these accounts?
- 4) Who deleted the tweets that originated from these accounts?

Whilst the inquiry currently being conducted by the Electoral Commission is extremely important, it is completely separate and different in nature to the inquiry that my Committee is undertaking. The scope of our inquiry, and the questions that I have asked your company are far wider in scope than the

response provided to me by Mr Pickles, UK Head of Public Policy for Twitter, that only refers to paid-for advertising on your platform.

It seems odd that so far we have received more information about activities that have taken place on your platform from journalists and academics than from you. If Twitter is serious about cooperating with the work of this Committee and tackling the spread of disinformation then you should provide me with a full response to the clear questions that I set out in my letters of 19th October and 3rd November no later than Monday 15th January 2018.

Yours sincerely,

DAMIAN COLLINS

Chair of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee