Letter from Shami Chakrabarti to the Chair of the Committee, 16 August 2016

Thank you for your letter of congratulations dated 8 August 2016 which was sent whilst I was away on holiday.

I accepted the Leader of the Opposition's nomination for the former Prime Minister's resignation list after the publication of the report into antisemitism and all forms of racism in the Labour Party.

I chaired the Inquiry as a party member but came under no pressure or undue influence. Further the Inquiry reached highly critical conclusions independent of any person, faction or structure within Labour.

To suggest, as reported in sections of the press, that the Inquiry was a corrupt "whitewash" is deeply insulting and completely untrue.

Finally, I look forward to working with you, both in your capacity as one of the country's senior BAME MPs and in your role as a member of the National Executive of the Labour Party on the implementation of the Inquiry's report.

Letter from the Chair of the Committee to Shami Chakrabarti, 16 August 2016

Thank you so much for your letter of 16 August.

However, I am sorry that the information you have provided does not fully answer the question that was asked. For completeness and clarity I would be grateful if you would answer the questions below:

- 1. The date that the prospect of this peerage was first discussed with you, or your office, by the Leader of the Labour Party, his office, or a Member of the Shadow Cabinet.
- 2. The date you were offered this peerage by the Leader of the Labour Party.
- 3. The date you accepted this offer.

These answers would provide much needed clarity to this issue, particularly following your answers to questions on this matter, such as those given to BBC Newsnight on 26 July.

I would be grateful for your answer by noon on Monday 21 August 2016.