PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Mr McLaughlin 1st June 2016

This letter is written in furtherance to the letter I sent you on the 11th May 2015.

This letter broadly addresses matters relating to Operation Tempura, a corruption investigation in the Cayman Islands conducted by officers from the Metropolitan Police. The assistance of the Metropolitan Police had been sought by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and approved by the then Commissioner of police Lord Ian Blair QPM.

The investigation ran from September 2007 until September 2009 and was overseen and regularly reviewed by the then Metropolitan Assistant Commissioner of police John Yates who travelled to the Cayman Islands on four separate occasions to review the investigation. The investigation was directed and managed by me and I accept that ultimately I was responsible for all the decisions made. That said, all critical decisions were only ever made in line with legal advice received from both Andre Mondesir and Martin Polaine the advice and guidance I received from an Oversight committee whose membership at different stages of the investigation included George McCarthy and Donovan Ebanks ( both ex Chief Secretaries to the Cayman Islands) the then Deputy Attorney General Cheryl Richards, the then Acting Commissioner of police James Smith, the current Chief Secretary Franz Manderson and the head of the Governor’s office Simon Tonge FCO.

Copies of all the legal advice received, the reviews conducted by John Yates, minutes of the meetings of the oversight group witness statements provided by individuals and records of meetings and interactions with numerous individuals including the then Governor of the Cayman Islands Stuart Jack and correspondence with the FCO etc. remain in the possession of RCIPS and are available for inspection and review. The documents amount to thousands of pages of material that provide the true account of what took place in Operation Tempura.

Since the completion of the investigation, there have been numerous matters which have been dealt with by the courts both in the UK and the Cayman Islands. Documents relating to those matters are available for inspection and evaluation. I also have possession of a significant amount of other material, (much of which has been accumulated since 2009 ) including, correspondence between myself and the FCO and correspondence with the previous Governor Duncan Taylor, the current Governor Helen Kilpatrick, senior officials at the FCO, the current Commissioner of police David Baines, the Deputy Commissioner Craig Mackie, and the Deputy Assistant Commissioner Fiona Taylor (both of the Metropolitan Police Service) and the Cayman Islands Information Commissioner Jan Liebers.

I make reference to the existence of the above material as its content will prove crucial to any ‘inquiry process’ that is established in the future.

At this juncture it is important to highlight that I recognise there are those who hold the view that Operation Tempura and Cealt was a waste of money and that I and my team achieved nothing in our time in the Cayman Islands. Furthermore, there remains a view that I deliberately manipulated and misled people to ensure that I could continue in exploiting circumstances which allowed me to be paid vast sums of money. I respect and acknowledge those views, but would submit, that they have been arrived at in the absence of all the facts and that the ‘court of public opinion’ has been distorted by those who remain motivated to ‘bury the truth’ of what actually occurred in operation Tempura and Cealt along with events that have unfolded since 2009 . They know, that to allow all the facts to be independently scrutinised would run a very high risk of exposing wrongdoing by individuals, causing significant embarrassment to the FCO, the Cayman Islands government etc. Reputational damage would be at a premium.

In relation to operation Cealt in excess of sixty people voluntarily came forward to report allegations of corruption. Many of those allegations were of the most serious nature and involved allegations against politicians, members of the judiciary, serving and ex RCIPS officers and other senior officials in the Cayman Islands. All of those allegations were tape recorded and are still in existence. Contrary to the misleading media releases in relation to operation Cealt I was never tasked to investigate the allegations. My task was to record the allegations and then submit them to the Governor Stuart Jack and the then acting commissioner of police James Smith. I understand that the matters were passed onto David Baines to deal with. Whether Baines dealt with the allegations in a manner that was required of him remains to be seen.

There is a plethora of evidence across the world that when governments and other institutions are at risk of having unethical behaviour exposed they enter into a cycle of disruptive and manipulative activity to conceal the wrongdoing whereby individuals’ accountability goes unchecked. Such activity will often include inappropriately identifying and blaming others for what has occurred, often knowing that those individuals do not have the ‘capacity’ to fight alone the injustices that may have been done to them. Equally, ‘the establishment’ will try to deal with issues in ‘silos’ where the full picture and interconnecting factors are not joined and considered collectively, nobody see ‘the full picture’. This is ‘classic’ establishment behaviour.

It is clear from all of the documentation in my possession and which I know is in existence elsewhere, that the matters referred to in the preceding paragraph is exactly what has happened in the case of operation Tempura Operation Cealt and the other events that have unfolded since its 2009.

I now have new evidence in my possession which has come into my possession since I left the Cayman Islands. That evidence has now been corroborated/supported by another source in the Cayman Islands. I am now collaborating with and working closely with that other source and his legal team and sharing of material has commenced.

All of the evidence considered together clearly supports the assertion I made earlier in this letter that there has been deliberate concealment of evidence, misrepresentation of the facts, and that individuals holding high public office have behaved unethically in their individual and collective desire to have matters ‘swept under the carpet.

I wish to make you aware that the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions are in my humble submission conflicted in providing any advice to you on these issues.

Ironically although the criminal investigation against me is still ongoing, the Commissioner David Baines has recently written to me and stated that he has no intention of affording me with the opportunity to answer my accusers (who to date still remain unknown to me) in accordance with my rights under the Cayman Islands constitution and in accordance with my rights under ECHR.

He has stated that he will submit an uncompleted file of the police investigation to the Director of Public Prosecutions for consideration as to whether I will be prosecuted or not without me being given the opportunity to answer the charges against me.

You would be aware that from recent media releases in this matter there are serious questions as to the way Baines has handled the investigation against and that he has possibly misled the court in relation to the FCO’s fight with the Information Commissioner to keep the findings of my complaint away from public scrutiny. You will also be aware that those findings have recently been released. If ever I am put in a position to defend myself against criminal charges I will be calling the Information Commissioner as a defence witness to highlight the behaviour of Baines ( already referred to in the Information Commissioners findings) in my defence if required.

Officers from the RCIPS have in May of 2016 been interviewing witnesses in the UK in relation to the investigation against me. Those interviews were recorded by the witnesses. In those interviews the officers reveal a number of disturbing factors in relation to the alleged investigation against me, perhaps of most concern was that after three years of investigation the officers openly admitted that they had only recently taken charge of the investigation and stated that they were at this stage only conducting a ‘scoping study’. This revelation of course is contrary to the sworn evidence Baines provided to the court on behalf of the FCO who were challenging the Information Commissioners decision to release my complaint and Duncan Taylor’s findings in relation to the complaint into the public domain.

The reality of the current impasse is that I and others have evidence that has not to date been subjected to investigation. Our challenge has been and remains where do we go with that evidence?

Last year I wrote to you raising my concerns about the behaviour of the FCO, (and some of its individuals) the Commissioner David Baines and other senior officials in the Cayman Islands. I asked you to listen to what I and others had to say and examine the evidence about how particular matters were being suppressed and that allegations of serious crimes had not been addressed by Baines to an internationally accepted standard. You declined the invitation to engage with me as I was currently still under criminal investigation. I can only hope that as the elected leader of your country, knowing that there is significant disquiet as to the way Baines has managed investigations conducted by RCIPS irrespective of the ‘sham’ investigation against me that you no longer maintain such a polarized view. If you position remains as it was last year then so be it*. “You can take a horse to the water but you cannot make him drink it”.*

I am sure you can understand that I want to put all of these matters behind me and move on with my life and if possible avoid the significant damage that exposure of all the evidence I hold would bring to senior officials both in the Cayman Islands and the UK and the significant reputational damage to the Cayman Islands at the global level as to how they *‘in reality’* deal with issues of wrongdoing.

I now invite the Cayman Islands government to immediately enter into without prejudice discussions with me to resolve all of these issues amicably in the best interests of all those who would be adversely affected by the revelation of all the facts. If such a course of action were agreed upon I would be willing to be part of a negotiated settlement which included comprehensive and without prejudice discussions whereby ‘learning for the future’ to assist in moving away from a culture of ‘brushing matters under the carpet’ is achieved.

Finally, I ask you to keep in mind that you should not underestimate mine and others resolve to have these very serious issues dealt with and unless matters are resolved amicably I reserve the right and will ‘not flinch’ from addressing the matters in the best interest of myself and my family.

You have my assurance that at this stage I have not shared this letter with any other person but reserve the right to do so.

If you agree to ‘without prejudice discussions’ it would be at that stage that I would instruct Counsel to represent me in those discussions.

I ask that you immediately acknowledge receipt of this letter and I look forward to receiving your response to my suggested way forward by the close of business on the 3rd June 2016. (Cayman time)

Yours sincerely

Martin Bridger QPM