



Chief Superintendent Nik Adams  
Counter Terrorism Policing HQ  
New Scotland Yard  
Victoria Embankment  
London  
SW1A 2JL

20<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Sir / Madam

I am writing to you with regards to a number of recent publications by CAGE, online and in other forums, relating to safeguarding and child protection procedures.

While the police and partner agencies welcome scrutiny and oversight, recent reporting by CAGE of actions taken by police and partner agencies around child safeguarding activity is, in our view, inaccurate and misleading. The cumulative effect of this is to damage community confidence in both Prevent and wider safeguarding activity. This is unacceptable as it makes it less likely that communities will engage with agencies, which in turn puts children at risk of harm.

Particular care needs to be taken when referring to matters that have been subject to a hearing in the Family Court. In many cases there will be restrictions on reporting to protect the privacy of the children concerned and any published material, which may directly or indirectly reference proceedings or any orders made, may place an individual or agency at risk of legal sanction.

We have particular concerns regarding a video published by yourselves on the CAGE Facebook page on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2018. The video relates to a Sister 'Maryam' and contains an account by her of an interaction with the police and other agencies in April 2016.

As you will appreciate, the speaker has chosen to conceal and protect her identity, but by her own account she refers to an incident that occurred on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016 and to having contact with the police. Based on that limited information I believe the speaker and the incident she refers to can be identified. While I respect her right to express her opinions and her desire not to identify herself, at the same time the allegations she makes against the police are serious and, I believe, are misleading.

Specifically, the video fails to mention that the policing activity described at the hospital and another address did not relate to Sister 'Maryam', but was in connection with the arrest of a dangerous and violent individual who was subsequently convicted and imprisoned for a serious offence in which multiple members of the public, including a juvenile, were injured. This

omission invites the viewer to draw the incorrect conclusion that the police have targeted, for no apparent reason, a woman who has just given birth when in fact they were carrying out proportionate and legitimate policing activity to secure a conviction against a violent and dangerous offender.

The omission of important facts has led to serious allegations being made that are misleading. I therefore ask that you either update the film to properly reflect the facts, or remove and cease to distribute the film concerned. I also ask that you cease using a misleading description of this incident in future publications and apply due diligence in relation to any future matters, to ensure accurate reporting is carried out in good faith. It is also vital that any incidents you publicise do not breach restrictions on reporting placed by any Court.

Yours faithfully,



**Nik Adams**  
Chief Superintendent  
National Coordinator - Prevent  
Counter Terrorism Policing Headquarters