



Mr Toby Young
General Secretary, Free Speech Union
85 Great Portland Street
London
W1W7LT

[REDACTED]
T/Detective Superintendent
Charing Cross Police Station
Agar Street
London
WC2N 4DH

5th August 2021

Dear Mr Young,

Reference: your letter dated 31st July

Thank you for your letter to the Commissioner dated as above which related to the knife attack on a female member of the public at Speaker's Corner on 25th July.

I am aware of your previous correspondence with my colleagues: MPS Royal Parks Inspector [REDACTED] on 25th June and prior to that on the 2nd June with Detective Inspector [REDACTED] from the Commissioner's Private Office. I have now been asked to respond to your most recent letter as the T/Detective Superintendent leading Local Investigations in Central West Basic Command Unit, which covers the area including Speaker's Corner.

I see from your letter that you state this member of the public is a member of the Free Speech Union and hence understand your concern in relation to this serious assault on her. However, in relation to the questions you raise about this incident, I am sure you will appreciate that I cannot comment on any ongoing investigations, nor can I share private information about individuals with third parties. Please let me reassure you, however, that the Metropolitan Police Service takes any assault of this nature very seriously and, as you may be aware, officers from the Counter Terrorism Command are now leading on this investigation and I am liaising regularly with them.

In relation to this individual's ongoing safety and her rights under Articles 9, 10 and 11 of the European Convention of Human Rights, I can confirm that officers from The Royal Parks and Central West BCU will continue to monitor the situation at Speaker's Corner and ensure proportionate policing plans are in place in order to protect those attending and our wider community.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
T/Detective Superintendent
Central West BCU