

THE RT HON MICHAEL FALLON MP
Sevenoaks & Swanley



House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Iman Suliman Gani
c/o McMilan Williams Solicitors
58 Borough High Street
London
SE1 1XF

22 June 2016

On 7 May 2016 I was interviewed on BBC Radio 4's "Today" programme. During that interview I described you as a supporter of Daesh/Islamic State – something that is entirely untrue.

When I did this I knew that it had been said on a BBC Television programme some weeks earlier but I was unaware that the BBC had corrected that statement and had apologised to you. Had I known of that correction and apology I would not have repeated the statement.

I was made aware of the BBC's correction and apology a few hours after the broadcast and immediately issued a statement in an effort to put the record straight. I issued a further statement to the same effect on 11 May 2016, which included my apology to you for repeating the untrue statement.

I accept that you are entirely opposed to Daesh/Islamic State, that you regard it as incompatible with your religious and moral beliefs, and that you have spoken out publicly against it.

I repeat my apology for the error that I made and for the distress that it caused to you and your family.

In recognition of that distress I have agreed to make a payment of compensation and to meet your reasonable legal costs.

Rt Hon Michael Fallon MP



bbc.co.uk/london

02.06.16

Imam Suliman Gani
C/O McMillan Williams Solicitors Limited
Media Law and Reputation Management Dept
58 Borough High Street
London
SE1 1XF
Ref: RD/103695

Dear Imam Gani,

London Mayoral Debate – BBC London, BBC 1 Monday 18 April, 10.40pm

I refer to the comment which was made about you during the above programme that you are “a supporter of Islamic State”.

As you know from the apology and clarification which has previously been made by BBC London, the BBC accepts that this statement was not true and that you are not a supporter of IS.

I accept that you are opposed to the activities of so-called Islamic State which you regard as a terrorist organisation that commits atrocities and that you have in the past condemned it and campaigned against it.

On behalf of the BBC I apologise for the error in the programme and for the distress and damage caused to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized name.

BBC London