

OFFICIAL



HM Prison &
Probation Service

To

David Bamford
Governor
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Telephone 020 [REDACTED]

Monday, February 26, 2018

Your ref:

Dear Andrea Williams ,

Thank you for your email.

Unfortunately this particular case has been inaccurately reported in the press, which has led to some concerns being raised.

Mr Song, a chaplaincy volunteer was temporarily excluded in August 2018 following an allegation he had made Islamophobic comments to a prisoner, this allegation was supported by a witness statement submitted by an Officer. Mr Song was asked not to return to the establishment whilst the incident was investigated, unfortunately he chose not to comply with the request and returned to the establishment to confront the Imam and make various threats. This incident was then reported by our resident Imam.

Following a review of all of the evidence the decision to formally exclude the volunteer was taken and he was written too with guidance on how to appeal the decision on 1st September 2017. His subsequent appeal was sent to our national 'Recruitment decisions' department and was then reviewed by London's prison group director Kevin Reilly who upheld the decision and wrote to Mr Song informing him on 11th January 2018.

I am content that given the evidence available the right decision was made and the correct procedures as laid out in our prison service instructions have been followed. This in turn means that all avenues of appeal have been exhausted.

I hope this letter is helpful and clarifies what took place.

Yours sincerely

David Bamford
Governor