



Craig Guildford QPM VR DL
Chief Constable of West Midlands Police

By email only

10 December 2025

Dear Craig,

Thank you for your letter of 28 November in response to my request for an urgent update from your force to clarify the provenance of the intelligence gathered and your confidence in this. I have also noted the oral evidence you; your Assistant Chief Constable Mike O'Hara and the Police and Crime Commissioner Simon Foster gave to the Home Affairs Select Committee on 1 December.

The Home Affairs Select Committee Chair will make further requests for information as they see fit and His Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabulary, Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) are also undertaking their own independent enquiries. However, I wanted to re-affirm my own commitment to ensure absolute transparency around the events preceding the decision to ban away fans arising from the Safety Advisory Group meeting on 16 October.

To that end, I note the most recent media reporting around the engagement undertaken by the West Midlands Police with Jewish community stakeholders to inform the community impact assessment made, which has again generated significant interest among parliamentarians. Whether through the Home Affairs Select Committee, the HMICFRS inspection, or made publicly, I would be very grateful for your clarification on engagement led by your force.

I would also appreciate your clarification on the reference made in your letter of 28 November to a separate briefing on sensitive matters connected to the event. I am aware of references to threats identified by your force in operational briefings in the days before the match. However, having reviewed this with officials I am unaware of any specific sensitive briefing being provided to the Home Office.

Very best wishes,

Sarah Jones MP
Minister of State for Policing and Crime