



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

**TOTAL POLICING**

Specialist Crime and Operations

**Mr Philip Grace**

**Liverpool**

**Gail Granville**  
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**SCO1 - Homicide and Major**  
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Date: 4 May 2017

**Evidence against Damian Green, Work and Pensions Secretary**

Dear Mr Grace,

Thank you for your email to the Commissioner dated 3 April 2017 which has been forwarded to me. I am the Operational Head of the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) Special Enquiry Team, a unit from the Homicide and Major Crime Command. My team have the responsibility for assessing allegations of crime relating to those in public office.

My officers have now carried out an assessment in respect of the allegations you raised in your letter. This has included liaison with Merseyside Police and consultation with our own legal department in order to provide you with advice as to the most appropriate course of action open to you.

Having completed our assessment and obtained legal advice, I can now advise you that Mr Green would not be considered accountable for the circumstances you have outlined in your correspondence. As such, we will not be recording this matter as a crime. It is important to understand that whilst a government minister has ultimate responsibility for their department, that is not the same as having direct responsibility. In the case of the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) this would amount to direct responsibility for some 83,332 employees.

Merseyside Police previously explained to you that this circumstances that you have outlined regarding your DWP claim are not criminal allegations that the police would investigate. Whilst you may be disappointed with this outcome, I would re-iterate the Merseyside Police response that there remains an opportunity for you to take up these matters up directly with the DWP with the assistance of your own legal representative. Should you remain dissatisfied with the DWP investigation then you may, in certain circumstances, be able to refer the matter up to the Parliamentary and Health Service Ombudsman (PHSO).

If you have not already done so, then you may wish to take legal advice as to whether you have any potential causes of legal action against the DWP and/or whether this matter is suitable for referral to the PHSO. In order to assist you I have provided the contact details for the PHSO which are: <https://www.ombudsman.org.uk> or 0345 015 4033. Your local citizen's advice bureau can be approached for free legal assistance.

Yours sincerely,

**Gail Granville**  
**Detective Inspector - Special Enquiry Team**