

;7_ ;7_ -r., y-

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

26 Febniary 1996

Yemeni Community Association Vestry Hall 43 Attercliffe Sheffield S9 2AE

Dear Friends

<u>RE: INDEPENDENT INOUIRY INTO SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL'S</u></u> <u>RI::LATIONSHIP WITJI THE YEMENI COIVIMUNITY ASSOCIATION</u>

On behalf of Sheffield City Council I am very pleased to accept the findings of the independent enquiry which exonerated the Yemeni Cornmunity Association and its officers from any wrong doing.

I'ln sure you understand that the Council has a duty to take seriously and investigate properly any complaint about the operation of any project in which it is involved, especially where public rnoney is being used. The Council also recognises that it needs to help and support voluntary groups which 1nay not have the skills, or resources to manage con1plex systen1s and account f :)r their actions as thoroughly as is possible in public services.

In dealing with the YCA, after serious allegations were 1nade by some of its former officers, the Council now recognises that it did not strike the right balance between these two considerations and as a result pursued its investigations of the persistent complaints without taking enough account of the problems caused for the individual officers of the Association, the organisation itself and the Yemeni Com1nunity as a whole.

The Council regrets that ii did not deal wilh its enquiries n1ore quickly and in a ,vVay which took greater account of the continuing needs of the co1nmunity and the Association which serves it and apologises to all those who have suffered as a result.

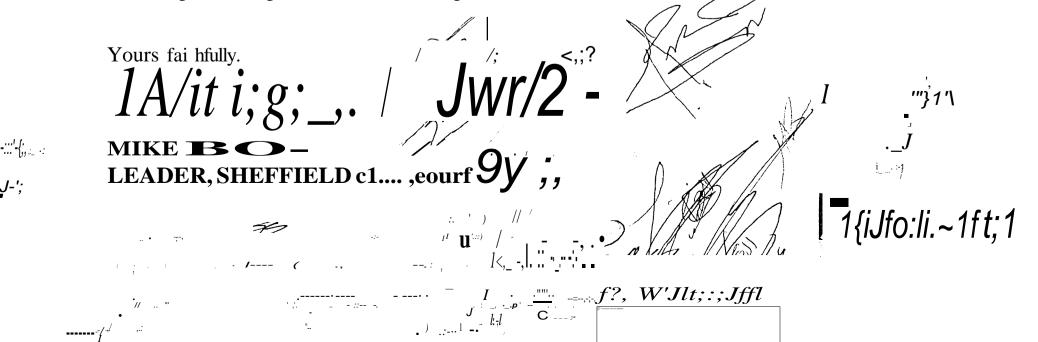
I hope that it will now be possible to recreate the positive relationship which exist_ed

Councillor Mike Bower Leader Sheffield City Council

Leader's Office

Town Hall SHEFFIELD S12HH Tel. 0114 273 4701 Fax 0114 273 6844

before the complaints were 1nade. The Council supports the YCA fully and is happy to work in partnership on its future development.





1_-- 11

.,/-.._./, f...,



-,-;;,;,