

Luke Pollard MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Family of Gnr Jaysley Beck,
c/o Centre for Military Justice



5 October 2023

Dear Leighann, Anthony and Emilli,

SERVICE INQUIRY REPORT – THE LATE GNR JAYSLEY BECK

I am writing to express my deep condolences for the loss of your daughter and sister, Jaysley, following the publication of the service inquiry report into her death this week.

Reading the report into Jaysley's death was both deeply harrowing and distressing. I can only imagine how difficult it must be for you all to process the conclusion that the persistent and unwelcome attention of Jaysley's line manager was a causal factor in her death.

Female personnel serving in our armed forces must be free to be able to their job without being subjected to sexual harassment, assault or intimidation. The fact that women are 10 times more likely than men to experience sexual harassment in our armed forces is completely unacceptable and cannot be allowed to continue.

The intimidating behaviour Jaysley experienced should have been stopped. Those who failed Jaysley and who were meant to safeguard her must be held accountable.

Leighann, hearing you speak on Women's Hour today about how Jaysley didn't want to be branded as a "female troublemaker" was heartbreaking to listen to. Victims of sexual harassment and abuse serving in our armed forces must have confidence in the processes that allow them to report their experiences, and they must know that they will be listened to and that robust action will be taken.

I note in your letter to the Defence Secretary, that you want to see something "constructive and good" come out of your daughter's death. As Shadow Armed Forces Minister, it will be my responsibility to improve the lives of servicewomen if Labour get elected at the next General Election.

Should you have time, I would welcome the chance to discuss what changes can be introduced to improve the lives of women in the military and how we can prevent tragic cases like Jaysley's from happening again. I am happy speak over the phone, via zoom, or in Westminster if this is of interest.

Plymouth Sutton and Devonport
luke.pollard.mp@parliament.uk
www.lukepollard.org
@lukepollard

Plymouth: 01752 717255 Westminster: 020 7219 2749

Let me end this letter by reiterating how deeply sorry I am again for your loss, and to express my sincere wish that we can the lessons from Jaysley's death in the future.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Luke'.

Luke Pollard MP
Labour and Co-operative MP for Plymouth Sutton and Devonport