

Dear Ms Thorley,

Thank you for your letter dated 22nd May and in response can I explain that on Sunday 10th of May I attended a meeting at Leeds Civic Hall our local authority's headquarters also present were many directors and chairs of different organisations and community / religious groups. At this meeting we were all led to believe that Labours 2nd seat in the European Parliament was under threat from the BNP party and that BNP were no threat to the Liberal or Conservative party.

Almost everyone gave assurances to help and asked if Fever FM would and should give airtime to Mr Maroof Hussein and Cllr Arif Hussain to encourage listeners to vote for labour to keep the BNP out of Europe . I felt if we were to refuse then we would have offended many members of the various communities.

Due to lack of concentration or just plain stupidity I did not realise that the European elections were no different then the local / general elections, I should have referred to The Ofcom broadcasting Code before agreeing to the demands. We have in the past always given due weight to the major parties whenever we have covered elections, with due diligence to the broadcasting codes. I just went along with the information given that Labour was the only party under threat from BNP and would not affect the Liberal or Conservative party.

Under Rule 5.4

I am ashamed to say I am guilty of being absent minded and got carried away with the communities concerns and fears of the consequences (BNP party wining a seat), I can only sincerely apologise and assure everyone at Ofcom that this will never happen again.

To correct my mistake we will give due weight to members of the Liberal and Conservative party, equal amount of airtime as the Labour candidate received and also run an advert for listeners to vote for the party of their choice. Finally before making your decision can you please consider that we are only a small community station running on a very low budget but deliver high impact programmes which benefit the local community all year round and that mistakes can happen.

Yours Sincerely

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