Statement from Chloe Baradinsky,

"Afghanistan was entirely my decision. Yes, after I decided to make the trip, the tour company offered what was a relatively small discount on their package - which my tour guides more than earned back in cash tips. In the end, I actually spent more than the full price, all out of my own pocket. I know mainstream media has grown up in a world of freebies and junkets, but that's not my world. Visiting Afghanistan as part of a two-month trip wasn't any type of sponsored content - or whatever you guys call it - it was just me living my life, travelling where I choose, telling the stories I want to tell, taking the risks I want to take, and paying my own way. That's something I would strongly recommend to anyone, and for clarity no-one is paying me to say that."