

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

13th October 2020

Jaw Confrontant,

RE: MAHMOUD NAWAJAA.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the arrest of Mahmoud Nawajaa.

I know that there has been a great deal of concern amongst many of my constituents about Mr Nawajaa's arrest and I have been made aware that he has been released by Israel, after being held for nineteen days. I welcome this news, as I believe it is crucial that the UK continues to support the rights of human rights defenders to carry out their work safely and without fear.

Having enquired, I am told that the UK repeatedly calls on the Israeli authorities to comply with their obligations under international law, and either charge or release detainees. The UK also remains concerned about Israel's extensive use of administrative detention which, according to international law, should be used only when security makes this absolutely necessary, rather than as routine practice and as a preventive measure.

More broadly, I am assured that the UK puts human rights and human rights defenders at the heart of its international work. The UK recognises the essential role human rights defenders play, and in July 2019 published the 'UK Support for Rights Defenders' document to publicly underline our commitment to protecting them.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE