



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

23rd April 2021

New Complaint,

RE: EAST JERUSALEM - EVICTIONS

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the situation in Sheikh Jarrah, East Jerusalem; your comments upon which I have read with interest.

I appreciate your concern regarding this issue; and I know that my ministerial colleagues in the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) are well aware of the situation you describe.

Indeed, the UK regularly makes clear our concerns about the evictions of Palestinians from their homes in East Jerusalem to the Israeli authorities and the Municipality of Jerusalem, both bilaterally and in co-operation with like-minded diplomatic partners.

The UK Ambassador in Tel Aviv has raised this issue with the Israeli Authorities, as has the Minister of State, the Rt. Hon James Cleverly MP, with the Israeli Ambassador in London. The British Consul General to Jerusalem visited families at risk of eviction in Sheikh Jarrah on the 8th April to reiterate the UK's opposition to the practice, and other officials from the Consulate have continued to make regular visits to at risk areas in question.

The UK is clear that evictions of Palestinians from their homes causes unnecessary suffering to ordinary Palestinians, calls into question Israel's commitment to a viable two-state solution and, in all but the most exceptional of cases, are contrary to International Humanitarian Law and the *Fourth Geneva Convention*. I join Ministers in calling for them to cease with immediate effect.

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