



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

25th January 2022

Dear Constance,

RE: EVICTIONS IN EAST JERUSALEM

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns regarding evictions in East Jerusalem. I have read your concerns on this important issue with great interest.

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*; the latter of which applies to all occupied territories, and prohibits demolitions or forced evictions, absent military necessity. I join UK Government Ministers in calling for evictions to cease with immediate effect.

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, including at a ministerial level. The UK also regularly makes its position clear on the world stage, including via the main organs of the UN, such as the Security Council, Human Rights Council and General Assembly.

Let me also assure you that the British Consulate in Jerusalem is monitoring the situation in Sheikh Jarrah, Silwan and throughout occupied East Jerusalem closely, and that officials based there regularly observe evictions and attend related court hearings, including to call on Israel to stop such practices.

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,

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE