



## Department for International Trade

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Dear George,

Thank you for your correspondence of 25<sup>th</sup> January on behalf of your constituents, regarding arms exports to Israel.

I can assure you that HM Government takes its export control responsibilities very seriously. All export licence applications are assessed against the Strategic Export Licensing Criteria.

These Criteria are one of the means by which we implement a range of international legal commitments including the Arms Trade Treaty. They provide a thorough risk assessment framework which requires us to think hard about the possible impact of providing equipment and its capabilities. These are not decisions we take lightly. HM Government will not grant an export licence if to do so would be inconsistent with the Strategic Export Licensing Criteria, including respect for rights and responsibilities.

We continue to monitor the situation in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories closely and keep relevant licences under review. We will take action to suspend, refuse or revoke licences in line with the Strategic Export Licensing Criteria if circumstances require.

I hope this letter is of reassurance to you and your constituents.

Yours sincerely,

**RANIL JAYAWARDENA MP**  
Minister for International Trade