



Jane Hunt MP
House of Commons

22nd January 2020

Dear local resident,

Thank you to those who have contacted me about the persecution of Christians. You will be pleased to know that I did attend the Open Doors event last week and I was interested to hear more about their 2020 World Watch list and the experiences of the speakers.

The UK has always championed freedom of religion or belief for everyone and, as a country that has always been a beacon for freedom and tolerance, I passionately believe that the UK should not shirk its responsibilities.

That is why I am pleased that the Independent Review of Foreign and Commonwealth Office support for persecuted Christians, conducted by the Anglican Bishop of Truro, the Right Reverend Philip Mounstephen, has been published. The UK Government is committed to implementing the recommendations from this review, which can be found here:

<https://christianpersecutionreview.org.uk/storage/2019/07/final-report-and-recommendations.pdf>

The recommendations have been divided into short, medium and longer term priorities and Ministers have already implemented a good number of them. This includes recently appointing a Director General level champion for Freedom of Religion or Belief and marking Red Wednesday in support of persecuted Christians and members of other minority groups. Some of the recommendations, however, will take longer to implement and many will require an ongoing effort to embed into the working practice of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and other Departments.

In the Middle East, the UK has been at the forefront of global efforts to bring Daesh to justice for their crimes, including through a commitment of £1 million in support of an investigative team to collect evidence of Daesh crimes. The UK supported efforts to help Christians and other minority groups in Iraq to return home, and in Syria the UK provided a range of support to help bolster civil society, and promote human rights and accountability. The UK Government has provided £252.5 million of humanitarian relief to Iraq since 2014, and £2.71 billion to Syria and Syrian refugees since the start of the conflict. This is the UK's largest ever humanitarian response to a crisis.

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
Constituency Office: 18, Pinfold Gate, Loughborough LE11 1BE 01509 262723
Email: jane.hunt.mp@parliament@parliament.uk
www.janehunt.uk



Jane Hunt MP
House of Commons

I would like to assure you that I will be following the Government's progress in this area closely.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JH' or similar, written over the printed name.

Jane Hunt MP