

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

Green Party  
*for the South East of England*

Rt Hon Des Browne MP  
Secretary of State for Defence  
Ministry of Defence  
MoD Main Building  
Whitehall  
London SW1A 2HB

May 20<sup>th</sup> 2008

Dear Secretary of State,

As of 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, I understand that the Iraqi sectarian government and its armed militia have taken over responsibility for the safety of Iraqi prisoners of war and the conditions in which they are kept.

It essential that the new arrangements are properly mindful of the importance of human rights, particularly given the extent to which well documented abuses of Iraqi POW by occupying forces might undermine international messages about such rights. Of primary concern is the safety of detainees, the prompt bringing of lawful and substantive charges and providing minimum conditions for a fair trial.

Has the British government played a role in ensuring these most basic of human rights have and are being guaranteed? In addition, can you assure me that POW and other detainees are being released if no charges can be brought against them?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.