



Matt Western MP
Warwick & Leamington

Luke Pollard MP
Minister of State for Defence Readiness & Industry
Ministry of Defence

Sent via email.

29th June 2026

Dear Minister,

Re: UK Exports to Israel

Despite the international community's call to stop its illegal expansion of settlements in the West Bank and its ongoing bombardment of southern Lebanon, the Israeli Government remains intent on destabilising the region.

Previously, as the VC of the B and T Select Committee and more recently in my work with colleagues in Parliament, I've been actively reviewing this Government's capacity to stop the violence committed against the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

Whilst I welcome our action on suspending arms licences and appreciate its ongoing commitment to reviewing arms exports (i.e. F-35 parts), what considerations are we making for a wider, more robust suspension on 'dual-use' equipment?

There are ongoing concerns that UK-supplied dual-use goods, including commercially available machinery, may be contributing to illegal activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territories. In recent years, you may recall that machinery produced by private companies, such as JCB, has been cited in relation to demolition and construction activities linked to illegal settlements in the West Bank. A clear breach of international law. For example, in reverse, it is perverse that the IDF is refusing Gazan children to return to their families following the fitting of in-ear hearing devices because of the precious metals they contain.

Whilst I appreciate that goods such as earth movers are often exported for civilian purposes, the risk of diversion or end-use remains somewhat inconsistent with the UK's Strategic ELC, especially in the absence of robust end-use monitoring. At the very least, I would hope that the UK Government can demand that such equipment be subject to licence withdrawal if found to have been used in ethnic cleansing and genocide.

Therefore, please outline what assessment has been made of the risk posed by dual-use exports, and what safeguards you have put in place to prevent misuse.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards,

Matt Western
MP for Warwick and Leamington