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Rt Hon Theresa May MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
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1 February 2017

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: Treatment of UK citizens at Border Control around the world (Government Policy)

In light of the recent debate regarding the treatment of UK citizens entering foreign countries, the statement made by the Foreign Secretary to the House of Commons on Monday made it clear that the Government will stand firm on the principle that British citizens should be treated on an equal basis, regardless of their religion or ethnicity.

To fully achieve this I ask that the government makes it policy that all UK Embassies and High Commissions around the world, in addition to the FCO, maintain a specific criteria to record the number of incidents where any UK passport holder travelling abroad (on a UK passport) has been required to undergo further interrogation or questioning at border control which they believe was based on their religion or ethnic origin.

Further to this, the number of incidents recorded should be published annually, so that Parliament and the Government can be made aware of the scale of the issue based on evidence from around the world and therefore make appropriate representations. All UK citizens when travelling abroad should be made aware of this and advised to report it whenever and wherever it should occur.

As chair of the APPG on Community Engagement, having heard of people's experiences on this from the BME community and having personally experienced this issue when travelling abroad, this can cause distress and is contrary to the stated Government policy.

This simple policy would be in line with your vision for a Government for all, where all UK citizens are treated equally, here in the UK and abroad.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours ever

Rehman Chishti MP

CC: All MPs

Secretary of State for Foreign & Commonwealth Affairs The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP