

## **OLIVER DOWDEN CBE MP**

## MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR HERTSMERE

Dr Chaand Nagpaul Chair of the Council British Medical Association BMA House Tavistock Square London, WC1H 9JP

Ref: OD/FJE

March 2018

Dear Dr Nagpaul,

## Re: Review of Non-therapeutic Circumcision

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Member of Parliament for Hertsmere on behalf of a number of my constituents who have contacted me regarding the news that the BMA is undertaking its latest periodic review of non-therapeutic circumcision.

As I know you are aware, male circumcision is an ancient part of numerous religious faiths and in their letters to me, my constituents of these faiths have expressed their concerns over potential new restrictions on the practice in the United Kingdom. These were brought in to particularly sharp focus by the recent announcement that a bill proposing a ban on such ritual circumcisions has been introduced in the Icelandic Parliament.

I share these concerns and I would urge the British Medical Association to take full account of them when conducting their review so that British families may continue to raise their children according to their cultural background and religious beliefs.

Thank you and I look forward to the outcome of the review in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Oliver Dowden CBE MP

Member of Parliament for Hertsmere

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