



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP

Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth
and Development Affairs

King Charles Street

London

SW1A 2AH

Tel: 0207 008 5000

Email:

fcdo.correspondence@fcdo.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/fcdo

Sarah Champion MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

06 April 2021

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your letter of 5 March 2021 on behalf of the International Development Committee.

There are limits on what I can say about the details of the specific case that you raise, but I would like to stress that the UK Government takes all cases of sexual exploitation and abuse extremely seriously.

The UK Government learned of this case in 2018 when the United Nations referred it to the UK Mission in New York. As with any case of this nature, the mission passed the information to the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA).

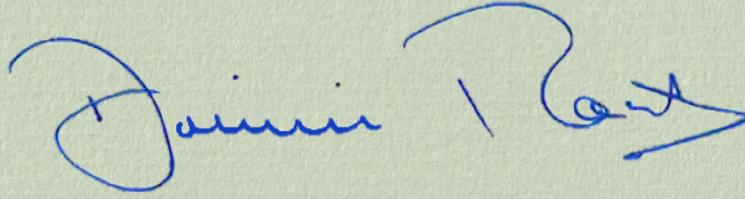
In this case, the NCA assessed that the evidence did not meet the threshold for a criminal prosecution in the UK, and that this threshold was unlikely to be met, even with further investigation. The NCA is not aware of any new or additional information that would lead to a review of its decision.

Since 2017, there have been no other military or civilian cases of sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping involving a British national referred to the UK.

In the UK, the Sexual Offences Act (2003) permits the UK to bring proceedings against UK nationals and UK residents who commit sexual offences against children (under 18 years of age) in another country. Since 2017, we have taken further steps. We have introduced the Domestic Abuse Bill, which is nearing its final stages in Parliament, and which will extend the extraterritorial jurisdiction of the criminal courts in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland to additional violent and sexual offenses are committed overseas. The UK Government also ensure that all UK personnel undergo pre-deployment training to UN standards and specifications, including on SEA, ahead of any UN peacekeeping deployment.

I hope this information is helpful, and I look forward to continuing to work closely with you and colleagues in the International Development Committee to tackle sexual exploitation and abuse.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dominic Raab". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and a stylized 'R'.

THE RT HON DOMINIC RAAB MP