



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

June 2018

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about the recent 2020 Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference and EDM 1122.

Ministers do not, by convention, sign any Early Day Motions, as doing so is likely to breach the Ministerial Code's rules on collective responsibility.

However, Britain is widely recognised as the most pro-active of the nuclear weapon states on nuclear disarmament. The UK has reduced its nuclear forces by over half from the Cold War peak in the late 1970s and recently reduced the number of deployed warheads on each submarine from 48 to 40 and the number of operationally available warheads from fewer than 160 to no more than 120. The UK remains committed to reducing our overall stockpile to no more than 180 warheads by the mid-2020s.

The UK continues to press states, including the US, who have not yet signed and ratified the NPT to do so. The Government used the recent Conference to engage with a variety of countries on this important issue and made two statements promoting these goals. I would also like to assure you that the UK remains a firm supporter of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. I believe it is important to build trust and transparency between those states with Nuclear weapons, as only under these conditions can nuclear armed states feel confident and satisfied to relinquish their weapons. It is very welcome that the UK Government continues to call for all states to join the NPT as non-Nuclear Weapons States.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY