



Mr Andrew Boff AM  
Deputy Chair of the London Assembly  
c/o [rhys.campbell@london.gov.uk](mailto:rhys.campbell@london.gov.uk)

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13 April 2026

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your letter of 18 March to the Home Secretary about the Islamic Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC). I am replying as the Security Minister.

The Home Secretary and I recognise the serious threat posed by the IRGC and the Iranian regime. Iran's destabilisation of the Middle East, its human rights violations, nuclear escalation, and its threats against people, including in the UK, are abhorrent. Most recently, Iran has launched sustained and reckless attacks across the region, at countries who did not attack them and were not involved in initial hostilities. In doing so it has shown total disregard for civilian life and risked plunging the region into an expanding crisis.

The Government remains resolute in its efforts to counter these threats and to protect all communities from harm. The UK stands proudly on the side of freedom and human rights, and we have long criticised Iran's authoritarian regime and taken robust action to protect UK interests from Iranian state threats. We utterly condemn the terrible violence used by the Iranian regime against those exercising their right to protest.

The Prime Minister joined with the German Chancellor and French President in condemnation of this violence and to call for its end. On 13 January, in a statement to the House, the Foreign Secretary set out the action that the Government is taking in coordination with allies in response to the consistent threat that the Iranian regime poses to stability, security, freedom and the UK national interest. We are now working further with the EU and other partners to explore what sanctions will be appropriate to respond to developments in Iran.

Regarding the London Assembly's request that the IRGC are proscribed, it is the long-standing policy of successive Governments not to comment on whether or not a specific organisation is being considered for proscription.

As Security Minister, the threat to the UK from Iran is a key focus of mine, and this Government is acting decisively to disrupt threats posed by Iran here in the UK. We have placed the Iranian state on the enhanced tier of the Foreign Influence Registration Scheme (FIRS), meaning that anyone working for or directed by the Iranian state to conduct activities in the UK must declare that activity, or risk up to five years in prison.

Furthermore, we have committed to take forward recommendations made by the Independent Reviewer of Terrorism and State Threats Legislation, Jonathan Hall KC, which include a new proscription-like power to address the threat from hostile activity posed by state and state-linked bodies, more effectively than under existing powers.

To date, the UK now has over 550 sanctions against Iranian-linked individuals and entities, including the IRGC, which has been sanctioned in its entirety. Over 220 designations have been imposed since this Government came into office. The Government has used sanctions to tackle the criminal networks and enablers that Iran uses to carry out its work.

On 30 October 2025, the UK sanctioned Iranian corrupt banker and businessman, Ali Aliakbar Ansari, for his role in financially supporting the activities of the IRGC. In addition, on 21 August 2025, we sanctioned Hossein Shamkhani and four entities from the 'Shamkhani network' for providing revenues to Iran to carry out its destabilising activities, including supporting proxies and partners across the region, and facilitating state threats on UK soil.

I note that the London Assembly has also requested the Government increases the funding to the Metropolitan Police Service (MPS) to address the impact on London associated with the Iran conflict. The Government is committed to supporting the MPS, who will receive £4 billion of funding in 2026-27. This is a £184.1 million increase when compared with the 2025-26 settlement and equates to a 4.8% cash increase and 2.8% real terms increase. This funding includes the National and International Cities Grant (NICC) grant which is £248.7 million in 2026-27. We continue to recognise that the MPS faces unique challenges and demands on its resources in policing an international capital city, and that is why we increased the NICC by £63.3 million last year – the first uplift to the NICC since 2019-20 – to provide the MPS with additional recurrent funding to respond to its capital city demands.

On the London Assembly's final request for a briefing on the specific measures being taken by Counter Terrorism Policing, the Government recognises that the MPS and Counter Terrorism Policing work tirelessly to protect communities in London and across the UK from state threats, including the threat posed by the IRGC. The situation in the Middle East, and the potential implications for the UK, are kept under constant review by the Government, the Security Services and the police. Working closely with partners across the UK intelligence community, Counter Terrorism Policing are at the forefront of efforts to respond to what are increasingly aggressive threats from foreign states and those acting on their behalf.

In October 2025, the Director General of MI5 stated publicly that the Service had tracked more than twenty potentially lethal Iran-backed plots in the preceding year. Such threats directly impact not only our national security, but also the rights and freedoms of UK citizens and those who have sought protection here in our democratic society. Where a threat is identified, the police and security services will not hesitate to act and will be relentless in pursuing those responsible. We continue to urge the public to remain vigilant and to report any concerns to the police.

As you will know, the police are operationally independent of Government. Should further information be required on the police approach then the London Assembly should reach out to the police directly.

I would like to assure the London Assembly that we continually assess potential threats, and take the protection of individuals' rights, freedoms, and safety in the UK incredibly seriously. In concert with partners, we will continue to consider all appropriate tools at our disposal to protect the UK and its interests from Iran-linked threats.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Jarvis', with a horizontal line underneath it.

**Dan Jarvis MBE MP**  
Security Minister  
Cabinet Office and Home Office