From the Chair, Rt Hon James Arbuthnot MP

Rt Hon Philip Hammond MP
Secretary of State for Defence
Ministry of Defence
Floor 5, Zone D
Main Building, Whitehall
London SW1A 2HB

23rd April 2013

Dear Philip,

Victims of abuse in the Armed Forces

You will be aware that in November 2012, the Australian Government apologised to members of the Australian Defence Force who had suffered sexual or other forms of abuse in the course of their service and also announced the establishment of the Defence Abuse Taskforce. The Committee has received correspondence suggesting that a similar response, particularly an apology, is required from the UK Government for abuse in the UK Armed Forces.

I would be grateful for your comments on this issue, particularly on whether the UK Government is considering making such an apology.

Yours ever,

James

CHAIR