1 Oakleigh Way

 Highcliffe

 Christchurch

 Dorset BH23 5DQ

Sajid Javid,

Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills,

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills,

1 Victoria Street,

London

SW1H 0ET

13th September 2015

Dear Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills,

I am writing to urge you to close the loopholes in the EU laws that prohibit the trade in torture equipment. I ask you to support Amnesty International’s calls to strengthen this legislation and to close all loopholes that allow the trade in the tools of torture. The UK has been a world leader in preventing the trade of equipment used for torture across the world and I urge you to continue this tradition at the EU level.

Specifically I call on you to use your influence to ensure the final text of the amended legislation:

1. introduces effective controls on companies brokering deals potentially resulting in the trade in goods covered by the regulation;

2. Prohibits companies promoting the sale of equipment in their commercial marketing, as well as through exhibition and trade fairs in EU countries, that could be used by law enforcement officials for torture or ill-treatment;

3. Introduces a “catch all” clause allowing all Member States to immediately prohibit the trade in goods where it is clear that the items are likely being used for torture, ill-treatment or the death penalty, even if they are not specifically listed under the regulation.

Furthermore I urge you to ensure that torture equipment is not illegally traded in the UK and that anyone found responsible is held to account.

I look forward to hearing from you on how you are supporting this important work.

Yours sincerely,

David Rogers