



Dr Neil Hudson MP

House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: NE04457

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Dear 

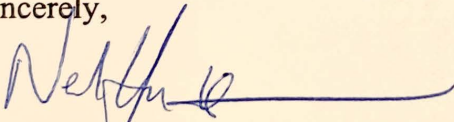
Thank you for contacting me about Strip Searches conducted by British Transport Police.

The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) provides clear rules about who may, and who may not, carry out intimate and strip searches. PACE Code C states that, when an intimate search is performed under the existing rules by a police officer, that officer must be of the same sex as the detainee. Furthermore, the Supreme Court has made it clear that there can be absolutely no ambiguity about what "sex" means. The ruling was a powerful victory for the determined women behind the case and for people across the UK who know how important it is to preserve the privacy and dignity of the women and girls who need it.

As such, Government bodies must take steps to reflect the ruling and ensure that we protect biological characteristics. This means the British Transport Police should ensure that officers who carry out intimate and strip searches are of the same biological sex as the detainee, thereby upholding the safety of women and girls.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Neil Hudson MP  
Epping Forest