

05 February 2019

Ms Bennoue  
Ms Ramasastry

Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights  
Palais des Nations  
1211 Geneva 10  
SWITZERLAND

*Your Ref: AL OTH 13/2017*

*By post and e-mail:  
registry@ohchr.org*

Dear Ms Bennoue and Ms Ramasastry,

**Joint communication from Special Procedures (Reference AL OTH13/2017)**

We refer to your letter dated 8 May 2018.

I refer to my letters to you dated 11 September and 3 and 28 November 2017, and the letter from our Chief Executive, Helen Gordon, to you dated 18 August 2017 in response to your letter dated 21 July 2017

Your 8 May 2018 letter appears to suggest that you may raise concerns about the violation of human rights, based on allegations brought to your attention, without making any attempt to verify the accuracy of those allegations.

We note that you restate your concern that this project, the Seven Sisters regeneration scheme, may not guarantee the full respect of the human rights of the people concerned.

Our letter to you dated 18 August 2017 set out, in detail, the steps that had been taken to ensure the fair and proper treatment of those affected by the scheme, and how their human rights had been, and would be, respected. The letter also identified what we considered to be a number of breaches by you of your Code of Conduct in the process which you had followed.

We note that your 8 May 2018 letter does not address in any way the evidence supplied to you demonstrating that human rights have been central to the processes surrounding progression of the scheme, nor does it seek to explain why you are not in breach of your Code of Conduct in this matter. This is disappointing.

Since the 18 August 2017 letter was issued, the Inspector issued his report recommending the progression of the CPO on 9 January 2018, and the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government confirmed this decision on 23 January 2019. The rationale for both decisions contains detailed analysis of how the human rights of those affected have been taken into consideration and how they are outweighed by the benefits of the scheme to the wider community.

Please can you confirm, with specific examples, on what basis you consider that progression of the scheme may not guarantee the full respect of the human rights of the people concerned. In the absence of such an explanation we consider that your belief is unfounded and unreasonable.

We understand that the UNOHCHR may be undertaking a follow up review of the situation this year. We would respectfully request that, should you choose to do so, you conduct this in accordance with your Code of Conduct and seek to base your conclusions on a professional and impartial analysis of evidence and facts. For the avoidance of doubt, we would expect such a review to include consultation with us prior to the publication of any report or expression of view. We confirm that we undertake to engage openly, constructively and expeditiously with any requests for engagement from you.

Yours sincerely



**Adam McGhin**  
**Group General Counsel**  
**for Grainger plc**