
TAMIL GUARDIAN

UK General Election 2015 Candidate Survey on Tamil issues

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Final Version

If you have any questions regarding this survey, please email editor@tamilguardian.com

www.tamilguardian.com

Methodology

The survey questionnaire was emailed to candidates from the Conservative Party and the Labour Party for all constituencies in London, and constituencies where the Tamil issue has previously been highlighted, as well as Liberal Democrat MPs based in London. Tamil diaspora organisations, officially affiliated to the parties, including British Tamil Conservatives and Tamils for Labour, assisted in the distribution of the questionnaires.

Where responses did not conform with the format of the questionnaire, a subsequent request was made, asking the candidate to adhere to the format in order to avoid their response from being excluded.

Responses to the questionnaire were accepted up until the 18:00 BST, on the 6th of May. The Tamil Guardian website is carrying the final version of this document only.

The full questionnaire is annexed to this document. Please see the annex for the complete questions that were asked.

Responses

18 candidates from the three main parties (9 Conservative, 8 Labour, 1 LibDem) completed the questionnaire directly. A total of 84 Labour Party candidates endorsed a common response, facilitated by Tamils for Labour.

The Conservative Party in response also pointed towards their manifesto¹, which says,

“We will promote reconciliation and human rights in Sri Lanka, including through supporting the UN investigation into war crimes, which the Prime Minister was instrumental in securing following his historic visit to Jaffna.”

¹ <http://www.tamilguardian.com/article.asp?articleid=14595>

Brent North**Luke Parker****Barry Gardiner** *(endorsed common response)*

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

I believe it is appropriate in this case for the United Nations to coordinate a fully independent and impartial inquiry.

As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

It is crucial that our asylum system protects people who are fleeing the sort of atrocities we are seeing in Sri Lanka at present. Where there is a risk of a person being placed in danger of torture or genocide, as is the case for Tamils, deportation cannot be allowed to go ahead. I am in favour of such a moratorium.

In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

The UK Government should take as active a role as possible in promoting the cause of human rights in Sri Lanka by applying international pressure and taking a genuine diplomatic lead. It is important that the international community make it very clear that these human rights violations will not be tolerated and that Tamils know that their plight is not being ignored.

President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes

Yes

5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?

Yes

Yes

Croydon Central**Gavin Barwell****Sarah Jones** *(endorsed common response)*

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

A wholly independent inquiry is required. It is difficult to see how any domestic process being perceived as independent, so it’s almost certainly going to have to be run by an international body. The United Nations would seem the most sensible choice.

As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

I am a passionate believer that we should give sanctuary to those fleeing from oppression. We should not deport people if we believe there is a risk they will be tortured.

In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

Words are not enough. If we don’t see meaningful progress then our Government must push the international community to increase pressure on the new government. A range of options should be on the table.

President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes I think these issues needs investigating as part of the independent inquiry.

Yes

5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?

I hope that once the facts have been established and those responsible for crimes have been brought to justice, there can be a process of reconciliation and Sri Lanka can move forward as a modern democracy where the rights of all people are respected. But ultimately all nations have the right to self determination and it should be for the Tamil people to decide their future.

Yes

Ealing North**Stephen Pound**

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

Although I think that the International Criminal Court at the Hague should be involved, the external investigation will have to be overseen by the United Nations.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

There are some circumstances in which deportation is justified, but the questions regarding in-country treatment of Tamils have to be answered first.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

If re-elected in May, I will repeatedly raise this issue, but I feel that it is currently appropriate to allow the new government the opportunity to regain some credibility.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Very much so

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

Yes

Ealing Southall**Virendra Sharma**

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

I support a wholly international justice mechanism to ensure an open process occurs.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

I do not believe that the UK should deport anyone until their safety is assured. Until those responsible for abuses are brought to justice all deportations should be halted.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

I would support the implementation of targeted sanctions to ensure cooperation from the new government.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

I think a genocide was perpetrated by the last regime, and a full investigation is necessary to determine the scope of crimes committed.

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

I do not support the break up of nations, but I do think that Tamils should have the ability to shape their own future.

Enfield North**Nick de Bois****Joan Ryan**

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

A full international UN investigation which is in the interests of all my constituents regardless of their family country of origin

A full independent, international investigation into the allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

I am a member of the APPG for Tamils and support a moratorium

I agree there should be a moratorium on Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka, until such a time when their human rights can be guaranteed

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

Words alone are not sufficient they need to be followed up by action. The UK Government should use intense diplomatic channels to ensure progress is made

Firstly, the OSIL report must be published no later than September 2015 – justice delayed is justice denied. If the Government of Sri Lanka does not cooperate by this time then sanctions should be considered.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes all reported acts of genocide need to be investigated in the interest of justice for all

Yes

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

Yes self determination for the Tamil People

Yes

Eltham	Spencer Drury	Clive Efford <i>(endorsed common response)</i>
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	I believe that a wholly independent inquiry would be appropriate and the most sensible body to organize for this would be the United Nations.	As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	If there is any possibility of any individual being tortured upon their return to Sri Lanka then clearly the process should be halted. The asylum seeker process is here to ensure that people fleeing torture, genocide and other atrocities are given shelter and this must be respected for Tamils.	In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	It seems to me that words are not sufficient, they need to be followed up by deeds by the Sri Lankan government. I would like to see the UK Government more actively involved in pressuring the new government to co-operate, using the full range of diplomatic channels initially and considering more active measures like sanctions if no change is forthcoming.	President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Yes	Yes
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Yes	Yes

Harrow East	Bob Blackman	Uma Kumaran
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	I believe it is appropriate in this case for the United Nations to coordinate a fully independent and impartial inquiry.	Tamil people in Sri Lanka have repeatedly been denied justice. I support a full and transparent international independent investigation into mass atrocities and genocide - preferably under UN auspices, alongside full witness protection by the UN. Only international prosecution services can provide desperately overdue justice to victims and their families.
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	It is crucial that our asylum system protects people who are fleeing the sort of atrocities we are seeing in Sri Lanka at present. Where there is a risk of a person being placed in danger of torture or genocide, as is the case for Tamils, deportation cannot be allowed to go ahead. I am in favour of such a moratorium.	Deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka should not happen until those guilty of torture, including those at the highest level of government are prosecuted. I wholeheartedly support the ‘APPG for Tamils’ calls to halt deportations. If elected, I will join and support cross party work to ensure this happens.
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	The UK Government should take as active a role as possible in promoting the cause of human rights in Sri Lanka by applying international pressure and taking a genuine diplomatic lead. It is important that the international community make it very clear that these human rights violations will not be tolerated and that Tamils know that their plight is not being ignored.	The current Sri Lankan government has pledged to protect the previous administration/those accused of gross Human Rights violations. If they continue to demonstrate non co-operation, including militarisation of the North-East, targeted sanctions are necessary. I will insist that the UN publishes the final report by September - this must happen.
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Yes	Yes
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Yes	Yes

Hendon	Andrew Dismore	
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	Any Inquiry into what happened needs to be international and independent , which I don’t consider the Sri Lanka Government to be on this issue. I believe it was wrong for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting to take place in Sri Lanka, and i believe question marks remain over Sri Lanka’s membership of the Commonwealth, pending a proper inquiry and their failure to co-operate fully with UNHCR .	
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	People who are genuine asylum seekers should not be deported, wherever they have come from	
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	Pressure from the international diplomatic community should be brought to bear and the UNHRC should use the powers available to it to investigate	
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Any atrocities should be fully investigated on an independent, international basis	
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Tamil people have the right to determine their own future as do peoples around the world generally.	

Ilford North

Lee Scott

Wes Streeting

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

Independent international inquiry

I support a fully independent, international investigation into the human rights abuses and atrocities that occurred in Sri Lanka during the civil war and ongoing human rights abuses in Sri Lanka today. If I am elected, I will continue to press to the British government to do all it can to make sure that this inquiry takes place urgently and to use our significant influence in the UN and the Commonwealth to apply pressure on the Sri Lankan government.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

Those who are in fear of their lives should not be returned

I support the calls of those calling for a moratorium on deportations. This further underpins the need for the spotlight to be shone on current events in Sri Lanka, as well as historic human rights abuses.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

Sanctions, UN Security Council ruling

Britain will have to use its significant influence in the UN and the Commonwealth to apply pressure on the Sri Lankan government to comply, with sanctions if necessary. It was a terrible mistake to allow the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting to take place in Sri Lanka.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes, fully support

The civil war was a war without witness because of the exclusion of journalists. It is crucial that we understand what took place and I support calls for an investigation into genocide.

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

It is in the constitution that this should happen and I support that. You have my full support.

I support all people's right to self-determination, including the Tamil people. There must be a process of truth, justice and reconciliation. It is for the Tamil people to determine their own future, but first their civil liberties, human and democratic rights need to be respected by the Sri Lankan government.

Ilford South

Mike Gapes

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

I support an Independent International Inquiry

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

There should be a moratorium on all removals pending a review by the new government

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

The international community should keep to the original timetable and if there is no action by September it should consider strong sanctions

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes I do support an investigation into claims of genocide against the Tamil people

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

Yes there needs to be a comprehensive political settlement and a genuine power sharing arrangement with self-governance for the Tamils in the North-East, arrived at through political negotiations.

Kingston and Surbiton**James Berry****Lee Godfrey** *(endorsed common response)*

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

The UN is conducting an independent inquiry which Prime Minister David Cameron led calls for. The Inquiry's report will need to be considered in detail and a referral should be made to the International Criminal Court if necessary.

As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a "full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka." We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

Asylum seekers should not be deported if there is credible evidence that they would face torture were they to return to Sri Lanka. As a barrister, I have confidence in the Court system which should ensure that Tamil refugees are not deported where there is credible evidence that they may face torture.

In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that "allegations of torture in police custody persist". Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

Although the delay is disappointing, the most important thing is that the UN's independent inquiry reaches unassailable factual findings and fair conclusions grounded in the evidence. President Sirisena has made encouraging noises, but his government needs to follow through with actions including full co-operation with the UN's independent inquiry.

President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

The UN independent investigation that Prime Minister David Cameron led the calls for is still ongoing. If the investigation reveals evidence of genocide or other war crimes, then a reference to the International Criminal Court should be made.

Yes

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

In the UK we provided devolution to Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and recently had an independence referendum in Scotland. Where there are calls for devolution or independence, I believe that it is right to follow the democratic route.

Yes

Ed Davey

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?

I and my party have argued since May 2009 for an international, independent investigation into the allegations of war crimes during the war, and especially in the last months. We ensured the UK voted for the UN HRC resolution for the High Commissioner to undertake an investigation. Regrettably, the GOSL has totally failed to co-operate with this, and the UN must hold Sri Lanka to account for that failure too.

2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?

I have raised this issue with the Home Office, in relation to some of my own constituents, and I was shocked at the failure of the Home Office to act on the evidence from respected authoritative bodies like Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch that Tamil asylum seekers who have been returned from the UK to Sri Lanka have been tortured. Liberal Democrats strongly support a moratorium on returns until we can be absolutely sure that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed. To be credible, this must involve the GOSL taking action against those who are committing such torture and persecution.

3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?

President Sirisena has made many promises – and I fear some British politicians have been taken in too. First, many of those promises are too weak – and do not provide for real justice for tamils – especially his refusal to involve the UN in any investigations and the lack of any independent commission on land rights. Second, even the promises he has made are being broken. I and my party, the Liberal Democrats, would support further resolutions at the UN to expose the continuing failure of the GOSL to co-operate and we must be ready to consider targeted sanctions against leading members of the Government – and the past Government – if there is no meaningful progress on co-operation with the UNHRC.

4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?

Yes – this should be part of the international investigations

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination?

Yes – we must find peaceful, constitutional ways to enable Tamils in Sri Lanka to exercise their self-determination. This will require international diplomatic efforts which should involve all key players in the region including India and China. The rights of Tamils should not be a forgotten pawn in a wider game of geopolitical chess.

Tooting	Dan Watkins	Sadiq Khan <i>(endorsed common response)</i>
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	An international justice mechanism	As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	No deportation if still a risk of torture to the asylum seeker in question	In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	I was pleased that David Cameron was the first world leader since 1948 to visit Jaffna and press President Rajapaksa for independent investigations into alleged war crimes. After calling for an international investigation, the Prime Minister helped secure a mandate for this investigation by the UN. In January 2015, a Foreign Office Minister visited Sri Lanka and pressed the new Sri Lankan government to cooperate with this investigation.	President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Prefer not to answer	Prefer not to answer
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Yes - powers should be devolved and it is encouraging that the new government plans to do this	Prefer not to answer
Twickenham	Dr Tania Mathias	Nick Grant <i>(endorsed common response)</i>
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	I would strongly advocate and endorse an International Inquiry Commission.	As recently as 13th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	I strongly advocate a moratorium on deportation for Tamil refugees until the situation in Sri Lanka becomes stable and the human rights violations have been investigated and resolved.	In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	Cooperation with UNHRC is essential. I would not rule out United Nations’ embargoes and visa restrictions. I have worked for the United Nations as a Refugee officer for two years in the Gaza Strip and therefore I fully support the work of the UNHRC.	President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Yes, absolutely	Yes
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	I support any conclusion of negotiations that will result in peace for all communities in Sri Lanka including a federal system.	Yes
Uxbridge & South Ruislip	Chris Summers	
1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	I would support a UN-supervised international inquiry, followed by UN trials, as seen in Rwanda	
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	I support a moratorium on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka until their human rights can be guaranteed.	
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	I would support economic and sporting sanctions if Sri Lanka refuses to co-operate with UNHRC	
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Yes	
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Yes, I believe the Tamils in Sri Lanka should have a similar level of autonomy as is granted to Scotland in the UK, with extra safeguards for the Tamil language.	

Common response by 84 Labour Party candidates

84 Labour candidates (listed below) endorse a common response facilitated by Tamils For Labour. 67 of those answered "YES" to Question 4 and 5. 17 candidates answered "PREFER NOT TO ANSWER" (marked with an asterisk).

1. What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse?	As recently as 13 th April 2015, Ed Miliband reaffirmed his support for a “full and independent, international investigation into alleged war crimes in Sri Lanka.” We will push for a proper UN mandated full and independent, international investigation that can also look into the wider implication of the armed conflict in Sri Lanka, with a view to prosecute those responsible in an international court, like the ICC.
2. What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka?	In January 2015, the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office reported that “allegations of torture in police custody persist”. Until such a time that the rights of Tamils deported from the UK to Sri Lanka can be guaranteed, we will support the position that there should be a moratorium on returns.
3. What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015?	President Sirisena has said that he would launch another domestic accountability mechanism and the United Nations was to play no role beyond offering advice. We will not believe that this situation will provide the redress necessary and that sanctions should be considered against the Government of Sri Lanka if it fails to comply with the UN by September 2015.
4. Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation?	Yes / Prefer not to answer*
5. Do you support the Tamil nation’s right to self determination?	Yes / Prefer not to answer*

The following candidates endorse this position:

Barking	Margaret Hodge	Hackney North & Stoke Newington	Diane Abbott	Twickenham	Nick Grant
Battersea	Will Martindale	Hackney South & Shoreditch	Meg Hillier	Vauxhall	Kate Hoey
Beckenham	Marina Ahmad	Hammersmith	Andy Slaughter	Walthamstow	Stella Creasy*
Bermondsey & Old Southwark	Neil Coyle	Hampstead & Kilburn	Tulip Siddiq	West Ham	Lyn Brown
Bethnal Green & Bow	Rushanara Ali	Harrow West	Gareth Thomas	Westminster North	Karen Buck
Bexleyheath & Crayford	Stefano Borella	Hayes & Harlington	John McDonnell	Wimbledon	Andrew Judge
Brent Central	Dawn Butler	Holborn & St Pancras	Keir Starmer*	Bristol East	Kerry McCarthy*
Brent North	Barry Gardiner	Hornchurch & Upminster	Paul McGeary*	Bristol North West	Darren Jones
Brentford & Isleworth	Ruth Cadbury	Hornsey & Wood Green	Catherine West*	Bristol South	Karin Smyth
Bromley & Chislehurst	John Courtneidge	Islington North	Jeremy Corbyn	Bristol West	Thangam Debbonaire
Camberwell & Peckham	Harriet Harman*	Islington South & Finsbury	Emily Thornberry	Cardiff Central	Jo Stevens
Carshalton & Wallington	Siobhan Tate	Kensington	Rod Abouharb*	Cardiff North	Mari Williams
Chelsea & Fulham	Alexandra Sanderson*	Kingston & Surbiton	Lee Godfrey	Cardiff South & Penarth	Stephen Doughty
Chingford & Woodford Green	Bilal Mahmood	Lewisham Deptford	Vicky Foxcroft	Cardiff West	Kevin Brennan
Chipping Barnet	Amy Trevelyan*	Lewisham East	Heidi Alexander	Coventry North East	Colleen Fletcher
Cities of London & Westminster	Nick Slingsby*	Lewisham West & Penge	Jim Dowd	Coventry North West	Geoffrey Robinson*
Croydon Central	Sarah Jones	Leyton & Wanstead	John Cryer	Coventry South	Jim Cunningham*
Croydon North	Steve Reed	Mitcham & Morden	Siobhain McDonagh	Harlow	Suzy Stride*
Croydon South	Emily Benn	Old Bexley & Sidcup	Ibby Mehmet	Luton North	Kelvin Hopkins
Dagenham & Rainham	Jon Cruddas	Orpington	Nigel de Gruchy	Luton South	Gavin Shuker
Dulwich & West Norwood	Helen Hayes*	Poplar & Limehouse	Jim Fitzpatrick	Leicester East	Keith Vaz
Ealing Central & Acton	Rupa Huq	Putney	Sheila Boswell	Leicester South	Jon Ashworth
East Ham	Stephen Timms*	Richmond Park	Sachin Patel	Leicester West	Liz Kendall
Edmonton	Kate Osamor	Romford	Sam Gould	Milton Keynes North	Emily Darlington
Eltham	Clive Efford	Ruislip, Northwood & Pinner	Michael Borio	Milton Keynes South	Andrew Pakes
Enfield Southgate	Bambos Charalambous	Streatham	Chuka Umunna*	Watford	Matthew Turmaine
Erith & Thamesmead	Teresa Pearce	Sutton & Cheam	Emily Brothers		
Finchley & Golders Green	Sarah Sackman	Tooting	Sadiq Khan*		
Greenwich & Woolwich	Matthew Pennycook	Tottenham	David Lammy		

Tamil Guardian General Election 2015 Survey

* Required

Candidate Name*: _____ Constituency*: _____
Party*: _____ Email address*: _____

1. Tamil victims have repeatedly rejected a domestic inquiry and accountability process, as proposed by the government, and are calling for a wholly international justice mechanism.

What justice mechanism and accountability process would you endorse? *

2. There is credible evidence that Tamil asylum seekers, deported from the UK, were tortured by Sri Lankan security forces since the new government took office on January 8. Lawyers, human rights organisations and the All Party Parliamentary Group for Tamils have called for a moratorium on deportations, in order to protect victims, until those responsible for torture are prosecuted.

What is your position on the deportation of Tamil refugees to Sri Lanka? *

3. Sri Lanka under the previous government rejected international engagement on human rights violations. The new government has pledged to cooperate, however, is yet to make tangible steps. The promise of commitment has led to the publication of the OISL report being deferred by six months to September 2015.

What steps do you think should be taken if the new government fails to make meaningful progress on cooperating with the UNHRC and on ensuring justice for the victims by September 2015? *

4. Tamils have long demanded an investigation specifically to establish whether genocide was committed by the Sri Lanka state against Tamil people.

Do you support the call for an investigation into genocide against the Tamil nation? *

5. Do you support the Tamil nation's right to self determination? *

Thank you for completing our survey!