

**DRAFT**

Her Excellency Fu Ying  
Chinese Ambassador to the Court of St James's  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
49-51 Portland Place  
London  
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Dear Madam Ambassador

Thank you for your recent letter regarding the Olympic Torch Relay. You have been under a great deal of pressure recently from the British media which, I know from experience, is not a happy place to be. I have admired the dignified way in which you have handled the situation.

The Metropolitan Police has been planning for this event for over a year now, working closely with the Beijing Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (BOCOG) and the Greater London Authority (GLA) as well as many other partner agencies. We have always anticipated that there would be demonstrations linked to this event, not all directed at China, but at other major issues such as globalisation and the environment. You will be well aware that under UK law, the Metropolitan Police has a proud history of facilitating lawful protest, and that is what we will do on this occasion. However, I have made it quite clear to the command team that I will not tolerate unlawful protest, nor any attempt to disrupt the relay itself. My officers have a great deal of experience in dealing with demonstrations and protesters and I can reassure you that the policing response to any incident will be timely and appropriate.

I have had the policing plan reviewed in the last two days and I am satisfied that the plan itself and the resources we have committed to it are sufficient to ensure a safe and secure event. I am grateful for the support that your staff at the Embassy have given us and, in particular, for the personal leadership you have brought to this event.

Yours etc.