

Page MP Janelle Saffin has told the Immigration Minister, Senator Chris Evans that she doesn't want to see two Kenyan women sent back to Kenya where they could be subjected to forced genital mutilation.

Ms Saffin said the women's claims for refugee status have so far been refused by the Immigration Department.

"Since the case of Grace Gichuhi and Teresia Muturi was raised in the media a number of local people have contacted me asking that our Government protect these young women.

"I contacted the Minister to express my personal concerns for these women, and pass on the concerns of those people who have contacted me.

"I am pleased to hear from Minister Evans that the women are not being removed at this time, and their second request for a ministerial intervention is currently under consideration.

"The women now have the opportunity to provide extra information to back up their claims for refugee status."

Ms Saffin said she would be following the case closely.