



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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## **Humanitarian crisis in Gaza**

Thank you for contacting me about the situation in Gaza.

You are right to raise the suffering of the Palestinian people. There will ultimately be no relief for the people in Gaza, until there is a political solution. I firmly believe that the international community must redouble its efforts to support a comprehensive peace agreement that delivers an independent Palestine alongside a safe and secure Israel.

In tandem with that effort, the UK is continuing to provide aid to the Occupied Palestinian Territories. British aid is helping to build strong institutions and enabling the Palestinian Authority to deliver essential services such as policing, health and education. UK funding provides around 25,000 young Palestinians with access to an education, up to 3,700 immunisations for children, and 185,000 medical consultations each year.

I can assure you that Ministers are fully engaged with the situation on the ground in Gaza. I welcome the fact that during the summer the UK participated in a joint mission with the UN to Gaza. The UK will continue to closely monitor the situation in Gaza and will work with our international partners in order to bring tangible change and improvements to the lives of those living in Gaza and peace to the wider region.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Craig Whittaker'.

Craig Whittaker MP