



**Craig Whittaker MP**

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### **Antisemitism and Palestine Solidarity**

Thank you for contacting me about antisemitism and Palestine Solidarity.

I would like to make it clear that I condemn all acts of antisemitism in the strongest possible terms. Any discrimination or intimidation based on religion or race is deplorable and will not be tolerated. These acts have no place in any society, and of course, the policies of Israel should not be mistaken for the views of the Jewish people.

We should do as much as possible to protect Jewish communities from racist attacks and I welcome the action that has been taken to tackle antisemitism in recent years. These steps include working with the police to protect Jewish communities, giving more than £2 million a year to protect children at Jewish schools and working with Jewish community organisations.

I am also encouraged that the Government has, through the UK's membership of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance, actively supported the adoption of a Working Definition of Antisemitism last year. The UK is now encouraging individual states to adopt the definition domestically.

A hate crime action plan has also been published, which will increase the reporting of hate crimes, prevent hate crimes on transport and provide stronger support for victims. The Department for Communities and Local Government continues to host the antisemitism Working Group. This brings community representatives together with officials from across government to ensure a coordinated response to emerging challenges.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP