



Craig Whittaker MP

CALDER VALLEY

www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk

Military detention of Palestinian children

Thank you for contacting me about the detention of Palestinian children and EDM 563.

Members of the Government / Parliamentary Private Secretaries do not, by convention, sign any Early Day, as doing so is likely to breach the Ministerial Code's rules on collective responsibility. However,

I agree with you that the detention of Palestinian children in Israeli prisons is extremely worrying and I know that my colleagues in Government share your concerns.

In 2012, an independent report on Children in Military Custody was funded and facilitated by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Since its publication, Ministers and our Ambassador to Israel have strongly urged the recommendations of the report to be implemented. Minister of State, Alistair Burt, raised the issue of children in detention with Israeli authorities when he visited the region in August.

I continue to take an active interest in this human rights issue and hope that progress can be made.

Thank you again for contacting me.

Kind regards,

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

Craig Whittaker MP