



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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## **Modern Slavery**

Thank you for contacting me about modern slavery.

It is unthinkable that there are people across the world as well as in this country that are victims of this heinous crime, and I am very proud that this Government is taking action to stamp it out for good. Since the world-leading Modern Slavery Act 2015 was introduced, more victims and survivors are being rescued and supported than ever before, more perpetrators are being brought to justice, and thousands of businesses have published slavery and human trafficking statements.

Aid spending on modern slavery has been doubled to £150 million to help drive progress around the world. The new funding, allocated by the Department for International Development, includes a £20 million investment in the new Global Fund to End Modern Slavery. The Global Fund is an innovative partnership - seed funded by the UK and the US - to support transformational programmes in partner countries to reduce the prevalence of slavery, support victims and reduce vulnerability to slavery.

Many victims of modern slavery in the UK are trafficked into the UK from abroad. The Home Office's £33.5 million Modern Slavery Fund was set up to support victims from countries which are regular sources of trafficked people coming into the UK, and bring perpetrators to justice by working in partnership with key source countries. The criminals behind modern slavery are also being tackled, as police and law enforcement agencies make good use of new powers and tools provided by the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

Slavery is the gravest human rights abuse of our time, and we must do everything we can to stamp it out. I am proud of the action this Government is taking, but there is always more to do

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