



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

**The Rt Hon the Lord Cameron
of Chipping Norton**
Secretary of State for Foreign,
Commonwealth and Development
Affairs

King Charles Street
London
SW1A 2AH

Sarah Champion MP
The Chair
International Development Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

26 February 2024

Dear Sarah,

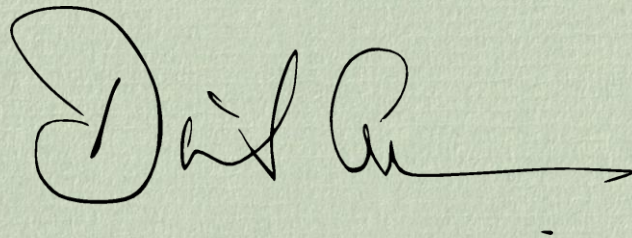
Thank you for your letter of 1st February 2024 about the Israeli air strike of 18th January 2024 that hit a Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) and International Rescue Committee (IRC) accommodation building in Al Mawasi, Gaza.

I share your concern. From the outset of this conflict, we have repeatedly stressed to the Israelis the need to have a robust deconfliction mechanism in place. My Ambassador in Tel Aviv and Representative for Humanitarian Affairs in the Occupied-Palestinian Territories reminded the Israeli Minister of Strategic Affairs, Ron Dermer, of this when they met on 15th January. Following the 18th January incident I expressed my concerns in the strongest terms with Prime Minister Netanyahu, Minister Dermer and War Cabinet member Gantz when I visited Israel on 24th January. In these meetings, I noted that the site's location had been shared with the Israeli authorities in December and that we had received an acknowledgement in response. I underlined the proximity of the air strike to the site and our concern about the significant risk to life.

This incident continues to be raised at senior levels in Israel by HMA Tel Aviv, who has pressed for a satisfactory response. The Deputy National Security Adviser and the Attorney General both raised it with senior Israeli interlocutors during their recent visits to Israel. On 22nd February, British Embassy Tel Aviv was advised that Israel has reopened its investigation into the incident and that they will revert with further findings. We will continue to seek further clarification and to support MAP's work. I was glad that British Consulate General Jerusalem officials were able to assist with the subsequent evacuation of the MAP team and spoke to them once they were out of harm's way.

As I have made clear, we continue to monitor the situation closely. The FCDO continues to assess Israel's commitment and capability to comply with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and its past record of compliance, and will consider this incident as part of our overall assessment.

I can assure you that we will continue to take every opportunity to remind the Israelis of their international law obligations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Cameron", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.