

UK aid will help provide millions of Palestinians with healthcare and education

Press release

UK support will help the UN Relief and Works Agency to continue delivering on its mandate to support and protect Palestinian refugees.



Food parcels being delivered for Palestinian refugees in Gaza, April 2020.
Picture: UNRWA/Khalil Adwan

The UK has pledged new funds to the UN Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to provide vital support to Palestinian refugees, the UK's Minister for the Middle East, James Cleverly, announced today.

UK support will help the Agency to continue delivering on its UN mandate to support and protect Palestinian refugees.

The UK has consistently been one of UNRWA's top donors, and its support in the last year has enabled UNRWA to provide education for more than half a million children and helped over 3.5 million Palestinians access health services.

Minister for the Middle East, James Cleverly, said:

Overcrowded living conditions and years of conflict have left Palestinian refugees particularly vulnerable to the impact of coronavirus. The pandemic has made it more difficult for UNRWA to carry out its essential work, yet its staff continue to work tirelessly to provide help to those in need.

I am delighted the UK is providing this new support to UNRWA so it

can continue to deliver its vital services, including healthcare and education, to Palestinian refugees.

The UK continues to support a negotiated settlement leading to a safe and secure Israel living alongside a viable and sovereign Palestinian state; based on 1967 borders with agreed land swaps, Jerusalem as the shared capital of both states, and a just, fair and realistic settlement for refugees.

Until that happens, the UK remains firmly committed to supporting UNRWA and Palestinian refugees across the region.

Notes to editors

- This additional £33.5 million of UK funding announced today brings the UK's total contribution to UNRWA for 2020 to £34.5 million.
- On 23 June donors pledged \$130m at the UNRWA pledging conference co-hosted by Jordan and Sweden.

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