

Violence across Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories must stop

Madam President, as others in the Assembly have made clear violence across Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories must stop. The United Kingdom offers our deepest condolences to the families of those civilians killed.

The United Kingdom calls for an immediate ceasefire, to prevent the further loss of life and a worsening humanitarian situation. We continue to support the ongoing UN, Egyptian and Qatari mediation efforts.

The United Kingdom unequivocally condemns the firing of rockets at civilian populations. These acts of terrorism and incitement from Hamas and other terrorist groups must permanently end.

Madam President, Israel has a legitimate right to self-defence, and the right to defend its citizens from attack. In doing so, it is vital that Israel makes every effort to avoid civilian casualties. We call on Israel to adhere to the principles of necessity and proportionality when defending its legitimate security interest. We are also concerned by reports that Hamas is again using civilian infrastructure and populations as cover for military operations.

We are gravely concerned, Madam President, by UN reports that medical installations, schools and hundreds of homes in Gaza have been destroyed or seriously damaged.

That is why, Madam President, the United Kingdom has today announced we will provide an initial £3.2 million to UNRWA's emergency flash appeal. This support will help UNRWA deliver life-saving humanitarian aid to those that need it most.

The United Kingdom also urges unimpeded entry and exit of vital humanitarian supplies and personnel, and that Hamas cease their mortar attacks on these crossings.

Madam President, I reiterate the importance of maintaining the historic Status Quo in Jerusalem. The United Kingdom strongly supports the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan's important role as custodian of the holy sites.

As my Foreign Secretary reiterated this week, the United Kingdom firmly opposes settlements in the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, as well as demolitions and evictions of Palestinians from their homes.

Madam President, recent events highlight the urgent need to make progress towards a two-state solution: a safe and secure Israel, alongside a viable Palestinian state, based on 1967 lines, with Jerusalem as the shared capital.

Above all, Madam President, the United Kingdom will continue pushing for an end to violence and a political pathway to peace.

Thank you.

Note to editors: Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office announces UK aid package to help provide emergency relief for civilians in Gaza
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-aid-package-to-help-provide-emergency-relief-for-civilians-in-gaza-2>)

[UK aid package to help provide emergency relief for civilians in Gaza](#)

News story

New funding for UNRWA announced following recent escalation in violence



The UK will provide new funding to the UN agency for Palestinian refugees UNRWA to help provide food, water, and emergency shelter to Palestinians affected by the recent escalation in violence in Gaza, the UK's Minister for the Middle East James Cleverly announced today (20 May 2021).

The UK support comes as UNRWA launches an emergency appeal calling for urgent support to meet immediate humanitarian needs. Existing UK aid to UNRWA is already helping the Agency to provide food supplies to more than one million refugees in Gaza this year.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza was already concerning, with the percentage of the population living in poverty expected to increase this year from 53 per cent to 64 per cent. COVID is still spreading in Gaza and 2 million Palestinians have been living under severe movement and access restrictions.

Minister for the Middle East and North Africa, James Cleverly, said:

Palestinian and Israeli civilians should not face the brunt of this conflict, and no child or family should go without food, water or shelter. Today's UK support will help UNRWA deliver life-saving humanitarian aid to those that need it most.

The international community needs to ensure UNRWA is able to save lives and reduce the suffering.

The escalation of violence and loss of life in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories has shocked all of us. Both sides must work towards an immediate ceasefire, to prevent the further loss of life and a worsening humanitarian situation.

The UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab has spoken in recent days with the Israeli Foreign Minister and Palestinian Prime Minister, where he reinforced the UK's clear message of de-escalation.

At the UN Security Council, the UK is calling for an urgent ceasefire and measures by all sides to reduce further violence. The UK will also participate in an emergency UN General Assembly session today.

Notes to editors:

- The UK is providing an initial £3.2 million of UK aid to UNRWA's emergency flash appeal, which launched yesterday (19 May 2021). The appeal focuses on meeting the immediate humanitarian needs of vulnerable Palestinians living in Gaza.

Published 20 May 2021

[‘Direct delivery to communities’ at heart of Plan for Wales](#)

Secretary of State for Wales Simon Hart has outlined the UK Government's ambitious plans for Wales which aim to deliver thousands of skilled jobs and ensure Wales's place as a hub for innovation and the green industries of the future.

Speaking to an online audience of representatives from Welsh business, industry and tourism on Thursday (20 May) the Welsh Secretary explained how the UK Government will build back better and greener from the pandemic by investing in digital infrastructure, providing financial backing for green industry and supporting jobs and growth right across Wales in the coming months and years.

Launching the UK Government's Plan for Wales, Mr Hart also described how his government will operate at a community level in Wales, working directly with local authorities and other groups on delivery of funding and major projects.

Speaking about the plans, Prime Minister Boris Johnson said:

Just as the economic heft of the UK provided the resources to get all four of its constituent parts through the worst of the pandemic – and acquire the vaccines that will ultimately bring it to an end – so that strength in numbers will help Wales become fairer, greener and more prosperous as we build back better from Coronavirus.

By working together we can bring faster internet connections, more reliable mobile signals and better transport connections. We can create good, skilled, well-paid jobs from Menai Bridge to Machynlleth to Merthyr Tydfil and we can help Wales play its part in building a net-zero economy with everything from the Holyhead Hydrogen Hub to vast floating windfarms in the Celtic Sea.

Welsh Secretary Simon Hart said:

The UK Government is stepping up a gear in Wales. We are accelerating our support for local communities to help them recover from the pandemic, we are bringing the UK Government closer to Wales and we will lead Wales' recovery into a green industrial revolution of jobs and growth.

Every single investment we make will be looked at through the prism of jobs, livelihoods and sustainability. Like never before people will see the UK Government work directly with the 22 Welsh local authorities as well as other local partners.

Neither Westminster nor Cardiff has a monopoly of knowledge and expertise and I firmly believe it is local communities that are often best placed to determine both how to meet the specific needs of their areas and what will have the greatest impact.

The Plan for Wales has been published following a year which has seen unprecedented support provided to businesses and individuals in Wales during the Covid-19 pandemic with more than 500,000 Welsh jobs protected by UK Government support schemes including the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme, billions provided in government loans to Welsh firms and an extra £8.6bn allocated to the devolved Welsh Government through the Barnett Formula since the start of the pandemic.

Mr Hart said that the collective strength of the United Kingdom has been instrumental in harnessing collective scientific, industrial and financial strength to deliver a world-class vaccination programme that has provided a

path out of lockdown.

The Welsh Secretary outlined a series of ambitious projects across Wales to which the UK Government has recently committed funding and support, and reiterated his government's backing for longer-standing policies like significantly improving Wales' digital infrastructure and ensuring transformational growth deals cover every area of Wales.

Projects highlighted by the Welsh Secretary include:

- Investing, alongside industry, more than £40m to support a cluster of industries in South Wales to transition to net-zero.
- Hundreds of millions of pounds in business and job creation in every area of Wales via the Growth Deals programme.
- Investing £15.9m in low-carbon heavy goods vehicles which will be pioneered in Cwmbran.
- Moving more jobs in UK Government departments including the Home Office and the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy to locations in Wales.
- Making almost £5m available for the Holyhead Hydrogen Hub project to pilot the use of hydrogen in the transport sector.
- Investing up to £30m, subject to approvals, in the Global Centre of Rail Excellence to create a world class train testing and R&D facility in the Dulais Valley.
- Supporting the emergence of floating offshore wind, with the Crown Estate holding a formal leasing round for floating offshore wind projects in the Celtic Sea.
- Implementing the new Levelling Up Fund which will invest up to £4.8 billion in local infrastructure across the UK that has a visible impact on people and their communities.
- Launching Project Gigabit, a £5bn connectivity programme to support the rollout of gigabit-capable broadband in the hardest to reach communities in Wales and across the UK.
- Continuing to improve rural connectivity via the Shared Rural Network, a £1 billion deal with the mobile network operators to deliver 80% 4G mobile coverage from all four operators across Wales and 95% coverage from at least one.
- Investing in Wales' transport infrastructure including a further £2.7m to upgrade the digital signalling capability on the Cambrian Line.
- The delivery of the first-ever Freeport in Wales which could lead to thousands of new jobs.

Secretary of State for Wales Simon Hart said:

The UK Government's ability to act quickly and protect our economic future has been instrumental in saving jobs and livelihoods as vast swathes of our economy were shut down.

This includes the furlough scheme, which has protected more than 460,000 jobs in Wales and the Business Interruption and Bounce Back loan schemes which have also provided support worth over £2bn for

Welsh businesses.

The UK Government has supported people and businesses across Wales through the worst of this pandemic and we will now do everything in our power to lead the way out of it.

ENDS

[Read the full Plan for Wales.](#)

[UK Government's Plan for Wales 2021](#)

News story

This document looks ahead to the UK Government's aims and ambitions for Wales in the coming years.



Read the full Plan for Wales below:

[The UK Government's Plan For Wales 2021](#)

PDF, 6.53MB, 35 pages

This file may not be suitable for users of assistive technology.

Request an accessible format.

If you use assistive technology (such as a screen reader) and need a version of this document in a more accessible format, please email correspondence@ukgovwales.gov.uk. Please tell us what format you need. It will help us if you say what assistive technology you use.

Published 20 May 2021

Last updated 21 May 2021 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 21 May 2021

Added translation

2. 20 May 2021

Added translation

Animal medicine seizure notice – Parcel addressed to Craigavon, County Armagh

News story

Details of seizure notice served following a parcel addressed to premises in Craigavon, County Armagh stopped at a Belfast Depot.



The following veterinary medicines were identified by a courier company based at a Belfast Depot. The products were then detained and subsequently seized by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

This parcel was addressed to residential premises in Craigavon, County Armagh and was shipped from Australia.

The parcel contained:

- Two x 100ml bottles of Folic Acid and Vitamin B12 injection
- Five x 20ml bottles of A.M.P 5 Injection

The Folic acid and vitamin B12 injection was labelled for the treatment of macrocytic anaemia in horses and dogs. The AMP-5 injection was labelled as a coronary vasodilator for horses and dogs.

These medicines are not authorised UK veterinary medicines.

The medicines were seized under Regulation 25 (Importation of unauthorised veterinary medicinal products) of the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013.

Published 20 May 2021