

Rt Hon Lord Cameron, Secretary of State Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office King Charles Street London SW1A 2AH

20 December 2023

Dear Secretary of State,

Calling for a sustained ceasefire in Gaza

I am writing to raise concerns regarding the horrors in Gaza and humanitarian tragedy that continues to unfold.

I welcome assurances that you have made representations to your Israeli counterparts of the need to ensure military action complies with international law, but I remain deeply concerned over the way Israel has conducted its operation to date.

It is right that the UN Security Council is debating the appalling situation in Gaza. The stark warnings from the UN should concern us all and show the urgent need for action to relieve the suffering on the ground.

It is increasingly clear that open-ended military action without a clear and desired political outcome is ultimately futile.

A sustained ceasefire is the only means by which civilians can be protected, and to prevent displacement, ensure humanitarian access, as well as the release of the remaining hostages.

In my view, the route to that is to get back to an agreement like the previous truce deal in November which would allow for a further cessation of hostilities and enable the international community to push for a political agreement to ultimately resolve this conflict.

I therefore urge you to use all diplomatic avenues available to work towards this aim. We must do everything possible to relieve the suffering of the people of Gaza.

I also urge you to work closely with our international partners ahead of the next UN Security Council vote on a ceasefire, to find consensus to pass a resolution to protect civilians, demand hostages are released, act as a stepping stone towards a sustainable ceasefire, and to renew impetus towards a two-state solution.

Member of Parliament for Portsmouth South | Shadow Minister of State for Rail

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The international community must be united to make progress towards what we all want: an end to conflict and a permanent ceasefire.

I look forward to hearing from you about these important matters of concern to my constituents.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Morgan MP