

Jack Sargeant MS
Chair
Petitions Committee

22 July 2024

Re: Petition P-06-1387 Provide humanitarian aid to Gaza

Dear Jack,

I write to you following our [evidence session](#) on international relations with the First Minister on 19 June 2024, to update you on matters relating to [Petition P-06-1387 Provide humanitarian aid to Gaza](#).

The First Minister reconfirmed the position that, if an appeal is launched by the Disasters Emergency Committee ("DEC"), the Welsh Government would expect to contribute.

He was asked whether the 17.6 per cent cut to the Welsh Government's international development budget will affect its ability to donate. The First Minister responded that any budget reductions:

"...would affect our ability to provide money to this or any other DEC appeal. [...] We don't know when an appeal might be launched. So, the honest truth is it will affect our ability, but I couldn't tell you how much or when, and that's because we don't yet know when a DEC appeal will be launched as well. That is part of the wider reality of our budgetary position."

Members asked whether consideration had been given to benefits in kind that could be contributed, such as expertise. The First Minister responded that no detailed conversations had taken place but that, in previous situations:

"...in a range of areas, we've provided benefits in kind that aren't always about money—sometimes it's about equipment, sometimes it's about expertise. So, I'd

want to look at what we can do in a positive way. And this all comes back to when there is a period in time when we're able to do that, because at the moment, there isn't a permanent or sustainable ceasefire."

I hope this provides a useful update to your consideration of the petition.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS
Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

