

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

February 2017

*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about the conflict in Yemen.

The UK supports the Saudi-led campaign to restore the legitimate Government in Yemen. This is a campaign that has the backing of the legitimate President of Yemen, as well as the United Nations. Ultimately, a political solution is the best way to bring long-term stability to Yemen and end the conflict.

Yemen is one of the most serious humanitarian crises in the world. That is why I am proud that the UK is the fourth largest aid donor to Yemen, committing £100m to Yemen for 2016-17. UK aid is already making a difference - last year we helped more than 1.3 million Yemenis with food, medical supplies, water and emergency shelter.

The UK has been consistently clear with all sides to the conflict in Yemen about the importance of compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law. The UK operates one of the most rigorous and transparent export control regimes in the world, and all export licence applications are assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Risks around human rights violations are a key part of this assessment. The UK Government does not export equipment where it assesses there is a clear risk that it might be used for internal repression, that it might provoke or prolong conflict within a country, or where it may be used aggressively against another country.

I am confident in the Government's robust case-by-case assessment and I am satisfied that current licences for Saudi Arabia are compliant with the UK's exporting criteria. The Government has the power to suspend or revoke any export licence should it consider that this is a necessary and appropriate step

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**