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**Nigel Huddleston MP**  
Member of Parliament for Mid Worcestershire



## Reporting Back

The thoughts of many of us have been with people in the Middle East following the horrific terrorist attack on innocent civilians in Israel on 7th October. The attack has had a profound impact on the region and beyond, and I extend my most sincere condolences to all those who have sadly lost innocent loved ones. Many constituents have contacted me to express their support to the people of Israel and also express concerns about the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

The prime minister has defended Israel's right to defend itself, and also called for this response to be conducted within international law and to take every possible precaution to avoid harming civilians as it goes after Hamas. The Government has also allocated an additional £20 million in humanitarian aid to alleviate the suffering civilian population. I shall keep a close eye on developments as, I know, will many of my constituents.

**In Mid Worcestershire**

Throughout October, I have balanced my ministerial role with my duties to constituents. We have had a large volume of correspondence recently, including casework on a variety of urgent matters and policy response work.

One issue I am particularly aware of relates to broadband. While we have benefitted from considerable enhancements to mobile and broadband services across Worcestershire in the last few years, the recent trend for some broadband providers to erect poles rather than lay cables in the ground has, understandably, upset and angered many of my constituents – particularly in Droitwich and Broadway. I am concerned that the current rollout is not being done as intended nor in accordance with guidelines, and so I am working with Wychavon District Council to raise these issues with OFCOM as well as communicating concerns directly to ministers. I hope to see improved guidance and greater adherence to it.

Meanwhile, I have also got out of the office a great deal and visited many local businesses, charities, and events across the constituency, including:

- **Visit to Dorset House nursing home in Droitwich**
- **Pressing the first apple at Pershore Community College community day**
- **Visit to Big Bear Plastic Products in Droitwich**
- **Droitwich Spa CVS Moving Forward launch**
- **Defibrillator fundraising event at Bengeworth Club in Evesham**
- **Visit to the Evesham Mop**
- **Opening of the outdoor gym, trim trail, and pétanque court in Honeybourne.**

I was also pleased to see significant Government investment in Mid Worcestershire and the surrounding areas last month. Notable highlights include:

- **Three Counties Medical School:** Through the dedication of MPs across Worcestershire, Herefordshire, and Gloucestershire, we have secured funded training places at the Three Counties Medical School in Worcester. This achievement promises to boost medical education in our area.
- **Network North:** The Midlands is set to receive a substantial boost of £9.6 billion through Network North, offering great potential for our region's growth and prosperity.
- **Midlands Rail Hub:** This vital project will bring tangible benefits to our local stations, like Droitwich and Worcestershire Parkway, and enhance the lives of residents across Mid Worcestershire.

You can stay connected and engaged with my work as your MP by checking out my **website** and by following me on **Facebook**, **Twitter**, and **Instagram**.

# Parliamentary & Ministerial Responsibilities

In my role as Minister for International Trade, I have been actively engaged in promoting trade and enhancing partnerships, both on the international stage and within the UK. Recent highlights include strengthening trade relations with Latin America through visits to Colombia and Peru, participating in critical discussions at the World Trade Organization (WTO) on global trade challenges, and successfully resolving trade barriers with South Africa.

Below is a glimpse of some of my recent activities:

**Latin America:** I travelled to Colombia and Peru to strengthen our trade relations with Latin America, addressing trade barriers and exploring new opportunities, including simplifying regulations for British pharmaceutical companies. These initiatives have the potential to unlock significant export opportunities for UK businesses.

**World Trade Organization (WTO):** I participated in crucial discussions at the WTO in Geneva, focusing on global trade challenges and advancing the UK's trade priorities in preparation for the 13th Ministerial Conference.

**Premier League:** I met with the Premier League to explore opportunities for collaboration and celebrate its role as one of the UK's major global exports.

**UK-Central America Association Trade Council:** We launched the first UK-Central America Association Trade Council, creating significant trade and investment opportunities for both regions.

**UK-Oklahoma Working Group:** Building on our Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Oklahoma, the first UK-Oklahoma Working Group convened, laying the foundation for valuable collaborations and trade opportunities.

**Trade with Brazil:** I had a productive conversation with the Brazilian Vice Trade Minister Márcio Elias Rosa to explore ways to make trade easier, enhancing partnership opportunities for British businesses.

**UK-Peruvian Relationship:** I celebrated 200 years of the UK-Peruvian relationship, fostering collaborations in healthcare and addressing taxation issues for imported spirits such as Scotch whisky.

**West and Central Africa Trade and Investment Forum:** I emphasised the importance of trade in strengthening global relationships while attending the West and Central Africa Trade and Investment Forum.

**Extending Rules of Origin to South Korea:** British businesses celebrated the extension of rules of origin to South Korea, opening new trade opportunities.

**Meeting with Togo's Energy and Mines Minister:** We discussed strengthening UK-Togo trade ties and the benefits for the UK private sector.

**Removing Trade Barriers to South Africa:** We successfully resolved a trade barrier, making it easier to sell new medicines and medical devices to South Africa, unlocking export opportunities.

**Written Parliamentary Questions:** I answered more than 45 Written Parliamentary Questions, ensuring transparency and accountability in my role.

## **Christmas Card Competition**

Do not forget to participate in my 2023 Christmas Card Photography Competition. It is a wonderful opportunity for talented photographers in Mid Worcestershire to showcase their skills and celebrate the beauty of our constituency. The deadline for submissions is this Friday, 10th November 2023. The winning photograph will be featured on my Christmas cards, including one to the prime minister. For full details on the competition, please visit my [website](#).

### **Passing of Laurie Evans**

Finally, and very sadly, we also lost one of Droitwich's best: Laurie Evans. Laurie was President of the Mid Worcestershire Conservative Association and long-time councillor and community leader. He will be greatly missed but leaves a great legacy from his many dedicated years of service across our community.

*Promoted by Nigel Huddleston of Unit 3, 103 High St, Evesham, WR11 4EB*











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