ALAN MAK MP

Member of Parliament for the Havant Constituency

Cllr Philip Munday Leader of Havant Borough Council Public Service Plaza Civic Centre Road Havant PO9 2AX



Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP Home Secretary Home Office 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

31 July 2025

Dear Home Secretary and Cllr Munday,

I am writing in response to the Home Office consultation on the Labour Government's plan to house asylum seekers and/or illegal migrants at 286-288 London Road, Waterlooville, PO7 7DS, in the neighbouring Parliamentary constituency to mine

At the time of writing, I have still not received a response from the Home Secretary to the letter I sent on Monday 21 July 2025 asking questions about aspects of the Labour Government's proposal. The Home Secretary's failure to respond is another shameful discourtesy from Labour to residents in the Havant Constituency.

The process so far has exemplified the incompetence of Labour's administration of both the Home Office and Havant Borough Council. Firstly, the initial consultation from the Home Office to Havant Borough Council was sent to the wrong e-mail address by the Home Office meaning news of the proposal broke before HBC was able to answer reasonable questions from residents. Secondly, the invitation to me from HBC to respond to the consultation was sent to the wrong e-mail address, and I had to chase HBC for the details myself. At every level Labour have made a mess of this issue, and it is time to put an end to this fiasco.

The location of the proposed asylum seeker accommodation in Waterlooville is not within the Havant Constituency, but it is within the Borough of Havant. Waterlooville is a town centre retail location which many of my Havant Constituency constituents visit, work in, travel through or use for leisure and other purposes.

Many residents from the Havant Constituency have contacted me urging me to oppose your plan and to pass on their deep concern about this proposal, and the potential for similar proposals elsewhere in our communities in the future. I share their concerns, and I am always ready to convey their views to the decision-makers which in this case are the Labour Government in Westminster and the Labour-led Havant Borough Council.

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@AlanMakMP

@AlanMakHavant

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In particular, I share the view of local residents that the Waterlooville location is unsuitable for the proposed purpose, and that the proposal risks public safety and the regeneration of Waterlooville. It also deprives local people of housing in a borough which has such a long housing waiting list.

Residents are also concerned about the burden on public services. The Labour Government has already effectively cancelled a new hospital that the previous Conservative Government had planned in Hampshire. I receive a steady flow of correspondence from NHS bodies and individual healthcare professionals concerned about the growing pressures on healthcare across our communities.

I also note the comments from the Police & Crime Commissioner for Hampshire about the impact of your plan on community safety and the additional burdens it would place on policing.

As HBC has indicated its unwillingness to include petition responses in their final submission to the Home Office consultation, I will instead deliver my petition directly to the House of Commons. I will not accept Labour's suppression of the views of local residents.

I want to be equally clear that there are no suitable alternative sites in the Havant Constituency, and I would welcome an assurance from the Home Secretary that none will be considered for housing asylum seekers and/or illegal migrants.

Please understand in the strongest terms my opposition and the opposition of many residents in the Havant Constituency to the Labour Government's plans to house asylum seekers and/or illegal migrants at the Waterlooville site, and in the Havant Constituency.

Yours sincerely,

Alon Mak

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MakMP @AlanMakMP

@AlanMakHavant