From: [redacted]
To: Crown Casework
Subject: Re: PCU/RARE/C3105/3378843
Date: 07 September 2026 21:34:22

[redacted]

Dear Secretary of State,

I write as [redacted]. Since I do not have email I have had to contact you using my [redacted] in order to express my misgivings about your plans to house asylum seekers at the former MOD site on Launton Road, Oxfordshire. In particular, there has been so little time for members of the public to assess your plans and to respond to them. We who live locally can remember the last time this site was fingered as possible accommodation for asylum seekers. On that occasion the proposal was noted to be poor value for public money and was shelved. It is difficult to understand how or why, after all these years, the same site might offer better value.

I have concerns for the health and well-being of those housed on that site. On the previous occasion, it was noted that there was asbestos in the roof. Being a former MOD site, all kinds of materials have been stored in the grounds so that it will not be safe to house people there until ground contamination has been fully investigated. Yet, as I understand it, you intend to house people there by December 2026: there will not have been sufficient time to investigate and remedy any contamination. The evidence you have supplied is incomplete, there are surveys outstanding and, once again, such a short time to achieve everything.

It is also a site in a flood area. Has this been assessed? Will suitable drainage be installed in readiness?

When your plan was first mooted I wrote to remind everyone that the B4011, the road that gives access to the site, has hardly any pedestrian facilities. Should anyone leave the site on foot, intending to take a walk down that road, he would immediately put his life (and that of others, road users) in danger. The grass verges are usually overgrown with nettles so that a pedestrian would naturally choose to walk on the road instead - with vehicles passing at speeds of over 50mph. Very dangerous, with the prospect of injuries and deaths.

Arrangements for transport to and from the site are far from clear. The current hourly bus service past the local prison cannot cope with expected demand. Even if special transport is laid on for residents, has anyone taken into account the lack of facilities in the area? Will there be suitable places for men to go and worship and will towns with suitable facilities, such as Oxford and Aylesbury, be able to cope with an influx of hundreds of men at a time?

Therefore, I object to this plan. In the event of the plan proceeding I would urge the Secretary of State delay the start of its implementation until such time as the necessary surveys and remedial works are completed.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]