submission from the coalition to close [redacted]
accommodation centre

We are writing to lodge our objection to the proposal to build an accommodation centre for the following reasons:-

1. To house so many people from so many different cultures -essentially warehousing them indefinitely- is inhumane, and bound to have incidents of health and civil unrest within the boundaries of the camp
2. There is no indication of help to be available from lawyers, from doctors and nurses, from language teachers - this would all need to be intensive for the centre to succeed - in fact as the excellent submission from 'churches together' in Bicester makes clear, to provide that amount of help for all the people housed would be impossible to achieve
3. Many of the people to be housed simply want to get on with their lives- already disrupted by having to leave their homelands- and to strand them without agency, far from the local town, near a village- essentially in limbo- is cruel and ultimately counterproductive. People should be accommodated in willing communities that can help them begin the process of integration while their cases are heard.
4. The intense extra strain on all local services this centre would entail - from sewerage to water, energy to transport, emergency services to hospitals, police to social services- is simply not possible.These services are under intense strain already
5. The strain on local communities, however welcoming they may have wished to be, will be intolerable- such a huge influx of people in distress on their roads footpaths and pavements islikely to create distrust and fear. (contrast this with the welcome rural and urban britain gave to Ukranians a few years ago when the UK govt offered grants and rent to people across the Uk who received these refugees willingly)
6. And finally we object on the grounds that this centre will stir up community divisions, fear, hate and racism in the area affected- in fact it already has