



Office of Nadia Whittome MP  
Member of Parliament for Nottingham East  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

9<sup>th</sup> February 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

We, the undersigned, write to you as a group of cross-party parliamentarians to express our grave concern over Home Office plans to deport 50 people to Jamaica by charter flight on 11th February 2020.

Two years ago the Windrush crisis shook the country. In a violation of human rights, the government was found to have been detaining and deporting British citizens and those who had the right to live in the UK for decades.

At the height of the Windrush scandal, the government suspended charter flights as they could not guarantee that no wrongful deportations would take place.

Not only is there an unacceptable risk of removing anyone with a potential Windrush claim, but there has been a failure by the government to remedy the causes of the Windrush scandal. It is, therefore, crucial that all further deportations are cancelled until the long-awaited Lessons Learned Review is published, and its recommendations implemented.

We understand through a leaked version of the review that it recommends revising policy towards FNOs, ending deportation for those who arrived as children, and only considering deportation in "the most severe cases".

Given that the Guardian has reported that the Review is at Maxwellisation stage, which means that the government has it and are now editing it, it seems only reasonable that any further deportations should be stopped until these important recommendations are published and implemented.

We would be grateful if you would, as a matter of urgency, provide answers to the following questions:

Can the government guarantee the safety of those individuals planned for deportation?

Does the government plan to collect data regarding the safety of those who are to be removed?

Have each of the individuals expected to board the charter flight to Jamaica on 11th February had access to legal advice and representation?

How many of the individuals expected to board the charter flight to Jamaica on 11th February have exhausted all avenues of appeal and due process?



How many of the individuals expected to board the charter flight to Jamaica on 11th February have access to a mobile phone?

How many of the individuals on this flight have been resident in the UK since they were children?

What legal advice the government sought on this proposed action and will you publish this legal advice?

At what stage is the Lessons Learned Report and when will it be published?

We urge you to take the following actions recommended by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Migrants (JCWI) without delay:

1. The flight and all future charter flights must be suspended until the Windrush Lessons Learned Review has been published and its recommendations implemented.
2. The Home Office must immediately provide SIM cards for alternative providers in order to ensure that no one will be removed from the UK without being afforded effective access to legal advice and assistance.
3. The Home Office must introduce legislation to implement Sir Stephen Shaw's recommendation that long-term British residents who have been in the UK since childhood should not be subject to the automatic deportation provisions of the UK Borders Act 2007.

We look forward to your timely response.

Yours sincerely,

Nadia Whittome MP  
Diane Abbott MP  
Janet Daby MP  
David Lammy MP  
Dawn Butler MP  
Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP  
Jeremy Corbyn MP  
John McDonnell MP  
Rt Hon Emily Thornberry MP  
Baroness Shami Chakrabarti  
Lord Hendy QC  
Alex Sobel MP  
Naz Shah MP  
Rushanara Ali MP  
Stella Creasy MP  
Mohammad Yasin MP  
Marsha de Cordova MP  
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Virendra Sharma MP  
Alex Davies-Jones MP  
Alex Norris MP  
Afzal Khan MP  
Clive Lewis MP  
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Dan Carden MP  
Claudia Webbe MP  
Khalid Mahmood MP  
Florence Eshalomi MP  
Kate Osborne MP  
Sam Tarry MP  
Rachel Hopkins MP  
Emma Lewell-Buck MP  
Rosie Duffield MP

Rosena Allin-Khan MP  
Olivia Blake MP  
Seema Malhotra MP  
Bambos Charalambous MP  
Paula Barker MP  
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Mary Foy MP  
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Kate Green MP  
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Alison McGovern MP  
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