



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Mr James Brokenshire MP
Minister for Security & Immigration
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

9th September 2014

Dear Mr Brokenshire,

Queens Hotel, 122 Church Rd, London SE19 2UG

The Queen's Hotel in Crystal Palace has recently been used by the Home Office to house large numbers of asylum seekers. The hotel has been inspected by the Fire Service and Croydon Council's Housing Enforcement Team who found that one of the hotel buildings had 500 people sleeping in it and another building with an HMO (House in Multiple Occupancy) licence to accommodate 68 people had 100 living in it. This is a clear breach of the hotel's HMO licence agreement. The inspectors also found more than four people living in en-suite rooms and one room being occupied by as many as nine people. I understand this particular building has no HMO licence and yet the Home Office have still placed people in it.

I would like to ask that you meet with me and Jim Dowd MP, whose constituents also have a direct interest in this matter, to discuss our concerns. I am worried about the safety of the people living in the hotel, the sudden conversion of the hotel into a B&B hostel without consultation with local people, and the impact of such a large influx of unsettled asylum seekers on the local community.

I am very disappointed that the local community and elected representatives were never consulted about plans to house over 600 asylum seekers in the area. The hotel is on the edge of small but thriving shopping centre in an area that is residential in character. I have received numerous complaints from local residents about noise, intimidation and anti-social behaviour connected with the hotel since this situation arose. I hope you will be able to address the concerns that local people have raised.

I look forward to your early reply.

*Yours ever,
Steve Reed*