



Home Affairs Committee

10 June 2025

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
Via email

Dear Home Secretary

Thank you for appearing before the Committee on [3 June](#), to discuss the work of the Home Office.

During the session you said you would follow up in writing about the use of facial recognition by the police, rematching of previously displaced care workers and immigration enforcement activity. We look forward to receiving updates on these points.

Due to a number of divisions in the House we weren't able to cover everything we had planned to raise with you, so we would also be grateful if you could respond to the following questions, which we didn't have an opportunity to ask you in person.

Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation

- Has the Interministerial Group on child sexual abuse met? Who attends the group, and what are the aims of the group?

Police workforce

- Alongside the Home Office's forecast changes to the neighbourhood policing workforce, what estimates has the Home Office made of overall changes to the policing workforce in the year to March 2026, and over the Parliament?

EU-UK youth experience scheme

- What limitations will there be on any EU-UK youth experience scheme, to ensure that this scheme doesn't undermine your efforts to restrict easy access to lower skilled, non-UK workers?



Home Affairs Committee

Restoring control over the immigration system: white paper

- How will the contributions that are required to entitle someone to apply for British citizenship be assessed?
- Who will be affected by the increase to the standard qualifying period for settlement from five to ten years?
- How was the standard of English which visa holders will now be required to meet decided? How many current visa holders wouldn't meet these requirements?

Irregular migration

- What will increased co-operation with the EU on irregular migration involve?
- How significant is the lack of access to Eurodac for the UK's response to irregular migration? When do you hope the UK will regain access to Eurodac?
- What progress has the Home Office made on addressing low return rates for particular countries - such as Iran and Bangladesh?
- What is the Home Office's estimate of the number of people who are liable for removal but are unlikely to be removed in the immediate future, because it is not practical or safe to remove them?
- What discussions are currently ongoing regarding the use of return hubs for failed asylum seekers? What assessment has been made of the potential deterrent effect of the introduction of return hubs, relative to the previous Government's plans to send asylum seekers to Rwanda?

Changes to good character guidance

- What consideration has the Home Office given to the long-term impacts of changes to the good character guidance that will mean a potentially large number of people who are settled in the UK will never be able to become British citizens?
- Will the Home Office provide clear guidance on the circumstances in which people who entered the country as children and victims of trafficking will be denied citizenship under the good character guidance?



Home Affairs Committee

Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration

- Will the Home Office be reviewing the remit and role of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, as recommended by the Windrush Lessons Learned Review?

Windrush Commissioner

- What input will the Windrush Commissioner have to the development and implementation of immigration policy?

We would be grateful for a response to the above points by Tuesday 1 July.

Yours sincerely

Rt Hon Dame Karen Bradley MP
Chair of the Home Affairs Committee