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**Template letter to MPs on Asylum Accommodation and invitation to the Westminster Hall Debate**

*Please edit, copy and paste the below text to email your MP, inviting them to the debate. To find out who your MP is and their email address, enter your postcode on the Parliament website* [*here*](https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/)*.*

**Subject: Please Attend Important Asylum Accommodation Contracts Westminster Hall Debate on Wed 10th Oct, 2.30-4.00pm**

Dear XX MP,

I am writing to invite you to attend a Westminster Hall Debate on the Asylum Accommodation Contracts which will be held 2.30-4.00pm on [Wednesday 10th October](https://calendar.parliament.uk/calendar/Commons/All/2018/10/10/Daily), secured by Alex Cunningham MP, Stockton North.

[State here your interest in the topic and if you are writing on behalf of an organisation or group]

In a matter of weeks, the Government will sign contracts determining asylum accommodation for the next 10 years. We believe that these have not addressed the protracted and persistent issues present under the current COMPASS contracts, despite recommendations from Parliament and key stakeholders.

The re-design of the contracts presents the opportunity to ensure the long term sustainability of the asylum dispersal system, by committing resources to enable successful integration outcomes for all refugees, regardless of how they arrived in the UK, as well to support the communities who receive them, and by empowering devolved Governments and Local Authorities to oversee the delivery of the contracts and determine where accommodation is procured. This is also a clear opportunity to officially end the damaging practice of forced bedroom sharing and ensure that accommodation provision truly meets the needs of all asylum seekers, including vulnerable groups.

Towns and cities up and down the country are proud to be places of welcome to those seeking safety from persecution. Yet failure to address the concerns of Local Authorities has led to some dispersal areas [publicly threatening to pull out](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/aug/19/yorkshire-council-leaders-threaten-to-pull-out-of-asylum-seeker-housing-scheme) of dispersal. Meanwhile, many others in [England, Scotland and Wales](https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2018/sep/06/uk-asylum-dispersal-system-failure-letter-council-leaders) have appealed to the Home Secretary and Minister for Immigration to intervene.

We hope that you will be able to attend the debate on the 10th October. Asylum Matters and the Scottish Refugee Council latest briefing on the issue can be found [here](https://asylummatters.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/117/2018/09/Asylum-Accommodation-Contracts-Westminster-Hall-Debate-Briefing-for-MPs.pdf). We hope those attending will call on the Minister for Immigration to commit to address the serious concerns raised about the suitability of asylum accommodation provision and sustainability of asylum dispersal.

[We would be also be happy to provide you with case studies and examples for use in the debate.]

Please let me know if you are able to attend.

Many thanks,

[Name, Organisation name if appropriate, and address]