[DATE]

Dear [name of MP],

**Re: protecting people seeking asylum who are at risk of eviction and homelessness**

 [INSERT MEMBER NAME] is a local charity based in your constituency who provide support and accommodation to people who are destitute as a result of having insecure immigration statuses. We work closely with local homelessness services and have been supportive of measures taken by [INSET Local Authority] to provide accommodation to everyone at risk of street homelessness regardless of immigration status during the pandemic.

Thank you for your continued support and for taking the previous actions of [INSERT HERE OR DELETE]

Since the 23rd March 2020, evictions from asylum accommodation have been suspended for people with both positive and negative decisions. We welcomed this decision and recognise that it has temporarily protected people who would ordinarily be at risk of street homelessness once they exit asylum accommodation.

However, on Monday 15th September the [Home Office announced](https://migrationpartnership.org.uk/home-office-announce-negative-decisions-for-asylum-seekers-and-evictions-commence-with-immediate-effect-17th-september-2020/) that evictions will resume for people who have been refused asylum. We are extremely concerned that this will create a significant new population of people who are homeless in our community. If asylum evictions resume, the people we work with will be unable to access support due to being subject to [No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF) conditions.](http://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/information/Pages/who-has-NRPF.aspx) For people who have been refused asylum, this makes it extremely difficult to access Local Authority homelessness services and they cannot work or receive Universal Credit.

Last year, we worked with XX people who had been refused asylum and we continue to accommodate XX people [DELETE IF NOT RELEVANT]. Together with many other organisations and [INSERT LOCAL AUTHORITY] we have worked hard to try and bring as many people as possible inside since the start of the pandemic. We are extremely concerned that people evicted from asylum accommodation in [INSERT AREA] will be left with no other choices than to sleep rough and will be at extreme risk of contracting COVID-19. [INSERT IF APPROPRIATE] As a voluntary organisation we are running at a significantly reduced capacity and anticipate that we will XX less bed spaces than last year as a result of COVID-19 [EXPAND IF DESIRED]. Research from [Public Health England](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/892376/COVID_stakeholder_engagement_synthesis_beyond_the_data.pdf) has shown that people from Black, Asian and Ethnic minority backgrounds are more likely to die from Covid-19. As Covid-19 cases rise and multiple restrictions are put in place around the UK, we find it unacceptable that people who are currently being accommodated by the Home Office are being evicted into street homelessness.

The people we work with are understandably terrified by the thought of being left to sleep outside as we approach winter.

 [INSERT QUOTE FROM SOMEONE YOU SUPPORT]

[ALTERNATIVE QUOTE IF NONE AVAILABLE FROM LOCAL PERSON] LM, a gentleman supported by an organisation in the NACCOM network said *“It’s very scary, [before I had temporary accommodation] I was panicking, when I heard if you have an underlying health condition you are more likely to die. So I thought I was going to die, it was very worrying, very dangerous.”*

**How you can help:**

We would welcome any representations that you can make on behalf of people who are at risk of eviction from asylum accommodation and would like to suggest some of the follow actions;

* To write to the Home Secretary/Minister for Immigration detailing your concerns and to ask them to reverse this decision
* To meet with people affected by this decision at [INSERT DETAILS ABOUT YOUR PROJECT]
* To work with [LOCAL AUTHORITY] to ascertain what awareness and plans there are for this potentially new homelessness population.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch for further local information. You can also contact Lucy Smith (Lucy@Naccom.org.uk) who is NACCOM’s Policy and Campaigns Coordinator, if you wish to receive a more details and up-to-date policy briefing.

Yours Sincerely

[INSERT NAME and ADDRESS INC. POSTCODE]