



November 2023

The Government has started the process of returning hotels temporarily accommodating asylum seekers to their normal use by the community.

Through the progress the Government has made to stop the arrival of small boats – with crossings down by more than a quarter compared to last year, despite huge increases into Europe - the first phase of nation-wide hotel exits can now begin. I welcome the news that this includes a hotel in Daventry, which will see temporary accommodation facilities closed, and the site returned to the community.

The Government continues to take action against immigration. This includes the introduction of the Illegal Migration Act in August 2023, changing the law so that those who arrive in the UK illegally will be removed, either to their home country or a safe third country. This Act renders the asylum claims of people who come here directly from safe countries inadmissible, and establishes safe and legal routes as the only lawful means by which to come to the UK.

The Government has also brought forward more appropriate forms of asylum accommodation in the form of large disused military sites and barges, which are less costly to the taxpayer and can be better managed by communities, removing the burden on local authorities to house migrants.

Robert Jenrick, Minister of State for Immigration, said:

'Taxpayers cannot be expected to foot the eye-watering bill for the use of hotels to accommodate individuals making illegal, dangerous and wholly unnecessary small boat crossings.'

'Our strategy to stop the boats is making progress. With small boat arrivals down more than 20 per cent compared with last year, we can now start to restore these hotels to their rightful use for local communities.'

'We remain absolutely determined, through the implementation of the Illegal Migration Act and our Rwanda Partnership, to dismantle the smuggling gangs' business models and stop the boats entirely.'

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY