

15 December 2025

Dear Secretaries of State Steve Reed MP and Shabana Mahmood MP,
Dear Minister Alex Norris MP,

Thank you for your responses dated 29th October 2025 and 10th December 2025. We are grateful for the information you have provided.

We are writing further to a Home Office communication dated 20th November 2025 that confirms the department's intention to end the 56-day move on period at the end of December for all those granted refugee status, including vulnerable people and families. In this letter, it is stated that the evaluation has not yet concluded, with final outputs expected in the coming weeks. There is no indication of when a policy decision will be reached – the letter confirms, as do your responses, that the department intends to take time to review the evidence.

We are very concerned that during this period, families with children and other vulnerable adults will be left homeless and without support, having been required to exit asylum support within the 28-day timeframe.

We understand the need to move people out of hotels and into longer term accommodation quickly. But there is already a vast body of evidence that shows 28 days is not enough time to prevent homelessness and rough sleeping. Bringing the pilot to an end in the middle of winter with no clear policy decision risks a surge in homelessness among the most vulnerable at the coldest time of the year. We would urge you not to proceed with this decision and retain the 56-day period for those who currently still have it, at least until a longer term policy decision has been taken based on the findings of the pilot.

In your letters you mention the Government's work with local authorities and voluntary sector services to mitigate pressures, support newly recognised refugees and mitigate the risk of homelessness. Building on what is outlined in the new Homelessness Strategy, could you provide further information on what this work entails, and what additional support the Government plans to provide to prevent homelessness and support a positive move on from asylum accommodation, in light of the end of the 56-day pilot for single adults? If the Government proceeds with ending the 56-day pilot for all groups including those classed as vulnerable, what mitigations are you planning to avoid a surge in homelessness among these people?

We welcome that the Government remains committed to understanding the impact of the pilot through its evaluation. We sincerely hope that the Government will base future policymaking in this area on evidence. Can you confirm if the evaluation evidence will be published and made publicly available? Can you also confirm that the Government is

monitoring the impact of the decision to pause the 56-day pilot for single adults, and assessing the impact of this change on levels of homelessness and move-on outcomes more generally?

Our respective organisations stand ready to support and contribute to any current work to improve the asylum move-on process more widely and would welcome details of how we can participate in this. Meanwhile, we urge you to retain the 56-day move on period at least until you have reached a full policy decision based on the outcome of the evaluation. We would be very keen to meet with you to discuss these issues in more detail.

Thanks and we look forward to hearing you.

Yours sincerely,

Bridget Young, Director of No Accommodation Network (NACCOM)

Rick Henderson, CEO of Homeless Link