

**PRESS****10 August 2025****URGENT PRESS ENQUIRY – Systemic Failures Fuelling Asylum Accommodation Protests**

Dear Prime Minister's Press Office,

I am writing to you from the Tameside Independent to request a formal statement from the Prime Minister on the government's response to the escalating crisis surrounding asylum accommodation.

On Friday, 8th August, widespread protests took place in Leeds, Cardiff, Portsmouth, Canary Wharf, and other locations. Our reporting indicates these events are not isolated but are a direct public reaction to a series of significant and ongoing failures in the asylum system that have eroded public trust and created a climate of fear.

These failures include, but are not limited to:

- **Serious Criminal Allegations:** The charging of two Afghan asylum seekers with the alleged rape of a teenage girl in Warwickshire has raised urgent questions about the vetting of individuals being housed in communities.
- **Disturbing Online Threats:** The public is being exposed to a torrent of viral content that is amplifying anxiety, including a video of a man in a hotel window making a throat-slitting gesture, and a widely circulated post alleging that "ISIS Soldiers are in HOTELS" and are planning to "BEHEAD OUR KIDS."
- **Public Warnings:** A viral video showing a man, reported to be an asylum seeker, standing outside a hotel with a sign that reads "There is a terrorist inside this hotel," adding to the sense that the system is out of control.

The question is not about managing protests, but about addressing their root cause. Therefore, we are asking the Prime Minister to provide a response to the following specific questions:

1. Beyond policing the protests, what specific, immediate action is the Prime Minister taking to address the systemic failures in the vetting and safeguarding of asylum seekers that are leading to these incidents?
2. Given the high-profile criminal cases, will the Prime Minister order an immediate and urgent review of the contracts held by private firms like Serco to ensure public safety is the number one, non-negotiable priority?
3. Will the government commit to full transparency by releasing data on the number of serious incidents (including violence and sexual assault) recorded in asylum accommodation, and the precise vetting procedures for individuals placed in communities?

For context, this press enquiry forms part of our ongoing public investigation, '**The Dispersal Files**,' for which we have already submitted Freedom of Information requests to the Home Office, and multiple local councils concerning the specific contractual obligations for vetting and safeguarding.

This is a matter of urgent public interest. We require a response for publication by **5 PM on Wednesday, 13th August 2025.**

Sincerely,

**Jason Nield** Editor, Tameside Independent