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Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson MP
Chair of the Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

21 September 2022

Dear Diana,

Further to my letter of 28th June about our plans to redevelop the site of the former Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre (IRC), I am writing today to inform you that we are also planning to redevelop the site of the former Haslar IRC in Gosport (Hampshire) and to open an IRC with capacity for up to 600 adult males in due course (this will not be before late 2023).

We will take a final decision on whether to proceed based on the outcome of a feasibility study and planning investigation. As with Campsfield, we intend to appoint a single supplier to deliver all services – with the exception of healthcare services which we expect to be commissioned by NHS England - including custodial, within the detained accommodation. A Prior Information Notice covering this contract is being issued today. Issuing the PIN, indicates our intention to go to the market within the next twelve months, subject to the feasibility study and planning investigation.

We do not intend to simply reopen the former Haslar IRC but, rather, to build a new-build living unit alongside refurbishment and remodelling of existing accommodation, meeting statutory standards, taking account of the Shaw reviews on welfare in detention and with a full range of healthcare and recreational facilities and access to legal advice as at other IRCs.

As with Campsfield, our plans are at an early stage, but form part of our ongoing review of both detention capacity and geographical footprint, including to support the development of the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda.

I will keep you informed, as appropriate, as our plans develop.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

With best wishes,

Yours ever,



Tom Pursglove MP