

CAROLYN THOMAS

NORTH WALES | GOGLEDD CYMRU



Yvette Cooper MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA



07541711107



@CarolynThomasMS



@CThomasMS

Friday 8th July 2022

Dear Yvette Cooper MP,

Re: Banning Indefinite Detention

I write to you as Member of the Senedd for North Wales in relation to the UK Labour Party's current position on indefinite detention. Earlier this month, I took part in a solidarity walk from Y Felinheli to Treborth Botanical Gardens in my constituency of North Wales. We were walking to show our commitment to the human rights of refugees and asylum seekers whilst calling for an end to indefinite detention in the United Kingdom.

It has been horrifying to see the UK Government continue to escalate their bigoted and inhumane attacks on those seeking refuge and asylum with their heinous Rwanda deportation policy. Clearly, for the UK Government, this is not about morals or humanity, nor taxpayers value for money or providing genuine safe routes to asylum.

I am sure, like me, you took solace from the efforts of legal representatives who successfully fought to get everyone off the scheduled flight to Rwanda, as well as those heroic campaigners who took direct action at Colnbrook Immigration Removal Centre, blocking the road to buy time for legal representations to be made.

The very idea that somebody in this country can be incarcerated indefinitely for committing no crime, just for crossing a border, is completely unjustifiable. I believe indefinite detention is a mark of shame on this country and one which we must expunge.

Would you be able to reaffirm UK Labour's commitment to ending indefinite detention? This policy was included in the 2015 General Election manifesto when you were Shadow Home Secretary and also featured in the 2017 and 2019 manifestos.

Yours Sincerely,

Carolyn Thomas, Member of the Senedd for North Wales

Carolyn.Thomas@Senedd.Wales ■ www.carolyntomas.wales

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