[Day] June 2023

[MP Address]

Dear [MP – find your MP [here](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP)]

I am writing to you today as a constituent of [add your constituency] and as a member of the Leeds local community with respect to the ‘Seeing Asylum’ exhibition hosted by Leeds Church Institute.

As I am sure you are aware, the treatment of people, and especially women in detention centres is appalling.

The exhibition highlights the true hidden stories of the women who have experienced their human rights being opposed, their possessions taken away from them and the actions they took to protest inhumane practices within the Immigration Removal Centre (IRC).

From hearing the stories of people who have experienced the journey of seeking asylum, it seems as though they can often be treated as criminals, as they are refused the rights to contact their family or friends. In addition to asylum seekers not having the option to contact their social networks, people are not allowed to visit IRCs, to see the practices that are happening inside.

I have learnt about and understand the difficulties that asylum seekers here in Leeds can face.

I ask you, as a member of government with the power to do so, but also as an individual who simply as a factor of chance may never have to face the violence, hardship, and uncertainty that refugees and asylum seekers face, to raise my concerns about the social isolation they experience being removed from their families and friends.

I ask that you encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

[Name]

[Organisation (if applicable)]