

[REDACTED]

Home Office

By Email Only:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Enquiries to: Phil Munday

Email: Cllr.Phil.Munday@havant.gov.uk

Date: 11th August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Asylum Seeker Accommodation

Following on from our previous dialogues in relation to the proposed asylum seeker accommodation in Waterlooville town centre, I would like to both re-iterate our commitment as a council in helping meet the national requirement for asylum housing, and hope that future proposals will – from the outset – include much clearer indication of the level of support that will be provided to those seeking asylum and the wider community as a whole. Regardless of the new (and most welcome) £500 million investment announced last week into a sustainable accommodation model; it is the dialogues behind their implementation that has to improve.

Havant Borough Council understands the need to support those most in need – both from within its existing communities and from those seeking asylum and hoping for a more secure and safer future. The vulnerable – as a basic human right – deserve the opportunity to be provided with shelter regardless of where they are from. Our council is committed to meeting this need and our dedicated housing staff work tirelessly to meet this demand locally, doing our utmost to provide suitable accommodation – often at short notice.

In parallel, we recognise the work of the Home Office in meeting the accommodation needs of those seeking asylum in this country. Any successful housing relies on the accommodation provided not only being of a suitable standard and in the right location, but also able to successfully integrate into our existing communities. Your support packages in providing this are critical – not only in providing the day-to-day requirements of those needing housing, but allaying fears and concerns local residents may have about the impact of the proposed housing – be it socially, financially or in accessing their key day-to-day services.

With that in mind and thinking of the absence of real detail in the support you intend to provide with the proposed accommodation in Waterlooville town centre, I kindly ask that – going forward – we have more open and detailed dialogues about the support packages you intend to roll out with future accommodation proposals. Such openness from the outset will aid and inform our responses to your future consultations and also provide valuable insight for local residents and key stakeholders from the outset.

I look forward to your thoughts on this matter and hope we can progress any future asylum accommodation projects in a more open, lucid and transparent manner.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'P. Munday'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cllr Phil Munday
Leader, Havant Borough Council