[redacted]
Deputy Director, Service User and Large Sites Operations
Asylum Support and Transformation,
Asylum Group
Home Office
1st Floor Peel, 2 Marsham St
London SW1P 4DF

By email: [redacted]@homeoffice.gov.uk

8 July 2026
[redacted]@wealden.gov.uk
www.wealden.gov.uk
01323 443322

Dear [redacted]

As you will know, our Council invited the Home Office (HO) team to attend our Scrutiny & Performance Committee on 18 May 2026. The HO declined to attend that meeting one working day before the meeting on the 15 May 2026. Given the importance of this issue to our community, the Committee consider it simply unacceptable that neither HO Minister or officials will make themselves available to address reasonable questions on behalf of our community. In your collective absence on the 18 May, the Committee resolved to write to you to seek some clarity on these questions, taking into account a visit to the camp by some members on the 16 June.

1. Please share with the Council any schedule of KPIs in relation to the running of the site that Clearsprings Ready Homes (CRH) are expected to meet and their current performance against these targets.
2. How many asylum decisions have been made for those resident at the camp? Please provide the percentage that have been unsuccessful.
3. How many asylum seekers have left the camp without a decision being made? Can this be broken down by reason for leaving the camp.
4. How much profit do the HO expect CRH to make from the running of Crowborough Camp? If an exact figure is unavailable, please outline the profit margin anticipated by the contract between the Home Office and CRH along with the monthly revenue figures paid to CRH since Crowborough Camp became operational.
5. Are CRH required or even encouraged to utilise local supply chains? Can you share details of local spend to indicate the possible benefits to the local economy?
6. Why did the HO not undertake an open procurement process for the running of the camp? Is the HO satisfied that in not undertaking a competitive process that best value is being achieved for the taxpayer?
7. Will this be reviewed in light of the planned extended timeframe?
8. What planning route will you use to seek the necessary planning permission for the extension? If you have not made that decision yet, when will you make the decision and will this be communicated to the Council?
9. Since the opening of the camp, how many mis/dis/mal information corrections have the home office issued and through which mechanisms?

10. Can the HO clarify the use of the term "illegal migrant"?
11. How essential to the operation of the camp is the voluntary sector?
12. How many criminal and/or ASBO incidents have there been at the camp? Broken down as appropriate.
13. How many emergency attendances have there been from blue light services to the camp since its opening? Broken down by agency and reason.
14. Why can the factsheet not be updated more frequently?
15. Please can a change log for the factsheet be provided on the .Gov website, to be transparent about the changes that have been made and why.
16. To what extent does the HO consider that the use of the camp in this way impacts on the local community? Given the impact, why is no funding made available to help the community deal with this impact?

Finally, given the recent HO decision to seek an extension of the use of the Camp until 2030, can I again request that you, colleagues and/or the Minister, show our Committee the respect they deserve and agree to attend a meeting of our Scrutiny Committee to answer questions about the operation of the camp in open public session. The Council is willing to be flexible around timing and any other arrangements of concern to HO staff.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Andrew Wilson
On behalf of Wealden District Council Scrutiny & Performance Committee