

Richard Burden MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON, SW1A 0AA

**Dignity not destitution for refugees**

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me about dignity for refugees.

Refugees who find refuge in the UK deserve to know that they will be protected whilst here. The UK Government has a legal duty to ensure that people who come here, having fled conflict and persecution, do not fall into poverty whilst applying for refugee status. However I share the concern of lots of people that many people seeking asylum in the UK are being wrongly denied assistance or suffering long delays to get the support they are entitled to. This unacceptable situation is resulting in some vulnerable asylum seekers becoming homeless and leaving them unable to feed their families.

In the light of that the Government must do much more to ensure that non-one seeking asylum in the UK is forced into destitution. That is why alongside my Labour colleagues I will continue to call on the Government to fulfil its responsibilities to people seeking asylum in the UK. I will also continue to push for the UK to do more to help tackle the global refugee crisis.

Thanks again for everyone who has contacted me about dignity for refugees.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Burden'.

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