



Liberal Democrats for Seekers of Sanctuary

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President Lord Roger Roberts of Llandudno

AFTER THE FINAL DECISION IS MADE

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN GIVEN LEAVE TO REMAIN.

Currently, an asylum seeker who has been given leave to remain, and so becomes a refugee, has to leave the property they are living in, and their support is ended, in 28 days. By the time they are notified, that is often less than 28 days away.

In that very short timescale they have to find housing, and either apply for benefits, or, if they can only find a very low paid job, both.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS WOULD:

- Increase the timescale from 28 days to 60 days for them to find their own accommodation and income after receiving a decision, and remove the time limit entirely for vulnerable people.

REFUSAL

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS WOULD:

- Allow asylum seekers who are appealing a refusal of their initial claim to continue to live and participate in their communities whilst the appeal process is either successful or exhausted. If they reach the end of the appeal process and have been unsuccessful they will be given a departure date.
- Ensure children are able to access education and all seekers of sanctuary can access health care during the application process and, if necessary, after they have been refused.

This means that people will be able to stay in the community until they have either achieved lawful status or there is an agreed departure date and the ability to remove them. Only at that point might they be detained.

See our policies on detention <https://ld4sos.org.uk/en/document/policies/immigration-detention-in-the-uk>

- Have a UK equivalent of the US DREAM Act, by which individuals can apply for conditional resident status if they can show that they entered the country before the age of 16, have lived in the UK for 5 years, have attended a UK school and have no serious criminal record.

REMOVAL

At the end of all the processes, when people have been dealt with justly, fairly, and with compassion, they have to be removed from the country, if they have not gone back voluntarily.

LIBERAL DEMOCRATS WOULD:

- Only do so with humanity, by following the National Independent Commission on Enforced Removals (NICER) recommendations on how removals should take place <http://citizensuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/NICER-Final-Report.pdf>
- Seek to keep families together.
- Allow people to exhaust appeals in this country.
- Secure safe destinations for people to go to.

NOTE: there is now a new Government scheme, AIRE (Advice, Issue Reporting and Eligibility) which Migrant Help has been contracted to deliver. This is to give advice and support to those with a decision on their case. It began for the whole of the UK on 1st September 2019. We are following it closely and hope it fulfils its obligations well.