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**WINDRUSH:
IMPACT INTO ACTION**
**A BRIEFING UPDATE FOR SUPPORT
GROUPS AND NETWORKS**

JANUARY 2019

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Facilitated by Serious About Solutions

Impact Into Action

January 2019

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This briefing paper was purposely delayed awaiting updated outlined action from members of parliament, Councillors and other bodies, who acknowledged the Monday 10 September meeting and the Government led Windrush debacle.

Unfortunately, those promised reports, have yet to materialise. When they do arrive, they will neighbour any updates on the Serious About Solutions website. Therefore, I wait no longer to circulate the thoughts of those who have taken time out to show their commitment alongside Serious About Solutions.

I extend thanks to MPs who took time out to pledge support (Janet Daby MP) and those you see listed. Additionally, I ponder those that did not communicate an interest.

I would like to thank Mark Bastiani from CWU and TUC London, East and South East for his continued tremendous efforts.

While the main purpose of this document is to provoke discussion and keep the scandalous Windrush debacle high on the agenda, I hope readers find enough information supplied to assist your own action and work programme going forward.

Obviously, I thank Serious About Solutions for partnership in shining light on such a key issue.

I would also like to thank Mr. Burke for his unconditional support – much appreciated.



Alex Pascall OBE



Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Home Secretary

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Home Office - Windrush Compensation Consultation Foreword July 2018
Commitment made by Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Home Secretary
www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-scheme

When I became Home Secretary, I made clear that my top priority is to right the wrongs suffered by anyone from the Windrush generation as a result of measures that are in place to tackle illegal immigration.

My first step has been to listen to those who have been affected, and I have heard their stories. What moves me deeply is that those accounts are so personal, people's efforts so inspiring, and that their stories convey so clearly the hurt that has been felt. People wanted to come to this country to help. They, like my own family, left their homes thousands of miles away, taking brave personal decisions to contribute to the life and prosperity of all of us in the UK. That is why I am so focused on putting this right.

The Government has announced a series of measures to help put things right. We are supporting those affected directly to gain confirmation of their immigration status. The Windrush taskforce, established in April, has provided documentation to over 2,000 people to demonstrate their right to live in the UK. We are conducting a Lessons Learned review, with independent oversight, to look at what happened and what action is needed to prevent anything like this from happening again to any group of people. And we are establishing a compensation scheme for those who have suffered loss as a result of these difficulties.

It is always important for Government to listen, and it is especially important to do so now as we start to design the compensation scheme. As a first step in making sure that we provide appropriate redress for people's losses, we issued a Call for Evidence in May, and 650 people and organisations came forward. Those responses, and the positive engagement we have had with the individuals and communities most closely affected, have been sobering but also invaluable in helping us to produce this consultation document. As has the input from Martin Forde QC, who is himself the son of Windrush parents and who has been providing independent advice and helping us to understand the experience of people who have been affected and how this should be reflected in the scheme.

The publication of this consultation marks another milestone in helping to put things right. We want to get the best possible understanding of how best to approach the matter of compensation, and this consultation is your opportunity to give us your views on some of the key design features of a compensation scheme. Once we have listened and reflected on what you tell us, we will take the final decisions and set up the compensation scheme.

Please do not ignore this vital opportunity to contact the Home Secretary to set up your own meetings or continue your own enquiries

TUC London, East and South East, Race Relations Committee (RRC) and Serious About Solutions Welcomes:

TUC London, East
& South East

**SERIOUS ABOUT
SOLUTIONS**
UNEARTHING THE GOLD IN UNIONISED WORKPLACES

MONDAY 10 SEPTEMBER 2018, 6.00PM-8.00PM

TUC CONGRESS HOUSE, 23-28 GREAT RUSSELL ST,
LONDON WC1B 3LS

Briefing Update on Windrush lessons learned review and Windrush claims to the British Government

Wendy Williams

Martin Forde QC

Meeting chaired by Alex Pascall



Alex Pascall

Pioneering broadcaster, journalist, NUJ member, historian and educator. Political campaigner and was part of the team behind the birth of Britain's first national black newspaper The Voice.



Martin Forde QC

Appointed Independent Person to the Windrush compensation scheme. The Home Secretary has launched a Windrush compensation scheme call for evidence. Members of the Windrush generation are being asked to share their experiences to help shape a bespoke compensation scheme.

The month-long call for evidence is the first step to establishing the scheme for those who have suffered financial loss because of difficulties proving their immigration status. As part of this process the Home Office will be engaging with affected communities, enabling people to share their experiences with Home Office staff. People and community groups will also be able to submit written evidence.

The call for evidence ran until 8 June. This will be followed by a full consultation on the detail of the scheme.

To ensure there is sufficient external assurance that the compensation scheme is effectively meeting the needs of those affected, the Home Secretary has committed to appointing an independent person to oversee the running of the scheme when it is in place. Martin Forde QC has now agreed to provide independent advice on the design of the scheme. He is himself the son of Windrush parents and brings a wealth of experience in public law.



Wendy Williams, HM Inspector of Constabulary

Appointed by the Home Office to lead the Windrush lessons learned review, alongside her HMICFRS responsibilities.

A Solicitor was a partner in a defence firm before joining Her Majesty's Crown Prosecution Service Inspectorate (HMCPsi). In 2003 she joined the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) as the Legal Director of the CPS London North Region before becoming the Chief Crown Prosecutor (CCP) for CPS Northumbria and the North East region in 2009.

Briefing update on Windrush lessons learned review and Windrush claims to the British Government

TUC LESE Race Relations Committee Attendance

P Fraser (**BECTU / Prospect**), M Bastiani (**CWU**), R Gill (**GLATC**), B Joseph (**NEU**), M Ibude (**PCS**), V Dattani (**PCS**), W Murray (**PCS**), J Gluza (**UCU**), A Oyewole (**UNISON**), J Young (**Unite**)

Attendance:

S London (**Black Londoners Forum**)
L Daniels (**Caribbean Labour Solidarity**)
D Kalloo (**Cashewmedia**)
D Nelson (**Clapham Chamber Law Centre**)
S Barker-Semple (**NAPO**)
B Channer (**Political Adviser**)
S Cushion (**UCU/CLS**)
G Goyal, S Cueva (**UNISON**)
C Vazquez (**Unite Community**)
A Torrington (**Windrush Foundation**)
W Hassan (**Harriet Harman MP's Office**)
J McKenzie (**McKenzie Beute and Pope**)

A Braithwaite, A Frazer, B Lindsay,
C Gutzmore, G Suleman, J Francis, J Martin,
P Vernon, S Glean (**Independent**)
P Hill, P Romain (**PCS National Black Members' Forum**)
E Dalton-Ruark, C McCree, R Mouat,
S Spring (**Unite**)
V Mcbean, S Marshall (**West Indian Association of service Personnel**)
P Davis, J Noblemunn, T Smith (**Unite**)

Tendered Apologies:

TUC LESE Race Relations Committee Apologies

S Leggett (**TSSA**), A Harney, F Taherinia (**PCS**)
J Havard (**Nautilus Int.**) S Makinde (**NEU**)
G Hart (**RMT**) C Davis-Wilkie, T Mcgee (**UNISON**)
P Davis, J Noblemunn, T Smith (**Unite**)
J Thakoordin (**Beds & Bucks CATC**)

Apologies:

W Williams (**HM Inspector of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services**)

Apologies cont.:

R Halfon (**Conservative MP for Harlow**)
C Lucas (**Green Party MP for Brighton Pavilion**), J Corbyn (**MP, Leader of the Official Opposition**), H Hayes (**Labour MP for Dulwich and West Norwood**)
J Daby (**Labour MP for Lewisham East**)
H Harman QC (**Labour MP for Camberwell and Peckham**), D Lammy (**Labour MP for Tottenham**), D Neita (**Lawyer**)
C Smith, C Cooper, J Pond (**Preston Black History Group**), B Davis (**Retired Caribbean Nurses Association**)

- All TUC London, East and South East (LESE) Race Relations Committee members (45) were invited to attend or tender meeting apologies
- All MPs were invited to attend or tender apologies
- All Trade Union Senior Officers were alerted to this meeting and invited to send representatives
- TUC National office were alerted to this meeting
- All invitees were asked to register interest or tender apologies for this meeting
- Meeting report by Alex Pascall.



The meeting on 10 September was disadvantaged from the very start. The fact that Martin Forde QC was a stand-alone assigned to manage an estimated 5,000 victim cases makes no sense. Why has he not requested before appointment, or not been supplied with, a dedicated team of appointed staff to assist (minimum 10) - particularly considering the short time frame offered for public consultation?

Why has Martin Forde QC accepted such a task when he is essentially operating as a one-man band?

As Wendy Williams was unavailable for our meeting, it is unclear what staffing levels exist for her Lessons Learned task force; how she plans to ensure that something like the Windrush debacle never happens again and – going forward – what her plans are for the fulfilment of her position as a government appointee of the inquiry into the Windrush debacle.

The Serious About Solutions team were reliant on concise minutes of how Mr Martin Forde QC responded to questions mapped out for the scheduled 2-hour meeting. Unfortunately, none of the questions were addressed in full – such as:

- 1 Since your Government appointment (Martin / Wendy)
 - How many community groups have you approached or connected with?
 - How many public meetings have you held?
 - How are meeting locations sourced?
 - What has been the largest meeting held?
 - How many more meetings will be conducted for 2018?
 - What is your public meeting schedule set out for 2019?
- 2 In devising a compensation scheme for an estimated 5,000 victims – how many of the estimated 5,000 have been consulted or had access to government official led meetings?
3. What are the ongoing issues faced by newly generated victims?
 - What are the ramifications for people who have not applied for a British passport due to a fear of being deported?
4. What are the statistics for those victims unable to access doctor / medical advice / loss of livelihoods, or completely fallen off the radar? How will you reconnect with these victims?
5. Have you got templates to help us set up public surgeries to help the people who need help?
6. What legal support has been made available to assist victims on completing forms throughout the process - what arrangements are installed to look after those people?
7. There is nothing available from Martin Forde QC or the Government website minuting previous meetings held by Martin and Wendy. We therefore have no way of knowing if the Monday 10 September meeting was just bad luck or typical of all the other meetings. How will we know when Martin and Wendy leave a meeting with meaningful data? What does a 'successful' meeting mean in their eyes?

8. What are local MPs saying about this – what all party action is happening? We require a properly coordinated review. One that takes the experience and views of affected people (UK based and internationally) into account.

9. All Home Office representatives must be held accountable. Martin Forde QC has mentioned various meetings attended as well as others made aware of. This inquiry requires proper use of social media and technology. There should be a central website where people can post everything that's going on about Windrush. Otherwise people will be doing the same things all over the place without knowing that it's been duplicated.

This matter will take years, not a few months, to rectify so we might as well make the process UK election-proof! Any change of government should be willing to take things forward without objection.

The meeting heard from Immigration Solicitor Jacqueline McKenzie; of McKenzie, Beute and Pope Solicitors; who provided a background and framework of experiences she was legally dealing with, and the complexities of British immigration laws. Ms. McKenzie also talked about the impact the situation has been having on Black and Caribbean people, despite their British status and right of citizenship.

Therefore, we implore supporters and activists to persist in requesting Martin and Wendy (or any Government / Home Office representative) answer specific questions over and over and over again, until satisfactory answers are tracked and recorded.

There are numerous independent and group organisations that sincerely care about this international issue – so please remain strong and vigilant and please organise as many open meetings necessary.

Since 27 March 1782 when the first Secretary of State to the Home Department (Home Secretary) took up office, the Home Secretary has had ultimate responsibility and accountability for the storage, archiving and disposal of all documentation pertaining to the movement of people onto and off the shores of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

WHY HAS THERE BEEN NO PROSECUTION OF THOSE WHO HAVE COMMITTED THIS CRIME?

Following the well-documented Brixton Riots on 10 - 12 April 1981, the Home Secretary at the time appointed Lord Scarman to lead an urgent inquiry into the disturbances. Among those who gave evidence, Lord Scarman consulted the Met Police Commissioner and the Commissioner for Racial Equality. Along with a plethora of recommendations, when the inquiry was published on 25 November 1981, Lord Scarman stated that urgent action was needed to prevent racial disadvantage developing into an “endemic, ineradicable disease threatening the very survival of our society”. Considering Lord Scarman’s comment, the Windrush fiasco raises three questions:



- Are lessons ever learnt from public inquiries – in which case, is the appointment of Martin Forde QC merely an act of platitude?
- Which official bodies have reliably been called upon to provide evidence for the inquiry into the Windrush Compensation Claims?
- It cannot be disputed that the Windrush fiasco has resulted in racial disadvantage. Indeed, it is questionable if it has happened because of racial disadvantage. Either way, has the inevitable ‘threat to the very survival of our society’ been overlooked?

When the Windrush Scandal eventually became public, the news was puzzling and a devastating, traumatising and lasting impact on those directly targeted and those surrounding and supporting them. People lost homes, hospital treatment/ long term health, jobs/livelihood and in some cases - this treatment resulted in death. Theresa May’s tenure as home secretary inflicted a hostile environment that was no joke, it was not accidental, it was not unplanned - it was deliberate and intentional.

Following the abolition of slavery in 1838, the compensation payments promised to British slave owners have been met in full by the British government, with the last instalment being met as recently as 2017. Meanwhile repeated requests for financial recompense from the ancestral generations of the enslaved have been resoundingly ignored by successive governments. Reparations are due. No feeble sorry whilst the hostility of government continues as normal and people forget because all eyes are on Brexit. Windrush victims and their families cannot forget. The Windrush crime (policy imposed by the abuse of government power) was/is a deliberate and disgusting attack on the many who gave much to building up Britain. Could this be termed a ‘crime against humanity?’ Ask yourself: why has there been no prosecutions of those who committed this crime?

After a Windrush statement was made by Rt Hon David Lammy MP at the House of Commons, the Rt Hon Diane Abbot called an All-Party Political Group meeting (2 May 2018) for those affected or caught up by the debacle or those wanting a full update on what was happening. The public response nationally was immediate. So much so, that it was impossible to host the parliamentary gathering in one allocated room; so, three rooms – all bursting at the seams - were hastily made available to accommodate the growing meeting attendance. With MP contributions and audience member feedback came the realisation of the enormity of the situation. As the week progressed other pop-up meetings dissecting the issue occurred across the UK including Leeds and Manchester. All the meetings reflected general public worries and difficulties experienced, whilst urgently seeking political help. People affected feel demonised by the shame and worry of illegal deportation after being in Britain for decades.

It was felt that this was an orchestrated undercover plan directed at Caribbean immigrants - mainly as British citizens. The damage caused by this remains immeasurable and will take decades to put right because of the extent of shock brought on families on both sides - in the UK and back in the Caribbean. The uncertainty extends to the offspring of the Windrush generation, some of whom had little idea of their immigration status and feared being rounded up and deported to places they had little contact with, except knowing that their parents came from there. In some of the most extreme cases, those offspring were prevented from re-entering Britain or visiting family and friends, as well as attending funerals of their Mums, Dads and close

relatives. There can be little redress for those lost moments. Again, I ask: why has there been no prosecutions of those who committed this crime?

Passenger documents which would verify the lawful arrival of commonwealth citizens to the UK are reported to have disappeared. Whether they were destroyed or misfiled in error is a matter which can't be debated in this paper. The disappearance of those documents compounds the views of many that the contributions to the post war recovery of the UK; by our commonwealth citizens; have been treated with the same frivolity. Furthermore, it would seem that from 1948 to present day mainland UK has been the largest continuum of the modern-day plantation - with the workers affected being prohibited from enjoying the spoils of their decades of hard labour.

Our experiences with the New Cross Fire, Hillsborough Disaster and Grenfell Tower have prepared us to expect demonisation, prolonged shock and an unsatisfactory outcome from the inquiry into the Windrush debacle.

The September 2018 meeting was arranged to enable groups and individuals:

- to address ways to tackle the dilemma brought about by the Windrush debacle
- to explore concerns for compensation and representation by those affected
- to provide those with an interest access to the government assigned Windrush Team: Compensation Claims inquiry by Martin Forde QC; alongside the Windrush Lessons Learned Review process dealt with by Wendy Williams, HM Inspector of Constabulary.

Unfortunately, Wendy Williams did not attend the meeting to field audience questions or supply an update on her remit (Windrush Lessons Learned review). Therefore, it was left to Martin Forde QC to update and answer questions with regards to Windrush claims and the British Government's position. We await contributions from Ms Williams in her official capacity.

Sincere thanks to Martin Forde QC for making himself available for this meeting. Extended thanks and appreciation to Jacqueline McKenzie (McKenzie Beute and Pope solicitors) for her meeting contributions giving an associated legal insight and joining Martin Forde QC at top table.

We implore Windrush Scandal victims and those outraged by this injustice to maintain momentum by holding the British Government, and its Home Secretary accountable via appointees such as Wendy Williams and Martin Forde QC - who are tasked with coordinating the views and experiences of those affected and implementing justice. Those connected or interested in supporting commonwealth citizens across the UK, should continue to invite these official appointees to address affected audiences around the country and internationally. Most importantly – make a point of sharing your findings.

When the 10 September meeting was announced, Serious About Solutions received a number of complaints about the perceived regionalising of the Windrush debacle. These complaints quite rightly included cries of anguish about inaccessibility to the Members of Parliament who were seen to be pivotal advocates of victims of the Windrush Scandal. The emerging message is that a greater number of meetings are needed across the UK and they should include



concerned community groups/organisations and MPs - as well as provide a platform for individual concerns. In the interest of, Serious About Solutions would further suggest that consideration for the duration and timings of such meetings is given to accommodate working invitees, and those with family commitments. Standard Monday to Friday 9 – 5 hours should be vehemently avoided.

Again, it is imperative any proposed meetings be supported and welcomed by local MPs; trade union/ trades council, community organisations and concerned locals to the area. If not – always ask questions as to why?

The net of inclusion also needs to extend to links and meetings with community organisations in the Caribbean, which is easily arranged and researched and mapped in extended conversations.

From a workers' and trade union perspective, this continuous fight for justice and honourable intentions is not exclusive in belonging to the CWU, UNISON, or TUC Congress 2018 Motion, nor TUC LESE Race Relations Committee, all of whom must continue to display their ongoing commitment in not just words but visible action.

We must all continue to promote/advertise whilst essentially support the work of others organising such as: Huddersfield Windrush Advocacy Group, Retired Caribbean Nurses Association, Preston Black History Group, Harriet Harman MP, David Lammy MP, Janet Daby MP, Caroline Lucas MP, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Patrick Vernon, Professor Gus John, Glenroy Watson, Jacqueline McKenzie, Arthur Torrington and so many more, with numerous others needing to stand up and be counted.

But I must reiterate, Wendy Williams and Martin Forde QC have an unenviable task. One which we must govern all the way. Their operating task is bigger than just two people of Caribbean lineage displayed to resolve. If it proves contentious and unreasonable, they will most certainly be scapegoats. Such matters need vigilance and accountability that we all have to accept, not as minorities, but as a body of responsible community representatives who are skilled with applied vision and professionalism seeking a justified outcome equal to the dilemma faced by individuals and those affected.

If it was to happen again on our watch – we are socially to blame.



TUC London, East and South East (LESE)

TUC LESE Race Relations Committee would like to thank internal Congress House team for allowing this important meeting to take place. We thank Serious About Solutions and guest speakers / audience for their contributions on a key issue of concern to this Committee.

What have the TUC LESE Race Relations Committee done?

- Taken this issue back to unions, work-places, trade councils, schools, community leaders and political parties to highlight concern.
- Highlighted concerns on social media links.
- CWU members of the Committee have reported their union's commitment by distributing letters raising awareness to CWU branches, also informing the membership that the use of legal services is there if needed, following on from 2 CWU motions to General Conference 2018.
- UNISON motion Justice for the Windrush Generation was posed to TUC Congress 2018.
- Committee supported meetings like Monday 10 September 2018 held.
- The Committee is committed to keeping pressure on this Government for answers.

TUC LESE Race Relations Committee Windrush scandal concerns include:

- How to convince people to go and register without the fear of being arrested or taken into custody
- Would a claim for the perceived threat of being deported be a valid claim in the courts?
- What if you were naturalised and still told that you would have to go back?

One of the action points arising from the meeting was to contact specific organisations to ask for an outline of independent plans of action for tackling the ongoing Windrush scandal, and support of victims. This can only be achieved by lawful considerations being implemented by advocates who have officially been appointed to protect the interests of Windrush citizens. Good will and intent alone, will most certainly be brought into question in the future.

Serious About Solutions wrote to Mr. Sam Gurney, TUC London, East and South East (LESE), Regional Secretary and thanked the TUC LESE Race Relations Committee for accommodating 10 September meeting.

For more information, please contact:

Sam Gurney

TUC LESE Regional Secretary

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T: +44 20 7467 1291

www.tuc.org.uk/person/sam-gurney

www.tuc.org.uk/lese-race-relations-committee



What have TUC nationally done?

- With regards to the Government's Windrush Compensation Scheme, the TUC nationally have contacted the Home Secretary (Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP), appalled at the treatment of the Windrush generation; deported or shamed into leaving the country, refused vital healthcare and the right to work, separated from families.
- TUC are calling for full rights to be restored for those wrongfully affected by the Windrush scandal, with full compensation for the losses suffered.
- The TUC have produced a paper called: TUC response to the Windrush Lesson Learned Review.

The TUC is the voice of Britain at work. We represent more than 5.5 million working people in 48 unions across the economy. We campaign for more and better jobs and a better working life for everyone, and we support trade unions to grow and thrive.

Unions play a vital role in ensuring that rights under the Equality Act are respected and upheld by way of collective bargaining, raising awareness of rights amongst employers and employees, assisting in resolution of disputes, providing support to members in pursuing claims to the employment tribunal, as well as adopting strategic litigation to clarify legal issues and establish norms to be followed in the workplace.

The TUC has a long history of opposition to racism and xenophobia and has consistently highlighted and campaigned against discrimination against Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) workers in the British labour market, the workplace and in wider society.

Serious About Solutions wrote to Mr. Wilf Sullivan, TUC National Race Equality Officer to ask for an outline of independent plans of action for tackling the ongoing Windrush scandal, and support of victims.

For more information:

Response from the Home Secretary to TUC correspondence.

Copy of paper (TUC response to the Windrush Lesson Learned Review).

Please contact

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Windrush Scandal

There were two emergency motions on the Windrush scandal at CWU Conference this week. The motions highlighted the abhorrent and, we believe, racist approach of the government in detaining, deporting and denying access to services like the NHS to British citizens who came to the UK decades ago as part of the 'Windrush generation'.

The motions called on the union to undertake a range of campaigning activities to ensure that their rights are defended, that the hostile approach is immediately reversed and that the government is held to account. After an impassioned debate in which a number of our reps spoke about the impact of the 'hostile environment' the government has created on their lives, the motions were both agreed unanimously, and we will be working to carry out the instructions as a matter of urgency.

In response to the debate, in supporting the motions on behalf of the NEC, our SDGS Tony Kearns asked that any CWU members who have been affected by the scandal contact the Legal department for support. We would request that branches publicise this offer of assistance from the union to their members as widely as possible. Additionally, if any of our members do require assistance, you can also contact the General Secretary's department.

The CWU has a proud record of anti-racist campaigning and we believe the actions of the government with the Windrush scandal have been completely unacceptable in any civilised society. We will be strongly campaigning against the government's approach and supporting any CWU members who have been affected by this.

For more information, please contact:

Communication Workers Union (CWU)
General Secretary's Office: gsoffice@cwu.org



TUC Congress 2018 Motion – UNISON

C06 Ending the hostile environment immigration policy and justice for the Windrush generation Motion 42, and 43 and amendments

Secunder: Accord

Supporters: Public and Commercial Services Union; National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers; Chartered Society of Physiotherapy; Royal College of Midwives
Congress is appalled at the treatment of the ‘Windrush generation’. Deported or shamed into leaving the country, refused vital healthcare, separated from families and asked for multiple pieces of documentation, for every year, for decades.

Far from accidental, this is the inevitable outcome of the ‘hostile environment’, turning public service workers, private landlords and UK banks into immigration officers. Migrant people are being treated as second class citizens by a raft of legislation that impinges on every aspect of their life, a violation of citizens’ fundamental rights. Congress notes this ‘hostile environment’ started under the then Home Secretary, now Prime Minister, Theresa May, who deployed ‘go home’ vans around London in 2013.

Rather than appease anti-immigrant sentiment, this has led to an emboldened and violent far-right, white nationalist movement. UKIP policies have been mainstreamed and groups such as Britain First, the Football Lads Alliance and ‘For Britain’ are mobilising in our streets – and are seeking to radicalise young people online. These developments have also seen a targeted attack on RMT members and others in London by supporters of Tommy Robinson, representing an attack on the whole trade union movement.
Congress is deeply concerned that with political and economic turmoil ahead, communities are being divided while trust in public services and institutions is eroded.

Congress recognises, on the 70th anniversary of both the creation of the NHS and the docking of the Empire Windrush, the contribution to the NHS made by the Windrush generation since its inception and throughout its history. Without migration the health and care service could not survive.

Congress notes:

- The Home Office administrative hurdles placed in the way of the Windrush generation to have their British citizenship recognised cause hardship, deprivation, denial of public and health services and their right to work and, in some cases, lead to deportation
- That 120,000 children, many born in the UK, including children who are stateless, are required to register their entitlement to British citizenship, which is their right
- That to access their citizenship right, children, their parents or guardians are required to pay an exorbitant and prohibitively high registration fee of £1,012, of which £372 is said to constitute the cost of administration and £640 is profit to the Home Office
- That for those children who are in local authority care, such a fee constitutes a direct
- transfer of funds from hard-pressed local authorities to the Home Office



- Congress applauds, and resolves to support, the campaign by Amnesty International UK to:
 - remove any element of the registration fee over and above the actual cost of administration
 - exempt the entire fee in the case of children in local authority care
 - introduce a waiver of the fee in the case of any child who is unable to afford the administrative cost of registration
- improve awareness so that children exercise their rights to registration before a host of deplorable Windrush-type barriers and additional costs impact them when they reach 18 years of age.

Congress calls on the General Council to campaign:

- to end the 'hostile environment' for all immigrants and for an independent inquiry into its implementation
- for a rights-based and humane immigration policy that ensures the dignity of all workers and that tackles labour market exploitation
- for the restoration of full rights for those affected by the Windrush scandal and full compensation for losses suffered
- to reject the blame the government have placed on Home Office staff, and work with the Home Office unions to expose Conservative government policy.
- to raise awareness of, and celebrate, the enormous contribution made by the Windrush generation and other migrant people to the NHS and all public services over many years, and which they will continue to make in the future
- to organise within our communities and at work to challenge the rise of the far-right
- and tackle the politics of hate, wherever they arise.
- to organise a conference/forum of affiliates to discuss a trade union-based response to the threat of the far right.

For more information, please contact:

UNISON General Secretary (Dave Prentis)
k.westwood@unison.co.uk

General Secretary (Ged Nichols)
info@accordhq.org / ge.nichols@accordhq.org

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy
General Secretary
enquiries@csp.org.uk

National Union of Rail, Maritime
and Transport Workers
General Secretary (Mick Cash)
info@rmt.org.uk

Public and Commercial Services Union
London & South East Region
Regional Secretary (Sharon Leslie)
sharonl@pcs.org.uk

Royal College of Midwives
General Secretary (Gill Walton)
membership@rcm.org.uk

Local Campaigning/Council Motions

Without local activism and also Council accountability, we are left dependent for solutions from the government, who were the architects responsible for much of Windrush wrong-doing.

It is vital to note Windrush motion(s) supported by local councils should be championed by concerned residents. But also, it is the task of Council to communicate WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Lewisham Council

Motion 1: In the name of Councillor Daby to be seconded by Councillor Dacres
Contributors: Chief Executive (Head of Business & Committee)
Class: Part 1
Date: Wednesday 3 October 2018

Motion carried unanimously

The Windrush scandal is a British political scandal concerning people born British subjects, who came to the United Kingdom (UK) between 1948 and 1973. They were predominately from Caribbean countries and have become known as the Windrush Generation.

Many of the Windrush Generation were denied their British citizenship and legal rights, wrongly detained, and threatened with deportation. There are many who were wrongly deported from the UK or denied the right to return from vacation or family bereavements by the Home Office. To date, the Home office has failed to provide the exact number of people whom this has affected.

The ramifications of those who were suddenly told that they were not British Citizens, despite being British before entrance into the UK has been devastating. They have lost their jobs, homes, pensions, and financial security. They have been denied benefits and medical care to which they were and are fully entitled to. The denial of medical care has led to deaths. Many of those arrived on these shores as invited British subjects to have lost their dignity, been marginalised, felt ashamed and embarrassed, and have had the lives ripped apart. Many of those affected through the Windrush Scandal have been older vulnerable people, as well as their dependants. Furthermore, an unknown number of long-term UK residents were wrongly refused re-entry to the UK, and a larger number were threatened with immediate deportation by the Home Office.

In one month alone, the UK Government received a total of 13,000 calls to a specialist unit set up within the Department of the Home Office, in the aftermath of the extreme scale of those affected. The Home Office has since disclosed that more than 850 people now have documentation to affirm their British Citizenship following an appointment with their dedicated team. However, the total number affected at home and abroad are still unknown.

This motion pledges that Lewisham Council publicly opposes the mistreatment and criminalisation of Windrush individuals and families; and resolves:
In continuing to actively campaign for an end to all 'hostile environment' policy measures, calls upon the Mayor of Lewisham alongside the 3 local Lewisham MPs to demand that the



Government enables the Windrush Generation to acquire British citizenship at no cost, and with proactive assistance throughout the process, which is not time limited. To note that the 'hostile environment' is not restricted to the Windrush generation, and that the campaign be extended to include post-1973 spouses and children that followed to join their pre-1973 family member.

To proactively advertise the open consultation of the Windrush Compensation Scheme, through which victims of the Windrush Scandal will be able to claim compensation.

To call upon the Government to fully and financially support advice agencies in their work to achieve support, advocacy and justice for all Lewisham's residents affected by the Windrush Scandal.

To thank third sector organisations within the borough for their support and advocacy for victims of Windrush Scandal. Signposting those affected to organisations which provide support, advice and advocacy.

To call upon the Government to conduct an independent public enquiry into this Windrush scandal.

To review the Council's policies and procedures to ensure that those affected are supported appropriately.

In honour and recognition of the immense contributions of those known as the Windrush Generation, who arrived in the UK between 1948 and 1973, lead Lewisham in the annual celebration of Windrush Day on 22nd June. That this day recognises the contributions from The Commonwealth Member Countries to Lewisham's rich culture and diversity.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dear Alex,

Thank you for your email and for all that you are doing to support and to speak up for our community on this serious issue.

Since becoming an MP on Thursday 14 June 2018, speaking up on this issue has been one of my priorities and this is clearly mentioned in my Maiden speech. This is an issue that is extremely important to me and the community of Lewisham East. As you are probably aware, I am from Caribbean and Asian descent. The community that I represent is diverse where a few have fallen victim to the hostile immigration policy. I consider the work that I have done and currently doing is far ranging from:

I hosted a Parliamentary Event In July for 'Movement of Justice' with two other MP guest speakers, which featured in an article in the Independent Newspaper Wednesday 18 July 2018, focusing on extending the Windrush Task force to include the children of the elderly Nationals.

I met with Southwark Diocese Public Policy Research Officer, Diocesan Public Policy Adviser and Refugee Response Co-ordinator regarding their work in this area. I also discussed joint work with them and 'Movement of Justice' to work towards an APPG group with the two organisations. As well as writing a joint article together to keep this issue on the political and media agenda.

I have raised a question in the House of Commons challenging the Government on the actions they are taking to readdress 'Windrush Scandal', especially when three victims of the 'hostile immigration policy' died in Jamaica after being refused and denied back into the UK.

I spoke on this subject in my speech at the 70th NHS birthday event at Lewisham University Hospital, my mother is Jamaican and is part of the 'Windrush generation' and is also a retired nurse. She joined me at this event.

I wrote an article featured Tuesday 21 August 2018 in the South London Press regarding Windrush Scandal.

I presented a motion to Lewisham Full Council meeting, one of the things it does is to call on the Local Authority to advertise the Consultation of the Windrush Compensation Scheme.

With best regards

Janet Daby MP
Labour Member of Parliament for Lewisham East



The Caribbean Community (CARICOM) is an organisation of fifteen Caribbean nations.

Dear Mr Pascall,

Thank you for organising and invite to meeting held Monday 10 September 2018.

Firstly, I would like to urge you to send out a similar missive to all CARICOM High Commissions/Commissioners in the UK. I think it is important to get them all involved and invested in the process. (Indeed, the High Commissions should all be resolved to continue to be involved and to represent the interests of their wronged “constituents” throughout the entire compensation process.)

Speaking for myself, I would like to suggest that the UK Home Office should publicly acknowledge that:

- In addition to persons who were wrongfully deported to the Caribbean, there are likely to be persons who – because of the unjust “hostile environment” policy – took the initiative to leave the UK and return to their Caribbean mother countries – and that such persons would be entitled to compensation for any wrongful injury that they suffered.
- The Governments of the Caribbean will be invited to play a role in helping to identify such persons and bring them to the attention of the Compensation Commission/Tribunal.
- At a later date, I would like us to discuss how this highly commendable and legitimate idea that the damage resulting from a state implemented “hostile environment” policy requires that the victims of the policy be compensated, could be similarly applied to the policy of “hostile environment” that the British state implemented and / or presided over during the centuries of enslavement of African people.

Mr. David Comissiong
Ambassador to CARICOM



Dear Shadow Home Secretary

We write seeking your comments regarding your commitment to seeking justice for the many victims of the Windrush debacle, which if truth be told is a 'crime against humanity'.

Permit me to say that the Right Honourable Theresa May MP (Prime Minister), the Right Honourable Amber Rudd MP and the current Right Honourable Sajid Javid, Home Secretary, have secured notoriety in the Windrush tragedy, and relayed the hostile-environment baton to other counterparts. And you are aware that from May 2010 to date, the three MPs referenced held court as 'Home Secretary'. However, tangible evidence is woefully lacking when cases such as Mr. Vernon Vanriel, 63/sixty-three, are referenced. He visited Jamaica in 2005, was then denied a visa to return to the UK where he had lived for 43/forty-three years, since aged 6/six. Appallingly Mr. Vanriel was stuck in Jamaica for 13/thirteen years - destitute and homesick.

We think it pertinent to ask:

Given that Labour held office from 2005-2010: with Home Secretaries as follows:

- The Right Honourable Charles Clarke MP for Norwich South
5 December 2004 to 5 May 2006
- The Right Honourable John Reid MP for Airdrie and Shotts
5 May 2006 to 27 June 2007
- The Right Honourable Jacqui Smith MP for Redditch
28 June 2007 to 5 June 2009
- The Right Honourable Alan Johnson MP for Hull West and Hessle
5 June 2009 to 11 May 2010

What evidential and tangible support did Labour Home Secretaries offer to Mr. Vanriel, and like others?

Responsibility for defence and protection of Windrush victims also extends to Labour Shadow Home Secretaries from 2010 to date.

Labour Shadow Home Secretaries 2010 to Present:

- The Right Honourable Alan Johnson MP
11 May 2010 to 8 October 2010
- The Right Honourable Ed Balls MP
8 October 2010 to 20 January 2011
- The Right Honourable Yvette Cooper MP for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford
20 January 2011 to 12 September 2015
- The Right Honourable Andy Burnham MP
13 September 2015 to 28 September 2016
- The Right Honourable Dianne Abbot MP for Hackney North and Stoke Newington
6 October 2016 to date



As stated previously the Right Honourable **Theresa May MP** (Prime Minister), and her government are wilfully culpable in the Windrush scandal; and Labour must also be held accountable so that Windrush victims and the wider electorate understand your plans going forward.

Permit me to state that Windrush is a significant division requiring justice that includes and extends to other members of the commonwealth who have suffered similar injustices.

As you are aware the Windrush generation has made significant contributions not only in scaffolding the NHS but in enhancing every aspect of British life and continue so to do.

Yours Sincerely

Alex Pascall OBE



Shame on you Prime Minister!

Prime Minister May in her calculating manoeuvres, chose to pick on the most vulnerable of the Black and Caribbean communities to satisfy the quota she scaled out for lessening the immigration numbers to satisfy her policies, ignoring the fact that the thousands of Caribbean's labelled 'Windrush Generation's, who came to Britain by invitation, were neither easy picking fruits, nor "low hanging fruits", even though Black and minorities, they were British, members of Her Majesty's Commonwealth of nations, not illegal immigrants as they were made to look. The thousands, who came pre and post the arrival of the SS Windrush ship in 1948, came as Servicemen and women, followed by transport, factory, health service workers (nurses) and budding educators.

One needs neither microscope nor genius to assess what her position on immigration was and still is as a former Home Secretary, to sum up who is the culprit of this inhumane scandal. Peeping through the mire of insults, this was a decision hatched by Theresa May when she was Home Secretary, one that Amber Rudd was made to act on. Having been caught out, she accepted the blame and went just temporarily to chill out. This scandal you have orchestrated has become even more obvious, now that Amber Rudd has been recalled and is compensated with a cabinet position, serving as 'Work and Pensions Secretary' in your cabinet.

This deceit, coupled with your actions and the way you are handling the BREXIT divorce with Europe, have steered Britain into the raging torrents of the Channel waters with dangerous consequences for the British people, shame! No one knows what the future has to offer. Cabinet after cabinet, one by one, since the Checkers meeting, all her devoted allies have abandoned the ship's captain now struggling between nowhere, with practically no one to assist and unable to block the gaping holes as the ship begins to sink watched by the European Union. Politics and politicians in Britain are exposed and are finding it difficult because of your individualistic ego.

On Wednesday 5 December 2018, the British press and media have in the mire of Theresa May's headaches reignited the Windrush Scandal, because nothing has been done to put right the tortures meted out to the thousands who have been deemed illegal treated as dogs. The apology given by Prime Minister May, during the Commonwealth Heads of Governments' Ministers Meeting months ago have proved to be a sham.

The Prime Minister has publicly demonstrated that she personally disregards not only those she has labelled 'illegal' for deportation, but also showed gross decent to the Heads of Governments from the Caribbean whom she apologised to, who up to this have remained silent on the issue, while the ones still caught up in this unfortunate scandal have yet to be compensated. Earlier this year the final sums of monies were paid out to those who were slave owners and the generations of Black and Caribbean peoples, those who have been campaigning for decades have still not been compensated.

Prime Minister May, the disaster you have now created for the people of the United Kingdom, has helped to splinter and raise the fangs of disunity once again. It clearly shows how selfish and divisive your leadership is. It is written that patience is a virtue. Those who have now seen through you in line with those caught up in the Windrush Scandal are asking, "how long is your piece of rope"? After assisting in the rebuilding of the shattered economy of the United Kingdom 'West Indians' came to restore, and likewise to secure Britain in its fight against its enemies in World Wars 1 and 2, not counting the centuries held as subjects of your colonies - it is time that you decide to take the walk. Hopefully whosoever succeeds you will possibly understand and decide to repair the damages done overall to restore some pride to the ones who are still facing the ills of rejection, division and suicidal tendencies to relieve and their shame. They include the nation you are now letting down in your selfish dream that's going nowhere.

Yours Sincerely

Alex Pascall OBE

Links and references

- Hugh Goulbourne – Twitter @HughGoulbourne
- www.blackculturalarchives.org
- www.caricom.org
- www.facebook.com/Derby-Windrush-Action-Group-1250729835030158/
- www.facebook.com/Medianetlive
- www.facebook.com/Windrush-Action-Group-274736539802353
- www.facebook.com/windrushmovement
- www.goodvibesonline.co.uk
- www.jcwi.org.uk/news-and-policy/dossier-of-failure-windrush-and-hostile-environment
- www.leejasper.blogspot.com
- www.movementforjustice.co.uk
- www.parliament.uk
- www.patrickvernon.org.uk
- www.pcs.org.uk/equality/equality-groups/national-black-members-committee
- www.prestonblackhistorygroup.org.uk
- www.retiredcaribbeannurses.org.uk
- www.societyofblacklawyers.co.uk
- www.thirdsectorexcellenceawards.com/finalists/windrush-coalition
- www.tuc.org.uk/lese-race-relations-committee
- www.tuc.org.uk/person/sam-gurney
- www.vanley.co.uk
- www.windrushfoundation.com



Please also view:

Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Home Secretary
Departmental Home Office,
2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF
Telephone: 020 7035 4848
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HOWindrushlessonslearnedreview@homeoffice.gov.uk

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1034829165218934785>
www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-lessons-learned-review

Home office Select Committee Report: The Windrush Generation
<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmhaff/990/99002.htm>

Equality Act 2010: Guidance information and guidance on the Equality Act 2010,
including age discrimination and public sector Equality Duty.
www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance



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