

The Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood MP Foighnich airson/Please ask for: **Councillor Raymond Bremner**
Secretary of State for the Home Àireamh fòn/Direct phone: (01463) 702856
Department Ur n-Àireamh-iùil/Your ref:
2 Marsham Street Ar n-Àireamh-iùil/Our ref: RB/GM
London
SW1P 4DF
United Kingdom Ceann-latha/Date: 23 October 2025

Dear Home Secretary

Proposed use of Inverness Cameron Barracks for Male Asylum Seekers

I understand that your officials in the Home Office are considering the possibility of using MOD premises, Cameron Barracks, in Inverness to accommodate 300 single male asylum seekers.

I must convey to you the very deep concern we have at the scale of this proposal and the detrimental impact this will have on community cohesion in Inverness, which is a small town of 50,000.

This will be exacerbated given the location. Unlike many other military establishments, Cameron Barracks is within a 15-minute walk of the centre of Inverness. A primary and secondary school are located close by, and the barracks are surrounded by residential properties.

While Inverness and the wider Highlands have supported three resettlement programmes in the past (Syrian 2015, Afghan 2021 and Ukrainian 2022), it has done so at a scale that was appropriate and manageable for the communities that were impacted.

The scale of this proposal is unprecedented and will cause real fear and alarm to the community in Inverness, particularly given the proximity of the barracks to residential areas and the married quarters of the resident army battalion.

Councillor Raymond Bremner

Leader of The Highland Council

The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX

Tel no: (01463) 702856 **Mobile:** 07787 836402

e-mail: raymond.bremner.cllr@highland.gov.uk

An Comhairliche Raymond Bremner

Ceannard Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, Rathad Ghlinn Urchadain, Inbhir Nis, IV3 5NX

Fòn: (01463) 702856 **Fòn-làimhe:** 07787 836402

Post-d: raymond.bremner.cllr@highland.gov.uk

I would therefore be most grateful if you would reconsider the scale of this proposal as a matter of urgency. To that end, my Chief Executive would be happy to speak directly with your officials if that would be helpful.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely / Leis gach deagh dhùrachd,

Councillor Raymond Bremner
Leader of The Highland Council

An Comhairliche Raymond Bremner
Ceannard Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd

c.c. The Rt Hon Douglas Alexander MP, Secretary of State for Scotland

Councillor Raymond Bremner
Leader of The Highland Council

The Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX

Tel no: (01463) 702856 Mobile: 07787 836402

e-mail: raymond.bremner.cllr@highland.gov.uk

An Comhairliche Raymond Bremner

Ceannard Chomhairle na Gàidhealtachd

Comhairle na Gàidhealtachd, Rathad Ghlinn Urchadain, Inbhir Nis, IV3 5NX

Fòn: (01463) 702856 **Fòn-làimhe:** 07787 836402

Post-d: raymond.bremner.cllr@highland.gov.uk