



Cllr Joanne Sexton  
Spelthorne Borough Council  
Knowle Green  
Staines upon Thames  
TW18 1XB

25 July 2025

To: The Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP  
Secretary of State for the Home Department  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Secretary of State

**RE: Home Office Asylum Accommodation Stanwell Hotel 171 Town Lane, Staines TW19 7PW**

I am writing as Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council to raise issues regarding the proposed change of use for the Stanwell Hotel.

Spelthorne has played its part in helping the Government fulfil its responsibilities to asylum seekers and refugees. We hosted an Afghan Bridging Hotel and successfully moved all the residents on to settled accommodation. On a regular basis we assist homeless households from dispersed accommodation and the Stanwell Hotel. Our Resettlement Team and Homes for Ukraine Officer work to help new arrivals integrate.

We are used to being consulted with when there is a proposal to acquire more dispersed accommodation and appreciate that our voice is heard.

The Stanwell Hotel was one of those marked for a change of management from Clearsprings. We attended a handover meeting and were informed of a recommendation to move single males out of the hotel and for it to be a family and single female only hotel. We were asked for our opinion and agreed it was a good idea.

We have now found out the proposal is in fact move all families and women and make it male only. I cannot express strongly enough what a shock this news is and that our feedback has been disregarded.

We are extremely concerned that this adult male intensification of Stanwell Hotel will have an adverse impact on Stanwell Village and its community. The current arrangements had been effective and the existing cohort of families had already been integrating well within the Stanwell Village community. We are determined to avoid circumstances that could lead to civil unrest.

Given the heightened political sensitivities around this issue, I would expect the consultation process to be more robust with assurances about how risk would be managed and what support the Local Authority and partners could expect to receive. Instead, we have had the exact opposite. No consultation and no assurances.

**Spelthorne Borough Council, Council Offices, Knowle Green, Staines-upon-Thames, TW18 1XB**  
[www.spelthorne.gov.uk](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk)    [customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:customer.services@spelthorne.gov.uk)    01784 451499



Local residents in this family orientated village are alarmed having heard about the proposals and are contacting Council Members to express their concerns. As we have not been properly briefed, we cannot adequately respond to these concerns.

I would like to formally place on record that we do not accept the proposals and request a formal meeting to consult on the way forward. In the meantime, we ask that any transition towards making the accommodation male only is put on hold.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Joanne Sexton  
Independent Spelthorne Group,  
Leader of Spelthorne Borough Council