

Women's Hunger Strike at Yarls Wood

Conference notes:

Detention centres are no place for survivors of rape and other forms of violence seeking asylum, especially for children.

Separating mothers from their children is wrong.

The procedure known as the detained fast track (DFT) is contrary to international law when people are seeking protection. Women in particular with complex asylum claims – often based on family violence, rape or trafficking is shunted through this system, even though many have cases not capable of a quick resolution.

The recent hunger strike at Yarls Wood in protest against this treatment and allegations of violence and racist abuse from the guards there.

The prolonged length of stay, for some in these so called 'removal centres'.

The report by the Human Rights Watch and the campaign by the Black women's Rape Action Project.

Conference calls for:

A moratorium on all removals and deportations from Yarls Wood until the results of an independent investigation into the guards' behaviour and a speedy end to the hunger strike.

An end to removal centres and press for alternative accommodations for vulnerable survivors of abuse who are progressing with appeals.

Keep mothers and their children together throughout the asylum process.

Lobby MP's to sign EDM 919

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