

Majority Group Motion for Debate

11 July 2023

Amend to read:

This Council Notes:

- On 22nd June 2023, people from across the United Kingdom came together to mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush, which brought over 800 people from the Caribbean to London in 1948.
- In 1948 the Labour government stated that it was opposed to this immigration, and that all possible steps would be taken to discourage it.
- In the 75 years since, those British-Caribbean pioneers – and their descendants – have contributed hugely to the Britain we are all proud to call home today.
- That the UK Government has commissioned a progress report by Wendy Williams to monitor progress on implementing the recommendations in her original Review.
- -T-hat the Secretary of State made an unreserved apology to the Windrush generation on the day of publication of the Wendy Williams Windrush Lessons Learned Review, and since individually to every person who receives compensation through the Windrush Compensation Scheme.
- That the Home Secretary acknowledged that members of the Windrush generation suffered terrible injustices through institutional failings, ignorance and thoughtlessness, saying that: “I am truly sorry for the actions that spanned decades. I am sorry that people’s trust has been betrayed. We will continue to do everything possible to ensure that the Home Office protects, supports and listens to every single part of the community it serves.”

This Council Believes:

- That those who came to the UK as part of the ‘Windrush generation’ made a huge contribution to making modern Britain.
- That the treatment of this generation by successive British qConservative Governments since 2008 has been shameful.
- That the Windrush generation have had to make do with pleasant words and platitudes for too long, and that the Government must take corrective action immediately.

~~This council therefore resolves to demand that the UK Government commits to implementing all 30 recommendations submitted by Wendy Williams in March 2020 – in full – as soon as possible.~~

We ask that the Government urgently prioritise –

- The Home Secretary clearly setting out specifically how she, her Department and, where necessary, other institutions, will implement each recommendation and to what timescale.
- ~~The Home Secretary reversing her decision to disregard introducing a Migrants’ Commissioner; review the role of the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration; and to run reconciliation events.~~
- The Home Office regularly reporting to Parliament and the public the progress it is making on implementing each recommendation.

~~Providing an unqualified apology to those affected by this grave injustice, as per Recommendation 1 of the Williams Report.~~