

Green Party response to small boats bill



Green Party

7 March 2023

Responding to the small boats bill announced by the Home Secretary Suella Braverman today, Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay said:

“This is the latest attempt by the Tories to stop desperate people finding sanctuary. Last year three quarters of all asylum claims were granted [1]. Despite this, the government seems determined to clamp down on those fleeing conflict, persecution or extreme poverty in a host of countries by failing to offer legal routes to the UK. This will force people to continue taking their chances arriving in small boats.

“The UK government appears to be on a mission to push the boundaries of international law and breach the European Convention on Human Rights. This will further damage the UK’s already shattered global reputation.

“The Green Party is the only party taking a strong stand against this cruel legislation and saying proudly that refugees are welcome. We want to see safe legal routes for anyone wanting to claim asylum. That’s the way to stop small boats making perilous journeys across the channel and break the criminal gangs involved in people smuggling.”

Notes

1. [Top facts from the latest statistics on refugees and people seeking asylum – Refugee Council](#)

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Good Relations Indicators 2020 Report

The Good Relations Indicator report published by The Executive Office today presents a range of statistics relating to community relations, including numbers of hate crimes, attitudinal data on Protestant/Catholic relations and attitudes towards mixing in schools, neighbourhoods and the workplace.

Appointments of Councillor Members to the Board of Libraries NI

The Department for Communities has announced the appointment of three new Councillor Members to the Board of Libraries NI from 1 March 2023 until the date of the local council elections in 2027 (subject to their re-election in 2023 Local Government elections):

Appointment of Authority Members to the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority

The Department of Health has announced the appointment of seven Authority Members to the Regulation and Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA).

Spring Covid-19 Booster to be Offered to Higher Risk Groups

A spring COVID-19 booster vaccination will be offered to those at the higher risk of severe COVID-19 the Department of Health has announced.