



Jane Hunt MP
House of Commons

10th January 2020

Dear local resident,

Thank you to those who have contacted me about asylum seekers and refugee resettlement.

We absolutely must do all we can to help the world's most vulnerable people. I agree with the words of the Archbishop of Canterbury who said that the resettlement of thousands of vulnerable refugees over the last four years is something the UK can be proud of. I also support the principle of family unity and I am pleased that there already is a comprehensive framework for refugees and their families to be safely reunited in the UK.

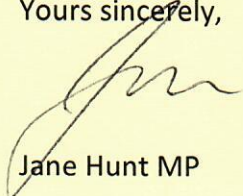
I appreciate your support for the amendments to the *EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill*. However, as the Prime Minister has said, the provisions set out in these amendments can be more appropriately supported outside of the Bill. This is why I did not vote for them.

I also cannot stress enough that it is still the Government's policy to ensure that unaccompanied children who are seeking international protection in an EU Member State can continue to be reunited with specified family members in the UK as well as children in the UK with family in the EU. Indeed, you may be pleased to know that the Home Secretary has already written to the EU inviting discussions and negotiations to begin on this very issue.

I am encouraged that, in 2018, the UK received over 3,000 asylum claims from unaccompanied children, making the UK Europe's third-highest intake country. In addition, in the year ending September 2019, 6,035 family reunion visas were issued to children and partners of those granted humanitarian protection or refugee protection in our country.

I hope that this information is reassuring. If I can be of further assistance, please do let me know.

Yours sincerely,



Jane Hunt MP