

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref VG/PO/0226/23

Nusrat Ghani MP Minister of State Department for Business and Trade Ghani@trade.gov.uk

30 June 2023

Dear Nusrat,

I want to raise some concerns regarding the Home Office's decision to use the Stradey Park Hotel and Spa near Llanelli for the purposes of asylum 'contingency' accommodation, with the result that up to 100 jobs at the hotel are now at risk.

In particular, I am deeply unhappy about the way the decision was taken and the frankly irresponsible manner in which it has been handled. I do not accept that the scale of the wider challenge here serves as an excuse for treating Welsh workers in this way and would like your assurance this approach will not be repeated elsewhere in Wales.

I am also concerned that the lack of information available to the Welsh Government and failure to involve us sooner is, delaying our ability to offer training and wider employability support to the workforce.

I am copying this letter to the Minister for Social Justice and Chief Whip, Jane Hutt MS, Welsh Government Minister for Social Justice and to the UK Minister for Immigration, Robert Jenrick MP, who I understand will meet shortly to discuss this matter and the wider concerns of the Welsh Government in respect of the use of the hotel.

Yours sincerely,

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Vaughan Gething AS/MS Gweinidog yr Economi Minister for Economy

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.