



Baroness Neville-Rolfe DBE CMG
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My Lords,

AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT UPDATE STATEMENT

Following the repeat statement I gave in the House of Lords chamber on the 30th March 2023, titled "*Afghan Resettlement Update*", I would like to clarify the figures on the number of eligible personnel yet to arrive under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP).

In the chamber, I stated that there were "*650 still in Afghanistan, with the remainder of the 4,300 in third countries*" (Volume 829, Column 451). Whereas the Minister for Veterans' Affairs had stated in the House of Commons that "*about 4,300 entitled personnel remain in Afghanistan*" (Volume 730, Column 844). To clarify, he meant to say "*about 4,300 entitled personnel remain in Afghanistan **and third countries***" and I understand the Minister for Veterans' Affairs has written to Hansard and sought to correct the record.

During the same repeat statement, Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots requested the estimated total number of people who will have come to the UK from Afghanistan once we have fulfilled our commitments under the ARAP and Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) (Volume 829, Column 454).

The Home Office estimates that, in total, around 16,500 people are eligible for relocation to the UK under ARAP, of which over 12,000 have already arrived here. We have also committed to welcoming up to 20,000 people to the UK under the ACRS over the coming years, of which more than 7,600 have already arrived in the UK. In terms of asylum applications, in 2022 the UK received 10,011 applications from Afghans.

I am copying this letter to those Noble Peers who spoke in the chamber: Lord Coaker, Baroness Smith of Newnham, Baroness McIntosh of Pickering, Baroness Berridge, The Lord Bishop of Derby, Baroness Taylor of Stevenage, Lord Hodgson of Astley Abbots and Baroness Watkins of Tavistock. I will deposit a copy of this letter in the House Libraries.

Warm regards

Lucy Neville-Rolfe

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