



Rt Hon. Johnny Mercer MP
Minister of State for Veterans' Affairs
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London
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John Baron MP
House of Commons
London
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14 April 2023

Dear John,

AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT UPDATE

Following the Afghan Resettlement Update Oral Statement on 28 March 2023, I am writing to clarify my remarks in relation to encouraging eligible persons to apply to the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) from a third country (Hansard Volume 730, Column 845, 848, 850, 854 and 855).

My remarks were intended to encourage those awaiting an outcome on their Expression of Interest (EOI) for the ACRS, to do so from the safety of a neighbouring third country. Updated guidance confirming that EOIs for the ACRS continue to be processed should an individual move from Afghanistan to a neighbouring country after submitting their EOI form was published by the FCDO earlier this year, and is available online at [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk). Applications under the Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP) can be made from any country.

For the benefit of colleagues, I am requesting that a copy of this letter be deposited in the House Libraries.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J.M.', written in a cursive style.

**RT HON. JOHNNY MERCER MP
MINISTER FOR VETERANS' AFFAIRS**