



Home Office

Lord Purvis of Tweed  
House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0PW

The Lord Murray of Blidworth  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
for Migration and Borders

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London SW1P 4DF  
[www.gov.uk/home-office](http://www.gov.uk/home-office)

6 July 2023

Dear Lord Purvis,

### **ILLEGAL MIGRATION BILL: HOUSE OF LORDS COMMITTEE STAGE**

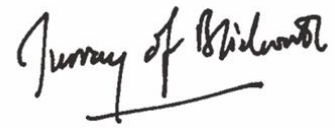
I am writing to follow up the debate in the Lords at Committee (Official Report, 5 June 2023, column 1170) where I agreed to write to you about whether there are any facilities for children in Kigali which the Government have agreed.

As a matter of policy this power to arrange removal of an unaccompanied child will only be exercised in very limited circumstances ahead of them reaching adulthood. Those very limited circumstances do not as a matter of policy include removals of unaccompanied children whilst under 18 to Rwanda. Once 18 they will be treated as adults and can be removed to a safe third country such as Rwanda or their country of origin (if it is safe to do so).

Children will only be relocated to Rwanda as part of family groups. A further assessment of Rwanda's capacity to accommodate children will be undertaken before this occurs.

I am copying this letter to Baroness Meacher, Baroness Butler-Sloss, Baroness Lister of Burtersett, Lord Cormack, Lord Kerr of Kinlochard, Lord Dubs, Lord Hannay of Chiswick, Baroness Hamwee, Lord Alton of Liverpool, Baroness Bennett of Manor Castle, Lord German, Lord Touhig, Lord Scriven, Lord Cashman, Lord Paddick and Lord Coaker. I will also place a copy of this letter in the library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Murray of Blidworth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

**The Lord Murray of Blidworth  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
for Migration and Borders**