



Home Office

Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP
Minister for Border Security & Asylum

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Sir James Cleverly MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

05 June 2025

Dear Sir James,

I am writing to you as the Minister for Border Security and Asylum with regards to a Point of Order raised by Ben Obese-Jecty on 12 May 2025. I would like to correct a statement I made in the House of Commons on 10 February 2025 whilst debating the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill [Official Report, 10 February 2025; Vol. 762, c. 131.]

On 10 February, I stated that the latest figures show that ‘18,987 people with no right to be here have been deported since we came into government.’ The correct information should have been ‘18,987 people with no right to be here have been returned since we came into government.’

The term ‘deportations’ refers to a legally defined subset of returns, which are enforced either following a criminal conviction, or when it is judged that a person’s removal from the UK is beneficial to the public good. Please note that since 10 February 2025, there are more recent statistics available, as detailed below. These reports refer to the total number of enforced and voluntary returns which will include deportations, as well as cases where a person has breached UK immigration laws, been removed under other administrative and illegal entry powers and those returned on their own accord, sometimes with support from the Home Office.

The Home Office publishes statistics on the number of returns from the UK in the ‘[Immigration system statistics quarterly release - GOV.UK](#)’. The latest data on enforced returns, is available in table Ret_01 the ‘[Returns summary tables](#)’. The latest data relates to the year ending March 2025. The Home Office also published more recent high level information on returns since 5 July 2024 in an ad-hoc release “[Returns from the UK from 5 July 2024 to 18 May 2025 - GOV.UK](#)”. This covered the period up to 18 May 2025. Figures on deportations, which are a subset of enforced returns, are not separately available. A copy of this letter will be placed in the House Libraries.

Yours sincerely,

Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP
Minister for Border Security and Asylum