



The Rt Hon Amber Rudd, MP
Secretary of State for the Home Department
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Dear Secretary of State,

We would like to express our deep concern at the Minister of State for Immigration's announcement on 8 February that the 'Dubs scheme', under which some of the most vulnerable lone child refugees can transfer to England, may close.

The UK has a long history of providing protection and support to those most in need of it and we would urge you to consider carefully the plight of the many thousands of lone child refugees in Europe who are currently at risk of exploitation and trafficking.

The Government made a welcome commitment through the scheme to taking some of the most vulnerable lone child refugees who are rootless in Europe. The number that have been brought to the UK under the scheme thus far falls significantly short of expectations and we consider that, as a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, the UK should play a far greater role in both offering protection and security to lone child refugees in Europe and in resolving the crisis that children are facing in Europe, especially in Greece and Italy.

We urge the Government to act humanely and responsibly, and to maintain a positive commitment to the Dubs scheme within a comprehensive strategy to safeguard unaccompanied child refugees within Europe.

Yours sincerely

Tam Baillie, Children & Young People's Commissioner Scotland

Sally Holland, Children's Commissioner for Wales

Koulla Yiasouma, Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People

Anne Longfield, Children's Commissioner for England