## **Chris Heaton-Harris**



Member of Parliament for Daventry House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA Tel: 020 7219 7048

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Decer Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about asylum seekers and refugee resettlement.

The UK continues to be one of the world's leading refugee resettlement states. As a country, we resettle more refugees than any other in Europe and are in the top five countries worldwide. Since 2015, the Government has resettled more than 25,000 vulnerable refugees in need of protection through our refugee resettlement schemes, with around half being children.

In the year ending March 2020, over 7,400 refugee family reunion visas were issued to partners and children of those previously granted asylum or humanitarian protection in the UK. This is a 37 per cent increase on the previous year.

The Home Office is developing a detailed plan to restart refugee resettlement and is continuing to discuss plans with international and domestic stakeholders.

It is important that this is not rushed as plans to restart resettlement are dependent on a number of factors including the lifting of restrictions imposed by governments of host refugee countries, local authority and central government capacity and the recovery of the asylum system from the impact of COVID-19.

It is also important to note that the UK will continue to reunite unaccompanied children with family members in the UK under the Dublin Regulation during the implementation period; processing and deciding all 'take back' requests that have been submitted. The Prime Minister has made clear the importance the Government places on ensuring that unaccompanied children who are seeking international protection in an EU Member State can continue to be reunited with specified family members who are in the UK, as well as children in the UK with family in the EU, following the UK's exit from the EU.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY

Website: www.heatonharris.com