

Hoylake4All

As residents and friends of Hoylake, we want to show that everyone is welcome in our town – and hate is not. We share accurate information, host inclusive events and support those fleeing danger. For more info please see our Facebook group – Hoylake4All.



The Hotel in Hoylake

Since February 2020, the Kings Gap Hotel in Hoylake has been home to refugees. For over a year, most were single men, but by the end of 2022 it mainly housed families who stayed temporarily before moving on. Volunteers, neighbours, and local churches welcomed them, and they became part of our community.

What has happened now?

In August 2025 the Home Office moved the families out of the hotel and has now returned it to housing mostly men.

Should we be worried about single men moving back in?

No. Single men lived in the hotel for over a year with no rise in crime or police call-outs. Those who met them found them polite, respectful, and kind, and the young men volunteered with local churches and doing beach cleans.

There are good and bad people in every culture, including ours. There is no evidence to suggest that ethnic minorities or asylum seekers are more likely to commit crime than any other group.

But they are undocumented, isn't this an issue?

When a refugee arrives on the UK all their biometrics are recorded, and they go through rigorous background checks that can take up to two years. All refugees in hotels are documented asylum seekers.

By contrast, a convicted British criminal could move to your street tomorrow and you'd never know.

Why are refugees living in hotels?

The Conservative government started using hotels for refugees – an expensive policy that sends billions in profits to private companies. That money could instead go to local councils to house people, helping both refugees and the local economy.

Are they refugees?

The UNHCR definition of “refugee” is someone who has fled their country to escape conflict, violence, or persecution and has sought safety in another country. As soon as they cross a border to escape, they become a refugee. “Refugee status” is given after the UK asylum process is completed with a positive decision.

Why call them ‘illegal immigrants’?

Currently there is no legal way for a refugee to enter the UK, that’s why people have to risk their lives in lorries or small boats. However, as soon as they arrive, they claim asylum, and from that moment, they’re legal asylum seekers.

Can we really afford for people to come to the UK?

The simple answer is, yes! Once their asylum claims are approved people can work and support themselves, they can pay tax and use their skills and talents to benefit our society. They don’t have to be a cost to anyone – in fact, they can be a real asset to our society.

“I have a grown up son and, if he was forced to flee to another country, I hope the people there would welcome him” – Sally, local resident and mother

