

**COUNCIL MEETING – 27 MARCH 2024
NOTICE OF MOTION**

COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE NOS. 4.28 – 4.34

MOTION NO.	PROPOSER	SECONDER	MOTION
163	Councillor M Storey	Councillor E Clynch	<p>This Council notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Middlesbrough Council and the people of Middlesbrough have a proud history of welcoming people seeking safety to Middlesbrough.• Significant capacity problems in the UK asylum system are directly affecting residents in Middlesbrough with a record backlog of cases awaiting a decision from the Home Office. This is leaving many asylum seekers who have not yet had their claims decided in ‘limbo’ unable to legally work.• Middlesbrough Council believes everyone has the right to seek safety and all asylum claims should all be treated fairly and equally. <p>Therefore, this Council resolves to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Not cooperate with any UK Government plans to build or repurpose facilities within Middlesbrough Council’s local authority area for the purpose of detention or warehousing of people seeking safety, except where Middlesbrough Council is legally bound to do so.• Defend the right to seek safety from war and persecution in the UK by signing up as a Council to Refugee Action’s Fight the Anti-Refugee Laws Pledge.

Fight the Anti-Refugee Laws Pledge

We believe that people seeking protection from war and persecution should be welcomed and that everyone's claim for asylum should be treated equally and fairly.

We believe that the UK should offer sanctuary to those who need it. That's why we're taking a stand against the anti-refugee laws. We pledge to:

- Defend the right to seek safety from war and persecution in the UK.
- Speak out against attempts to criminalise and punish those who make their own way to safety.
- Challenge the anti-refugee laws which will risk the lives and well-being of people.
- Work towards a refugee protection system that treats all people with dignity and compassion.