



Contact your councillors:
<https://oxford.cityofsanctuary.org/2023/07/13/home-office-want-to-re-open-campsfield>

The Home Office want to re-open Campsfield House IRC in Kidlington as an expanded detention centre for 400 men, in a new multi-storey prison block

Demolition of some small outbuildings on the Campsfield site was approved at the end of June 2023 and is proceeding. A Full Planning application will follow soon.

The Home Office is continuing with work at the Campsfield site regardless of Human Rights concerns and various arguments in Court about the legality of the government's immigration-prevention policies.

There is likely to be residential development to the south of Campsfield. New residents will not be happy to live in the shadow of a detention centre, and developers should see how it will devalue their properties.

The re-opening and expansion of Campsfield House will be bad for Kidlington residents and bad for refugees.

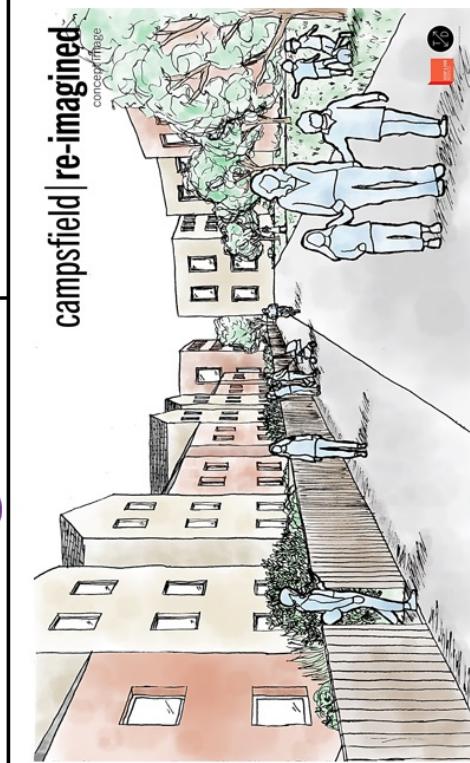
What can the local community do?

Please write to your Cherwell District councillors, and ask them to oppose the Home Office's Planning application to re-open Campsfield as an expanded detention centre.

If you support the Campsfield Re-imagined project to redevelop the site as affordable housing, then please tell your local councillors and your MP that you would prefer *Oxford City of Sanctuary's* alternative plan for the site.



Campsfield Re-imagined



Affordable co-operative housing for around 275 refugees

Campsfield Re-imagined

Oxford City of Sanctuary propose to redevelop the site of the HMP Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre in Kidlington, Oxon, as affordable co-op housing for around 275 refugees.

Safe and legal routes for refugees

The Campsfield Re-imagined project will help to influence government immigration policy to introduce safe routes and visas for refugees, by creating accommodation availability. It is mainly men who currently arrive in Britain by the dangerous illegal land/sea route. Women don't often make this journey. The risks of illegal travel mean women either don't set out in the first place, don't survive, or have been coerced.

Oxford City of Sanctuary calls for the introduction of Humanitarian visas, which will allow refugees safe travel direct to Britain from any country, not just Ukraine. The co-op housing we propose to build is designed to accommodate refugee families.

At the centre of the site, part of the old Casual Ward building will house a café and a museum, to preserve community memory of the legacy of the site. We'll add to this a new two storey structure, to provide a training centre, community space, and a small shop.



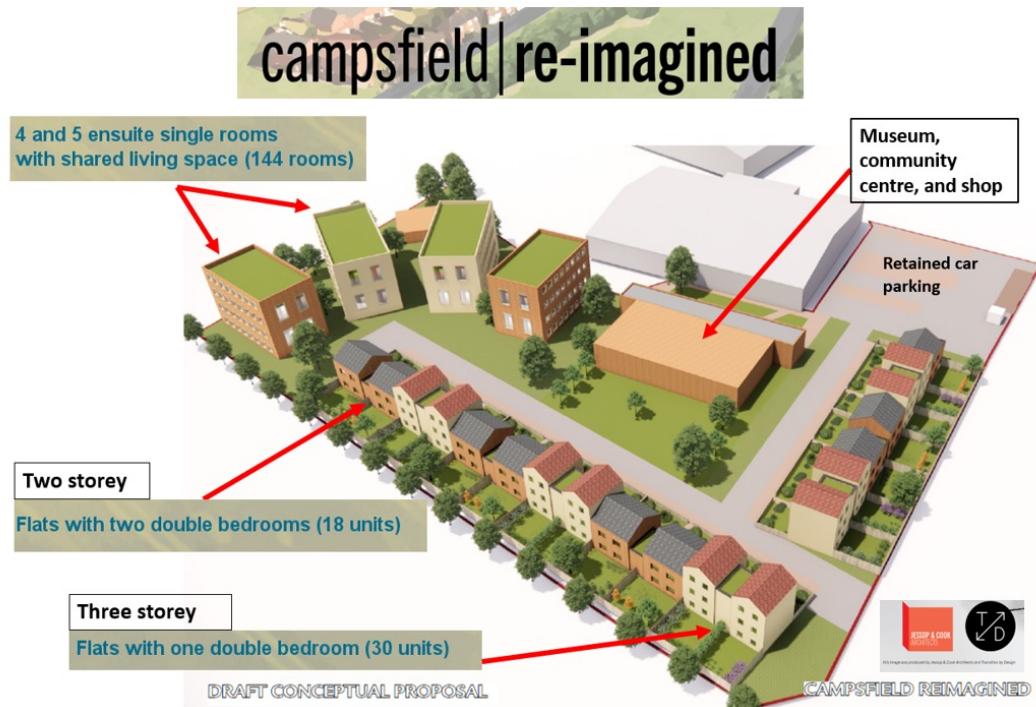
Affordable co-op housing

The government is currently spending millions of pounds per day to house asylum seekers in hotels, so we know the money is there to build affordable housing.

We hope that the Ministry of Justice will recognise that refugee housing is the best use of a former prison site such as Campsfield, and allow us a long lease of the land. We hope the Home Office will see how, given the intensive residential and commercial development surrounding the site now, Campsfield is not a place to incarcerate 400 asylum seekers. There is a redemptive value in the re-use of the former HMP Campsfield site now, to allow people to live in peace and dignity.

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Campsfield Re-imagined site scheme

We propose to demolish all the existing structures on the site, apart from the front portion of the old Casual Ward building. We will build 18 two-double bedroom flats and 30 one-double bedroom flats on the site, all designed to resemble the new private market housing in the local area.

Based on two people occupying each double bedroom, the flats would provide housing for around 132 people. The blocks of flats are designed so that a large family could occupy, for example, two 2-double bedroom flats, either all on the same floor, or all in the same block, giving them four double bedrooms, two bathrooms, and two kitchens and living rooms.

In addition there will be four 4-storey high blocks, providing 144 people with student-style accommodation of single en-suite bedrooms with shared kitchen and living room for every five residents. Men and women will have accommodation in separate buildings.