



Duncan Lewis

IMPORTANT – DO NOT IGNORE
Welfare Team/ Complaints Department
Brook House Immigration Removal Centre

Sent by fax only – **DPA**

Correspondence Address:

Spencer House
29 Grove Hill Road
Harrow On The Hill
HA1 3BN

DPA

t: **DPA**
f: **DPA**

www.duncanlewis.com

Name Irrelevant

Public Law

ddi: **DPA**

DPA

Branch: EC2

Our ref:

Sensitive/Irrelevant

Your ref:

Date: 21 August 2017

Dear Sirs,

RE: Formal Complaint about our Client's Treatment in Detention

NAME OF CLIENT: **D1538**

DOB: **DPA**

NATIONALITY: **Moroccan**

PORT FEF: **Sensitive/Irrelevant**

We write on behalf of our client, **D1538** who was a detainee at Brook House Immigration Removal Centre from 2 June 2017 until an unknown date in July 2017, when he was moved to Harmondsworth IRC.

Recently, our client has disclosed to us several allegations of mistreatment by detention centre staff during his time detained at Brook House IRC. We are writing to make you formally aware of these allegations and to provide you with an opportunity to investigate and respond to the specific allegations which our client is making.

The first allegation is that, on 3 June 2017, there was an incident involving the use of the computer room. Our client states that he was denied use of a computer by a detention officer and that he was not provided a reason for this. Our client then alleges that the detention officer called over other detention officers who then pushed and tried to slap him. Our client was calm until this point but then looked to defend himself. As a result of this incident, the manager was called over and our client was sent to isolation for 24 hours and banned from the computer room for 7 days.

The second allegation is that, on 28 June 2017, our client attempted to go over to C-wing where another detainee had offered to provide him with some clothes. Our client only had a T-shirt and some shorts to wear. Our client alleges that a detention officer told him that he was not allowed to go to C-wing and that he needed to change his clothes as he 'looked gay'. Our client is a gay man,

who is very concerned about other detainees finding out about his sexuality. Our client says that he was therefore very upset about this comment and reacted angrily. We are instructed that our client was taken to the office of the staff member and given a written warning for his behaviour.

We would be grateful if you could provide all written records in relation to the above two incidents. Unfortunately, our client cannot remember the names of the detention officers involved in these incidents.

In light of the above, we request that the above allegation is investigated and that a written response is provided to us confirming this, and the outcome of any investigation carried out. We consider this to be a very serious allegation which, if true, shows a disregard for our client's dignity and well-being. We therefore ask that you take this complaint very seriously. Our client informs us that he did not make a formal complaint at the time as he felt stigmatised by detention staff and did not trust the official complaints procedure.

Should you have any queries, please contact Name Irrelevant by telephone on DPA

Please ensure that you quote our reference number in all correspondence and communications with this office.

Yours faithfully,

Signature

Duncan Lewis



Duncan Lewis

VERY IMPORTANT – DO NOT IGNORE
Complaints Department/ Healthcare Department
Harmondsworth IRC

Sent by fax only – Sensitive/Irrelevant

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Spencer House
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Sulaiha Ali

Public Law

ddi: **DPA**

DPA

Branch: EC2

Dear Sirs,

NAME OF CLIENT: **D1538**

DOB: **DPA**

NATIONALITY: Moroccan

PORT REF NO: Sensitive/Irrelevant

We write on behalf of our client, **D1538** who is a current detainee at Harmondsworth IRC. He was moved to your detention centre from Brook House at an unknown date in early July 2017.

Recently, our client has disclosed to us an allegation of mistreatment by healthcare staff during his time at Harmondsworth IRC. We are writing to make you formally aware of this allegation and to provide you with an opportunity to investigate and respond to the specific allegations which our client is making. We would be grateful if you could do so as a matter of urgency.

The central allegation is that around two weeks ago our client went to healthcare to seek medical assistance as he was finding it difficult to sleep and had arm pain. He was seen by the nurse, who we are instructed asked several inappropriate questions regarding his asylum claim. Specifically, she asked our client why he had made an asylum claim based on his sexuality because she thought this was prohibited for him as he was Muslim. Our client had not disclosed the nature of his asylum claim and does not know how the nurse became aware of this. As we are sure you will appreciate, this is a completely inappropriate comment for medical staff to make about our client and undermines our client's trust in the medical services he is being provided.

In light of the above, we request that the above allegation is investigated and that a written response is provided to us confirming this, and the outcome of any investigation carried out. We consider this to be a very serious allegation which, if true, shows a disregard for our client's dignity and well-being. We therefore ask that you take this complaint very seriously. Our client informs us that he

did not make a formal complaint at the time as he felt stigmatised by detention staff and did not trust the official complaints procedure.

Should you have any queries, please contact Phillip Armitage by telephone on **DPA**

Please ensure that you quote our reference number in all correspondence and communications with this office.

Yours faithfully,

Signature

Duncan Lewis

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