

10 February 2020

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP
Home Secretary
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Dear Ms Patel,

I am writing on behalf of the University and College Union (UCU) to urge you to call off the deportation flight to Jamaica, scheduled for tomorrow (11 February), and halt all further forced deportations with immediate effect.

Our members are deeply concerned that this flight and others like it perpetuate the hostile environment for migrants and risk repeating the serious mistakes exposed during the recent Windrush scandal. Many of those due to be deported tomorrow have lived in the UK since childhood; their deportation threatens both their safety and their right to family life.

UCU is clear in its opposition to the practice of forced deportations, which are inhumane and lack transparency. We call for all deportation flights to be halted and for the urgent publication of the Windrush lessons learned review to inform the government's future approach.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Jo Grady
UCU General Secretary