



Public Meeting

For: Alternatives to immigration detention

Against: More immigration detention centres

Tuesday 1st December

7 p.m. Oxford Town Hall, Council Chamber

Speakers: **A former detainee**

Louise Christian, campaigning solicitor, Christian Khan Solicitors

Jerome Phelps, co-author, *Detained Lives*, London Detainee Support Group, and (invited) member of the Race Relations Committee of the Trades Union Congress

Just down the road from Oxford, since 1993, more than *10,000* innocent people – refugees and undocumented migrants – have been imprisoned in Campsfield for anything from a day or two to months, even years, without being charged with any crime, without judicial oversight or proper reason given, and *without time limit*.

Now the government plans a 900-place detention centre at Bullingdon near Bicester. It would be the biggest in Europe.

Recently the following bodies have called on the government *a) NOT to expand the “detention estate” and b) actively to pursue alternatives to detention:*

- Thomas Hammarberg, the Council of Europe’s commissioner for human rights
- The Independent Asylum Commission
- The Centre for Social Justice (headed by ex Tory leader Ian Duncan Smith)

Following a change in policy in Australia, the number of migrants imprisoned there has fallen from many thousands to less than 200 in just a few years.

Called by the Coalition Against Bullingdon Immigration Removal Centre, the Campaign to Close Campsfield, and Oxford & District Trades Union Council
www.cabirc.org.uk – www.closecampsfield.org.uk – www.odtuc.org.uk