

Your name,  
House  
Street  
Town  
Post Code  
Phone Number

MP's name  
House of Commons  
London,  
SW1A 0AA

Date

Dear

### **DESTITUTE ASYLUM SEEKERS**

I am concerned about the plight of destitute asylum seekers in the United Kingdom. This matter was widely raised in the media by Oxfam's Director of UK Poverty, Kate Wareing on February 4<sup>th</sup> 2011. Furthermore, the General Assembly of Unitarian and Free Christian Churches is also concerned that thousands of asylum seekers are being forced into destitution as a result of government policies.

I believe the UK government should change policies which lead to destitution and should ensure a fair, efficient asylum system which protects the rights and dignity of all who use it by:

- Providing asylum seekers who would otherwise be destitute with sufficient support so that they can meet their essential living needs until they are returned to their country of origin or are given permission to stay in the UK.
- Providing free access to healthcare for all asylum seekers while they are in the UK.
- Granting asylum seekers permission to work if their case has not been resolved within six months or have been refused asylum, but temporarily cannot be returned through no fault of their own.
- Improving decision making and ensuring that all those in need of protection receive it.

I would be grateful if you could raise this matter with the Immigration Minister, Damien Green.

If you would like further information on these issues, the following link provides detailed analyses: [http://www.oxfam.org.uk/resources/policy/right\\_heard/coping-with-destitution-survival-strategies-uk.html](http://www.oxfam.org.uk/resources/policy/right_heard/coping-with-destitution-survival-strategies-uk.html)

Yours sincerely  
Signature  
Your name