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Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Home Affairs Committee
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Dear Yvette

I am writing further to my letter of 21 June in relation to the on-going review of Tier 1 (General) applications that have been refused on character and conduct grounds under paragraph 322(5) of the Immigration Rules.

My officials have now concluded the review and are now in the final stages of drafting the final report which will be submitted shortly.

I note your recent comments, in which you expressed concern that the review is not yet complete and that applicants are in limbo. Whilst I acknowledge that the review has taken a bit longer than we would initially have liked, the report will be comprehensive, covering how the policy for handling these applications has evolved, communications with HMRC, findings of the assessment of nearly 1700 applications and a full discourse on appeals and litigation challenges that have been sought against the Home Office. As such it has taken until this time to conclude.

As set out in my previous letter, we have not refused any new applications while the review was ongoing, due to the concerns that had been raised. We have, however, continued to grant cases which are clearly approvable, and to re-refuse historic applications where necessary to meet any commitments we have made regarding litigation cases. We will decide all remaining cases as soon as possible once we have submitted the report.

I hope that this letter provides the assurance that we have undertaken a thorough approach to this work and I look forward to sharing the full findings.

*Yours ever
Caroline*

**Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP
Minister of State for Immigration**