

[Your Address]

Dear [Council Candidate]

Local Elections 2008: Refugee and Asylum Seekers

As a candidate in the 2008 Local Elections, I am writing to ask you to pledge your support to ensure that refugee and asylum issues are not used negatively during the campaign. We are lucky that leaders of all four main parties in Wales have agreed to support this campaign, and we hope that you to can sign up to the following pledge:

“I commit not to use negative images of refugees and asylum seekers in the forthcoming election campaign. I will seek to promote a better understanding of refugees and asylum seekers in Wales”

Many candidates in the Assembly elections in 2007 signed up to a similar pledge, and I was very heartened to see that such issues were treated in a measured and moderate way by all mainstream candidates.

I strongly believe that we should welcome refugees and asylum seekers and help them rebuild their lives in Wales, and I hope that as my local candidate for the forthcoming election, you do too.

You can download a leaflet all about refugee and asylum issues at the website (www.keepawelcome.co.uk). It gives background information and statistics and help explodes some of the myths surrounding asylum seekers in Wales.

If you would like to sign up to the pledge, please e-mail

policyandcommunications@welshrefugeecouncil.org

Many thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

[your name]