# UK Government's Efforts to Curb Illegal Migration Strengthens with New Anti-Smuggling Measures



**UK Government's Efforts to Curb Illegal Migration**

Home Secretary James Cleverly reaffirmed the UK Government’s commitment to stopping migrant Channel crossings as the number of arrivals neared 10,000 for 2024. Speaking during a visit to Essex Police headquarters, Cleverly highlighted the changing tactics of people smugglers in response to government pressure on the supply of small boats and illicit finance. He accused the Labour Party of delaying the Rwanda deportation plan, which aims to deter crossings by sending asylum seekers to Rwanda.

Provisional figures show that 9,874 people have arrived in the UK via these crossings this year. Cleverly emphasized the government's determination to dismantle people-smuggling operations and operationalize the Rwanda scheme, aiming to cease the use of asylum accommodation centers like the former RAF base Wethersfield.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Rishi Sunak met Austrian Chancellor Karl Nehammer in Vienna to discuss closer cooperation on migration. They agreed that third-country schemes like the Rwanda plan could be part of the solution to Europe’s migration challenges. Sunak announced an additional £25 million for the National Crime Agency (NCA) to disrupt smuggling operations, enhancing equipment and intelligence capabilities to tackle the issue.