# Home Office's Deportation Plan to Rwanda Criticised for Lack of Credibility and Transparency



The Home Office's plan to deport asylum seekers to Rwanda lacks credibility, according to a report published on May 29, 2024, by the Commons Public Accounts Committee (PAC). The report indicates that the department has made numerous "unacceptable and avoidable mistakes," particularly in setting up large asylum accommodation sites. The PAC highlighted that the Home Office's initial cost estimates for converting former RAF bases were significantly underestimated, with costs spiraling from £5 million to £49 million and £27 million at different sites.

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak had aimed to start flights to Rwanda by June 2024, making this a key issue for the upcoming election. However, MPs criticized the lack of transparency and planning, questioning the department’s ability to achieve its goals. The report reveals that over £230 million had been spent on accommodation sites which now have expected costs of £1.2 billion. The Home Office admitted their plans have fallen short of addressing the asylum seeker accommodation crisis effectively, as the larger sites will cost £46 million more than hotels and will house fewer people than initially planned.

Home Office officials have been asked to clarify how they will ensure the welfare of asylum seekers awaiting relocation and provide more detailed future plans. Protests against the scheme have arisen from various political circles, and the Home Office has been urged to improve its operational transparency and financial oversight.