

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 November 2016 14:46
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Nigeria/Ghana Charter FOI

[REDACTED]

How does this read?

The IOM does not currently offer assistance with returnees on charter flights to Nigeria and Ghana.

The British High Commission in Nigeria have representatives present when the charter flight arrives in Lagos and Accra to ensure that the arrival process takes place as planned in a dignified and organised manner. The stakeholder in Nigeria engaged by the High Commission are Mastermind HRSG who implement the 'Ekaabo Ile' (Welcome home) project. Currently they do not provide accommodation or money to returnees but rather telephone assistance, transportation to a central point in Lagos and basic orientation. Bidding is currently taking place to identify a provider for limited bespoke accommodation. This is at a very formative stage.

In Accra, Project Akwaaba, implemented by the National Disaster Management Organisation (NADMO) provides accommodation when required. Currently it is limited to 3 people up to a maximum of two nights. At a total cost of about £187.00

[REDACTED] I'm aware that the provision for accommodation is limited. If they were significantly more generous it would undermine our efforts to encourage people to take advantage of the voluntary packages which are our preference. I don't know whether you'd need a line or two from [REDACTED] the head of assisted returns

Best,

[REDACTED]
Migration Delivery Officer
Home Office Immigration Enforcement
British High Commission
26 Thaba Tseka Street
Wuse 2
Abuja
External [REDACTED]
Echo [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 04 November 2016 17:25
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Nigeria/Ghana Charter FOI

[REDACTED]

With apologies for the direct approach (I know you have only recently taken up post), RL Charters have received an FOI request that, in the main, asks questions about assistance provided to Nigerian charter returnees after they disembark. Having spoken to [REDACTED] previously, I know there were plans to formalise reception assistance (Project Ekaabo) but the FOI request makes specific reference to historical support from IOM. To follow are the questions as they are written and I wondered if you and colleagues in post were able to offer a steer on how to respond:

It is noted in an Inspection Report of charter flights to Nigeria and Ghana (2013) that the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) offer help with accommodation and finance for up to three weeks after arrival. Is this still a service offered by the IOM in 2016?

It is noted in a Inspection Report of a charter flight to Nigeria and Ghana of 2015, that "A member of staff from the British High Commission came onto the aircraft at Lagos and arranged support from local agencies for any who were referred because they had no means of support. She ensured that all detainees had somewhere to stay in the short term and enough money for travel to their home area." Please provide a list of said "local agencies" in Nigeria and Ghana that offer support that the Home Office are aware of and make referrals to.

Please provide evidence that it is ensured that deportees have somewhere to stay in the short term and enough money for travel to their home area - for example, through evidencing the amount of the money the British High Commission has spent on giving deportees money for travel to their home area, or evidences of referrals to agencies housing deportees/payments made to hotels, hostels etc. in Nigeria or Ghana that have housed deportees in the short term.

Very grateful for any information you can provide, apologies again and regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Immigration Inspector
Charters
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Immigration Enforcement

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[REDACTED]