



1 December 2020

The Hon Scott Morrison MP
Prime Minister
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Prime Minister,

I write on behalf of Australian Quakers to express deep concern for the plight of the over 200 asylum seekers and refugees brought to Australia under the Medevac legislation for treatment. Most have been here for over a year and are held in detention in Melbourne and Brisbane, in conditions that give them very limited opportunities for exercise and fresh air. By contrast, recent transfers from Nauru - not under the Medevac legislation - have been allowed into community detention.

We consider that the harmful effects of their situation on the mental health of those in detention centres will be eased only if they are moved to community detention, or allowed to return to Papua New Guinea. We are unable to understand why this has not happened, and can see why they and their supporters feel that this is 'payback' for the Medevac legislation itself having been passed by opposition and crossbench MPs and Senators.

I urge you to review the government's actions in this matter and relieve the suffering of those in detention.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Zubrick".

Ann Zubrick
Presiding Clerk

Cc: Hon Anthony Albanese, MP, Leader of the Opposition
Adam Bandt, MP, Leader of Australian Greens

Australia Yearly Meeting

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