<u>Press Statement – 19th March 2020</u> <u>Windrush National Organising Group (WNOG)</u> Response to Lessons Learnt Review

The Windrush National Organising Group is a group of activists/Organisations from across the country, who are working together on the Windrush Scandal in terms of those impacted.

We welcome the publication of the "Wendy Williams Lessons Learnt Review" which has been published some 2 years after the exposure of the Windrush Scandal and the impact on many that arrived in the UK as children particularly from the Caribbean in the 1960's,70's,& 80's.

The discrimination faced by the Windrush Generation upon their arrival in the UK on 22nd June 1948 and beyond has been well documented

Over the years successive Governments have exposed the Windrush Generation to various hostile immigration controls to the extent; this was severely exacerbated by the 2014 Immigration Act, which severely impacted our people, with the birth of the current "hostile environment".

This impacted disproportionally upon particularly; people from the Caribbean and Africa which were former British Colonies. Particularly, Jamaica, Ghana, Barbados and Nigeria, including the wider Common-Wealth. In fact, to add insult to injury the Queen is still Head of State in some of these countries.

It is clear, that the Government and Home Office need not only, to acknowledge and learn from their errors, but also ensure that there is a significant change in their culture when dealing with particularly people of colour.

No matter the number of apologies nor compensation, will ever repair the damage that has been caused to many families, including the loss of loved ones. As such the Government & Home Office need to have a clear commitment of ensuring that this never happens again with swift action.

We strongly suggest that they take stock of the findings contained in this report and address them, moving forward.

The Windrush National Organising Group; is prepared to work with the Government and Home Office in achieving this.

Notes to Editors

In the first instance for further information please contact:

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- 2. You can be referred to local representatives as necessary.

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