



**Scrap the weekly reporting!  
End detention and dawn raids!  
Close Sandford House!**

Sandford House (41 Homer Road, Solihull) is the Immigration and Nationality Directorate's main reporting centre and enforcement unit in the Midlands. Up to 6,000 people subject to immigration controls, within a 25-mile radius, are forced to come here on a regular basis, weekly in most cases now, to **sign on**. This now involves finger-printing and re-activating their biometric ID cards. There is no reason for all this **hardship** and **humiliation** other than the immigration authorities' will to make life more difficult for asylum seekers so that they give up and leave, as well as deterring others from coming here.

Many people have **disappeared** from there without warning. Sandford House is provided with a so-called **short-term holding facility** (STH), where people detained in the reporting centre or following 'enforcement operations' are temporarily held. **Snatch squads** in prison vans also operate from the Centre, forcibly snatching families and vulnerable people in **dawn raids**. They are subsequently taken to the STH, before being transferred to so-called Immigration Removal Centres (**immigration prisons**), such as Campsfield House in Oxfordshire or Yarl's Wood in Bedfordshire. They then face the prospect of being forcibly deported back to war zones or oppressive regimes from whence they had fled.

The facility is run by **Group 4 Securicor**, who also run Campsfield and Oakington detention centres, and is staffed by permanent detainee custody officers with some assistance from other G4S staff. Private contractors such as G4S make **huge profits** out of people's misery, while delivering poor services. G4S has been repeatedly criticised by the Chief Inspector of Prisons for "settled misery" in detention, the lack of information on individual cases and that no information is provided to detainees about the availability of legal aid and the like.

**Birmingham NoBorders** is a network of activists who stand against repression and all forms of border control and struggle for the freedom of movement for all people.

E-mail: [noborders-brum-contact@aktivix.org](mailto:noborders-brum-contact@aktivix.org)