

[Local Authority Letter Head]

TO WHOM IT CONCERNS

Young Person's Name: [insert name]

Home Office Ref: [insert Home Office/Port ref no.]

Claimed Age and DOB: [insert claimed age and DOB]

DOB according to Home Office records: [for those referred via contingency Hotels]

Nationality: [insert country of origin]

??/??/???? [insert date]

Re: AGE DISPUTE: CLAIMED AGE ACCEPTED

The above named person's age was disputed when he claimed asylum at the Home Office on _____.

The young person was:

- (a) subsequently referred to[insert name of local authority] for accommodation and support, subject to a full age assessment or,
- (b) deemed an adult and transferred to a Home Office contingency hotel atHotel [insert name of hotel] and approached the local authority for support as a child

[delete whichever option is not applicable].

In our consideration of the young person's age we have taken a holistic approach.

The local authority is satisfied that the young persons demeanour and physical appearance is broadly consistent with their claimed age and date of birth.

In the absence of any documentary evidence the local authority will therefore give the young person the benefit of the doubt and will accept their claimed age.

As part of the decision making process, the views of the following professionals were taken into account (tick where applicable):

- ☐ Allocated social worker
- ☐ Foster carer
- ☐ Key worker
- ☐ LAC Nurse
- ☐ School/Education provision
- ☐ Any other professional: Detail:.....

In addition, (where applicable, please tick and provide detail if):

- ☐ the decision to accept the claimed age was based on information in addition to an assessment of physical appearance and demeanour;

Please provide further details:

- ☐ there is evidence that they may be a different age than claimed, but this information was insufficient to justify a Merton compliant age assessment.

Please provide further details:

A full Merton compliant age assessment will **not** be carried out.

Should new information to the contrary come to light, the local authority reserves the right to carry out a full Merton Compliant Age Assessment.

Yours sincerely