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Inside Napier

“Why is the Home Office keeping asylum seekers in former Army Barracks? This is the question that Anushka Asthana addresses by telling the story of Matin about his stay in Napier. After a (1) _____ in a hotel in London, he was informed that he would be transferred. The unpredictability of his future left him (2) _____ and (3) _____ as he didn't know whether he was being taken to a dispersed accommodation or a (4) _____. Matin was another asylum seeker coming from Iran to the UK. He was not told where he was going as people feared he might escape. He was taken to Napier barracks, in Folkstone, a former Army barracks in Kent which hadn't been in use for 15 years. Now, the Home Office has (5) _____ it as accommodation for up to 400 vulnerable asylum seekers. This is only one of two sites used for that matter. The other is in Penally, in Wales. Even though the government claims the barracks to be (6) _____ accommodation because of the pressures of covid-19, asylum seekers feel like they were in a prison. The fences and (7) _____ hinder people's movements limited only to 2 hours a day. Matin is astonished at the way they are treated and claims not knowing why they are being (8) _____ in such a purported way. Jamie Grierson, the Guardian's (9) _____, examines why the government has decided to use two former army barracks, to house up to 600 (10) _____ asylum seekers. He explains that in 2020 it emerged that the Home Office had set up a deal with the Ministry of Defence to use two former military sites to temporarily house asylum seekers. Grierson states there was very (11) _____ consultation. Local authorities and (12) _____ denounced and objected to from the (13) _____ the existence of such appalling sites. That's how the public and the press found out about such a dramatic situation. Volunteers working with the local authorities and the local areas provided {donations} to the site. Amid allegations of cover-ups, poor access to healthcare and legal advice, and crowded conditions, local residents have taken to the streets their outrage and surrounded the barracks in protest over the (14) _____ conditions of the barracks. Matin describes the impact Napier had on him. Within days of getting there he contracted (15) _____.

<https://www.theguardian.com/news/audio/2021/feb/17/inside-napier-former-army-barracks-housing-asylum-seekers-podcast>