



Annual Report  
2024 – 25

# Bid

[www.biduk.org](http://www.biduk.org)

Bail for Immigration Detainees is an independent charity that exists to challenge immigration detention in the UK. We work with asylum seekers and migrants in removal centres and prisons to secure their release from detention.

**Bail for  
Immigration  
Detainees**

**“Somebody at Yarl’s Wood told my husband about BID. I quickly contacted them. Honestly, I cannot put into words how effective BID were, and how much they cared. Without any stigma, without any stereotype, without any kind of judgment, they did what they felt was right, which was to reunite the family. All the support they provided was free and they didn’t leave any stone unturned. I work full time in a school so BID even arranged a remote hearing for us, so I didn’t have to travel six hours there and back and wait all day. The barrister they provided was an expert in this field, and my husband was eventually released.”**

Client feedback, 2025

# Bail for Immigration Detainees

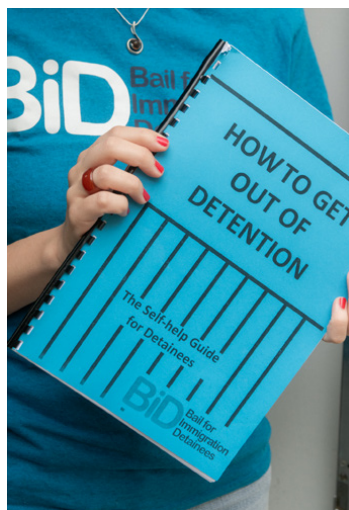


## What is immigration detention?

Immigration detention is the process of incarcerating individuals subject to immigration control in the UK either pending permission to enter the country or to await removal or deportation. It's an administrative, not a criminal, process, and powers to detain are exercised by officials acting on behalf of the Home Secretary. There are none of the safeguards that there should be when depriving someone of their liberty. First, the decision to detain an individual is neither approved by nor overseen by a court. Second, there is no automatic legal advice or representation. Third, there is no time limit. Given these three factors, people can be detained for weeks, months and even years. People can also be re-detained, but the Home Office treats these as separate periods of detention and does not count cumulative lengths of detention. Many people experience repeated periods of detention.

## What does BID do?

BID's vision is of a UK free of immigration detention, where people are not deprived of their liberty or deported from their home for immigration purposes. We aim to challenge immigration detention in the UK through the provision of legal advice, information and representation alongside research, policy advocacy and strategic litigation.



**"I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the exceptional support and dedication you have provided in securing my bail. Your expertise and commitment have been invaluable, and I truly appreciate all the effort you have put into my case."**

Client feedback, 2025

## Specifically, we:

- Run a telephone helpline four mornings a week to deliver legal advice and information
- Deliver legal advice sessions and workshops in detention centres and prisons
- Prepare, update and disseminate self-help materials on detention and deportation so that detainees have the tools to represent themselves if they don't have a lawyer
- Prepare applications for bail to be heard before the Tribunal through our Do it Yourself Project (DIY)
- Prepare bail applications and instruct pro-bono counsel through our Prisons Project, Separated Families Project & Right to Liberty Project (R2L)
- Represent clients with the assistance of pro bono counsel in their deportation appeals through our Article 8 Deportation & Appeals Project and our Revocation of Deportation Orders Project
- Supervise pro bono lawyers in commercial practice to make applications for legal aid under the Exceptional Case Funding scheme and once granted find legal aid lawyers to represent them
- Carry out research, gather evidence from casework, and prepare reports and briefings for civil servants, parliamentarians and the public about different aspects of immigration detention
- Refer cases to solicitors for unlawful detention actions
- Act as a third-party intervener, or provide evidence to the higher courts on detention policy and practice
- Raise awareness of immigration detention with the wider public

## Chair's Report

This has been a challenging year for Bail for Immigration Detainees (BID), marked by continued changes in immigration policy and sustained demand for our services. Although some policy directions shifted following the change of government in July 2024, immigration detention remains widely used, reinforcing the ongoing need for BID's work.

Trustees remained closely engaged throughout the year to ensure strong governance, effective risk management and organisational resilience. Particular attention was given to safeguarding staff, volunteers and clients following targeted harassment experienced during the year. Working alongside senior management, the Board supported measures to strengthen security, wellbeing and operational continuity.

Despite these challenges, BID continued to deliver significant impact in support of its charitable objectives. The organisation contributed to important legal and policy developments that strengthened safeguards for people in immigration detention, alongside maintaining vital frontline services. Trustees are proud of the organisation's ability to sustain high-quality work during a demanding period.

The Board also continued to monitor financial performance carefully. While the charity reported a modest deficit during the year, reserves remain within the agreed policy range, providing stability and supporting the charity's continued operations.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to thank BID's staff and volunteers for their professionalism, resilience and commitment, particularly during a period of heightened operational pressure. Particular thanks - together with a warm welcome - to our new Director, who joined mid-way through the reporting year and has hit the ground running and led the organisation through a difficult year. I would also like to thank our funders and supporters, whose continued support makes this work possible.

Looking ahead, trustees remain committed to supporting BID's strategic development and ensuring the organisation remains well governed, financially sustainable and able to deliver meaningful public benefit.

**Suhan Rajkumar,**  
**Chair of Trustees**

## Director's report

This has been my first year as Director of BID, and it has been both a privilege and a sobering introduction to the scale and urgency of our work. Every day, our staff and volunteers have stood alongside people who are isolated, frightened, and often unlawfully detained, ensuring they do not face the system alone.

Over the past year, I have seen a clear and growing need for BID's services. Immigration detention has expanded, including the reopening of sites such as Campsfield House, reversing earlier commitments to reduce its use. Independent inspections continue to confirm what we witness daily: systemic failures in safeguarding, healthcare, and the most basic protections of the rule of law.

Our Legal Advice Survey shows that access to legal representation fell to its lowest level since our records began. This is not simply a statistic; it reflects thousands of individuals unable to challenge their detention or removal, often with life-altering consequences.

Policy developments have further intensified demand. The UK government's 'one-in, one-out' agreement with France has resulted in people with a legal right to claim asylum being detained immediately upon arrival, frequently without access to information or legal advice. This has created sharp and urgent spikes in demand for BID's support at precisely the moment it is most needed.

**“BID gives you hope to carry on. Everyone I spoke to was assuring and factored in all the evidence. The judge had all the papers so the decision was accurate. It reaffirmed that it is a beautiful world with beautiful people.”**

Client feedback, 2025

This year has also brought unprecedented challenges for BID as an organisation. Following front-page coverage in the Telegraph in September, we experienced targeted online abuse, personalised attacks, and direct threats against our staff, volunteers, and clients. In order to ensure everyone's safety, we made the difficult decision to close our offices and temporarily pause frontline services-leaving many people in detention without support at a critical time. These incidents must be understood within the context of an increasingly polarised national debate on migration. Despite this, I have been deeply impressed by the strength and integrity of our team. Staff and volunteers responded with calm, courage, and compassion.

Staff supported one another, remained focused on our clients, and approached every decision with care and professionalism. Their resilience in the face of uncertainty has been extraordinary, and I am immensely proud of them.

In response to these challenges, BID is strengthening its infrastructure, security, and safeguarding measures, while placing a renewed emphasis on wellbeing and resilience across the organisation. To sustain this work, and to continue providing the high-quality, compassionate support that people in detention rely on, we will need ongoing support.

**Charlotte Buckley,**  
Director



# About BID

**“BID is very helpful as I didn’t know how to get bail. Good support during the hearing and made me feel more in control of life again as I didn’t know what to do.”**

Client feedback, 2025

**Bail for Immigration Detainees exists to strengthen justice for people subjected to the UK’s immigration detention system. We challenge the routine and racially discriminatory use of detention and work towards a society in which no one is deprived of their liberty for immigration purposes.**

Every person BID supports is affected by systemic racial inequality and injustice. They are detained under a legal framework with no statutory time limit, no automatic judicial oversight, and no guaranteed access to legal representation - conditions that fundamentally undermine the rule of law. Independent inspections and BID’s own long-running Legal Advice Survey show that access to legal advice in detention has collapsed, reaching its lowest recorded level in 2025, with only 36% of people in detention reporting they had a lawyer.

BID provides free, expert legal advice and representation to people held in immigration detention centres and prisons across the UK. We operate a national telephone advice line four days a week, deliver legal workshops inside detention centres and prisons, and provide trusted self-help materials that enable people to prepare and pursue their own bail applications. Where the risks are highest, we provide direct representation particularly for people in prison, parents separated from their children, individuals facing deportation, and exceptionally vulnerable clients whose liberty is at immediate risk.



# Achievements and performance

In this financial year, 2,170 people received individual legal support from BID, with hundreds more accessing our legal education materials. This included:

**9,699**

calls answered by our advice line

We responded to 312 queries via e-mail

**138**

grants of bail through direct representation

**458**

people attending legal workshops

**1,689**

people detained in prison

**703**

people with complex vulnerabilities

**16**

people supported to secure Exceptional Case Funding

**135**

asylum support applications were submitted

We provided free legal advice to 55 parents or carers separated from 85 children and 33% of the people we supported had at least one vulnerability recorded. 703 reported complex vulnerabilities

We provided a total of 1827 people with legal assistance in preparing their bail applications through our Self-Representation Scheme. We changed the model of support this year, increasing support for people to submit their own bail applications. We are not always informed of outcome by client

**409**

of the bail cases we worked on were heard

We provided deportation legal advice to 147 people and assisted 11 people to apply for exceptional case funding (ECF) for legal aid in deportation cases.

**80%**

Of these at least 13 were withdrawn and 329 were granted bail or bail in principle, an astonishing minimum success rate of 80%.



**“Despite administrative immigration detention being a last resort that should not be used unless people can be removed reasonably quickly, only around a third of detainees at each site were deported. Over half were released, often after avoidable and stressful periods of detention. At Harmondsworth, one man was detained for over two years (confirmed following publication of the inspection report) and at Brook House one man was held for over 500 days.”**

**HMIP, Annual Report 2024-2025, July 2025.**

## Access to Justice

**“Thank you for everything you have done for me and my family. I am in a much better mental space where I am now working and supporting my children.”**

Client feedback, 2025

Alongside frontline legal work, BID holds the government to account through strategic litigation, evidence-based advocacy, and legal education. Our work has contributed to landmark changes, including the end of child detention and the Detained Fast Track process. More recently, BID played a central role in challenging mass detention under the Rwanda policy: through our Rwanda Project, we secured bail for 100% of clients represented, many of whom have since been granted asylum and we went on to win the 2025 Sheila McKechnie Foundation National Campaigner Awards for Best Use of Law.

Small but mighty BID combines individual legal empowerment with systemic challenge - ensuring that access to justice is not theoretical, but real and enforceable for people the justice system routinely excludes.

**“BID made me feel in control a little more.”**

Client feedback, 2025

### ***“BID brought Dad home.”***

Just after Christmas, our family was devastated when my husband was detained and taken to Yarl's Wood Detention Centre. Our children had been expecting him home, and suddenly we were left frightened, confused, and without hope.

We contacted Bail for Immigration Detainees, and their support changed everything. They treated us with compassion and without judgment, providing expert legal support free of charge. They even arranged a remote hearing so I could continue working and caring for our children. Eventually, my husband was released and reunited with us.

When he was detained again the following year, the impact on our children was severe. They became anxious and distressed, constantly asking where their dad had gone. Once again, BID stepped in and fought for our family. His release brought enormous relief and joy to all of us.

I will never forget the compassion the BID team showed. They changed our children's lives and gave us back precious time together as a family.



# Our Impact: Defending Liberty, Driving Change

This year, BID continued to stand alongside people facing one of the most extreme forms of state power: immigration detention without a time limit. In a system where access to legal advice has reached historic lows, our work ensured that thousands of people were able to understand, exercise, and enforce their rights.

At its core, BID's work is about liberty - helping people secure their release from detention - and about accountability ensuring the law is upheld where it is too often ignored.

At an individual level, our work ensures that people in detention, many of whom have no access to legal representation, can understand and enforce their rights. Through legal advice, self-representation support, and accessible legal education, we enable people to challenge their detention, secure accommodation, and apply for release on bail. For many, this is the only route to justice. The impact is transformative: people leave detention not only with their liberty restored, but with greater confidence, knowledge, and resilience in navigating a system that is often opaque and disempowering.

## Unlocking Access to Justice

For many people in detention, BID is the only source of legal support available.

This year:

- We responded to over 9699 calls for support through our advice line and email service.
- We provided free legal advice to 1827 people through our Self-Representation project.
- We supported 236 bail applications, with 298 people securing their release.

Behind each of these numbers is someone navigating a complex legal system alone.

Through clear advice, practical tools, and hands-on support, we enabled people to advocate for themselves for the first time.



**“It is deeply troubling that the UK government plans to continue with previously held plans to re-open Campsfield House and Haslar IRCs in the face of years of evidence of the harm caused by detention - not least within these same centres. It should give pause for thought as to what further evidence is needed. Human conscience should be enough to tell us that the practice of detention - a practice which requires the use of nets to mitigate the risk of suicide and which legitimises the use of force - is wrong.”**

Miranda Reilly, AVID co-director, in response to Home Office plans to re-open two detention centres, September 2024

“The advice that BID provided was very helpful. There were a lot of support evidence to understand my case. Everything was just very good. All assistance was five star. I felt that I am protected and safe.”



## Securing release

Where the stakes are highest, BID provides full legal representation. Over the year, we worked with 703 individuals who presented with complex vulnerabilities.

Through our Right to Liberty Project, we prioritised people who had been detained the longest or were particularly vulnerable. Of the **30 cases heard**, **23** resulted in bail being granted.

Our Prisons Project addressed the growing number of people detained under immigration powers after completing criminal sentences—often in conditions of near-isolation. We:

- Were able to close the files for 230 people who had been held in prisons and transferred to an Immigration removal Centre
- We provided full representation to 39 individuals at their bail hearing with 36 being granted bail
- Secured release in 92 % of cases heard.

These outcomes reflect a consistent reality: many people are detained when removal is not imminent and detention is not lawful. BID's work ensures those cases are challenged.

“A longstanding and fundamental problem was that all immigration detainees at Brook House, who should be held in relaxed conditions with minima restrictions, were instead in an institution that looked and felt like a prison. Despite being below its capacity, the centre continued to feel crowded and simply did not have enough space or experienced staff to manage an increasingly vulnerable population.”

HMIP, Brook House IRC  
Inspection Report,  
November 2024

## Reuniting families

Immigration detention separates parents from their children, often for prolonged periods. Through our Separated Families Project, we:

- Advised **194 parents** separated from **403 children**
- Represented **22 parents**, securing **29 successful** bail outcomes, impacting **59 children**

These cases highlight both the human cost of detention and the critical role of legal intervention in restoring family life.

**Separated  
Families  
Project**  
**BiD**

# Our Impact: Defending Liberty, Driving Change

## Challenging deportation and expanding legal access

Through our Deportation Advice Project, we supported people facing removal from the UK, many of whom had deep family and community ties in this country.

We also helped individuals secure Exceptional Case Funding (ECF), enabling access to legal aid in complex cases where they would otherwise have been ineligible. 94% of BID-supported ECF applications were granted. However, ongoing pressures across the immigration legal aid sector meant that many people still struggled to find representation, even after funding had been approved.

17 Exceptional Case Funding applications were submitted, with 16 granted. These approvals enabled people with particularly complex cases to access legal aid funding that would not otherwise have been available to them. However, only 33% were ultimately able to secure legal representation, reflecting the continuing shortage of legal aid capacity and available immigration advice services.

## From individual cases to systemic change

BID uses the law not only to secure release, but to challenge the systems that enable unlawful detention.

Beyond individual cases, BID's work exposes where the system is failing. Our casework consistently reveals patterns of unlawful and prolonged detention, where people remain detained after serving criminal sentences, or where administrative barriers prevent release even after bail is granted. We translate these patterns into legal challenges, expert evidence, and policy interventions, ensuring that the law operates as a constraint on state power, not a mechanism of harm.

Our casework identifies patterns of injustice which we translate into legal challenges, policy interventions, and strategic litigation. Our work has contributed to important legal developments, strengthening safeguards and reinforcing limits on state power.

This year, our policy engagement also helped secure government clarification on access to accommodation for people on immigration bail - preventing unnecessary and prolonged detention.

BID plays a direct role in shaping how the law is interpreted and applied. Through strategic litigation in the High Court, Supreme Court, and European Court of Human Rights, we have helped strengthen safeguards around detention, improve disclosure obligations, and reinforce limits on detention where removal is not feasible.

Our impact extends beyond the courtroom. Following a restrictive legal interpretation that risked leaving people detained solely because they lacked a confirmed address, BID worked with parliamentarians to advocate for change. While legislative amendment was not adopted, our engagement secured a critical policy clarification: individuals can access accommodation support where an address is yet to be specified. This ensures that people are not held in detention unnecessarily due to administrative delays.

Our Rwanda Project exemplified this dual approach. Working in partnership with leading law firms, BID secured bail for all 21 individuals detained under the policy – a 100% success rate – while contributing evidence that supported wider legal challenges and ultimately the policy's abandonment. We went on to win the 2025 Sheila McKechnie Foundation National Campaigner Awards for Best Use of Law,



**“I suffer from more scrutiny in public, the police stop me, people stare, they think I must have committed a grievous crime for me to put on GPS tag. Obviously, I’m a Black male with a monitor on my ankle, the stereotype is just flashing before everyone’s eyes.”**

BID client with a GPS tag, in open letter to SERCO, October 2024



BID's Rwanda Project Wins Best Use of Law at Sheila McKechnie Foundation Awards

## Lived experience and accountability to communities

Accountability to the communities we serve remains central to BID's approach. We understand accountability not solely as consultation, but as a meaningful shift in power, ensuring that people with lived experience of immigration detention are able to influence and shape our work.

Through our casework, we support individuals to develop legal understanding and confidence, enabling them not only to secure their release from detention but also to

engage more widely in advocacy and reform. A number of former clients have continued their involvement with BID by contributing as trained spokespeople, researchers, and advocates, helping to inform public debate and policy discussions.

For example, one former client ('Malachi') joined BID's trained spokesperson network after receiving support from the organisation. He went on to co-produce a national campaign highlighting the human impact of immigration detention, bringing these issues to a wider public audience. His contributions included a publicly performed poem and participation in an award-winning documentary,

demonstrating the value of lived experience in strengthening public understanding of the realities of detention.

During the financial year, BID secured dedicated funding to establish a Participation Officer role to further strengthen our lived experience work. Recruitment to this post took place in the subsequent financial year, enabling the organisation to expand structured opportunities for people with lived experience to contribute to BID's activities.

We have also begun formalising this work through the development of a Lived Experience Advisory Group. This initiative is intended to ensure that individuals directly affected by detention have meaningful opportunities to inform BID's strategic priorities, service development, and future direction.

**Lived  
Experience  
Advisory  
Group**

**BiD**

# Our Impact: Defending Liberty, Driving Change

## A system under strain and the need for change

BID operates within an increasingly challenging environment. Immigration detention in the UK remains indefinite, while access to legal aid has significantly declined, leaving many people without any meaningful access to justice. At the same time, detention is expanding and public discourse has become more hostile.

In 2025, BID itself faced targeted harassment following national media coverage, forcing the temporary suspension of frontline services. These events underscore the risks associated with defending legal accountability in the current climate.

Despite this, BID remains uniquely positioned. By combining frontline legal support with strategic litigation, research, and policy advocacy, we are able to identify systemic failures, amplify lived experience, and intervene where legal standards still matter.

Our recent research into the impact of parental deportation on children—launched in Parliament and shaped by those directly affected—demonstrates how legal evidence, lived experience, and advocacy can come together to influence policy at the highest levels.

## Looking Ahead

**Demand for BID's services continues to grow. As detention expands and access to legal advice shrinks, our role is more critical than ever.**

**By combining legal expertise, lived experience, and strategic action, BID will continue to:**

- Secure freedom for individuals
- Reunite families
- Challenge unlawful detention
- Strengthen accountability across the system

**At a time when access to justice is under threat, BID ensures that the rule of law remains meaningful for those most excluded from it. Liberty should never depend on whether someone can access a lawyer.**



# Policy and Strategic Impact Work

August 2024 – July 2025

During the reporting period, BID continued to deliver policy, legal and evidence-based work designed to improve safeguards in immigration detention, reduce unnecessary detention, and promote access to justice. This work complemented BID's direct casework services by addressing systemic barriers affecting large numbers of detained people.

BID's policy approach combines casework evidence, legal interventions, parliamentary engagement and partnership working to support lawful and fair decision-making within the immigration system.



## Strategic Litigation and Legal Interventions

During the reporting period, BID supported several strategic legal challenges addressing systemic barriers to release from detention.

BID provided witness evidence in litigation concerning access to post-bail accommodation (HP & MA v Secretary of State for the Home Department). In 2025, the Home Office accepted that between January 2018 and August 2024 it had operated an unlawful policy that prevented certain eligible individuals from being considered for emergency accommodation. This resulted in avoidable detention in some cases. A consent order was agreed, clarifying the requirement to consider eligibility for accommodation.

BID also supported litigation concerning accommodation suitability for vulnerable individuals (BLZ v Secretary of State for the Home Department). This work contributed to strengthened legal arguments regarding the need for appropriate arrangements when releasing vulnerable adults.

In addition, BID was granted permission to intervene before the European Court of Human Rights in A.S.K. v United Kingdom. BID's intervention addresses the

lawfulness of continued detention following a grant of bail where release is delayed due to accommodation availability. A decision remains pending at the end of the reporting period.

These legal interventions contributed to clarifying legal standards governing detention and release, improving safeguards for individuals affected by immigration detention.

**“Inspectors found that many of the long-standing concerns about policy and practice, especially in respect of initial age decisions, remain unanswered, and for small boat arrivals some of these concerns had increased. Yet there was a surprising lack of curiosity about decisions that were subsequently disputed and overturned, and a prevailing view that there was no learning to take from these later assessments as the processes were too dissimilar.”**

David Bolt, Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, Inspection of the Home Office's use of age assessments, July 2025

# Policy and Strategic Impact Work

August 2024 – July 2025

## Improving Transparency Through Freedom of Information Litigation

BID successfully challenged the refusal to disclose information relating to travel document processes (BID v Information Commissioner [2024] UKFTT 00714 (GRC)).

The Tribunal issued a strongly favourable judgment recognising the public interest in disclosure of information relevant to immigration detention decision-making. The requested information was subsequently released.

Improved transparency supports lawful decision-making and strengthens the ability of legal representatives and tribunals to assess whether detention remains justified.

## Influencing Operational Decision-Making on Bail

BID continued engagement with Home Office officials and stakeholder groups to improve bail decision-making processes.

During the reporting period, Home Office grants of bail increased significantly. Recorded grants rose from 5,280 in 2023 to 5,633 in 2024 and 7,686 in 2025.

**Over the same period, First-tier Tribunal bail grants declined from 4,612 in 2023 to 4,910 in 2024 and 3,942 in 2025.**

While causation cannot be attributed to any single intervention, this trend suggests improved administrative decision-making, resulting in fewer individuals needing to pursue tribunal bail applications.

Improved decision-making supports earlier release where detention is not necessary and reduces pressure on tribunal resources.

BID also worked collaboratively with partner organisations to produce joint briefings and coordinate responses to policy developments. This collaborative work improved efficiency and strengthened the collective evidence base used by policymakers.



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**“BID is very helpful as I didn’t know how to get bail. Good support during the hearing and made me feel more in control of life again as I didn’t know what to do.”**

BID client

## Improving Access to Legal Advice in Detention

BID undertook three research surveys examining access to legal advice for people in immigration detention.

Survey findings were submitted to the Legal Aid Agency and used to inform parliamentary briefings and stakeholder engagement. The findings highlighted ongoing gaps in access to legal advice.

This work contributed to increased recognition among policymakers of barriers to accessing legal representation within detention settings.

Access to legal advice is an essential safeguard supporting fair legal processes and protecting individuals’ rights.

## Engagement with International and Oversight Mechanisms

During the reporting period, BID provided casework evidence to international oversight bodies in relation to cross-border detention arrangements.

Evidence was submitted to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants. This contributed to the issuance of a formal allegation letter to UK and French authorities.



BID also monitored operational impacts of bilateral arrangements and maintained engagement with Home Office officials regarding access to legal advice.

International scrutiny supports transparency, accountability and compliance with human rights standards.



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**“To claim the UK risks becoming ‘an island of strangers’ while deliberately fuelling division and setting communities against each other is not just hypocritical – it’s reckless and dangerous. By echoing the rhetoric of Enoch Powell, the Prime Minister risks inciting racial tension and violence. Across the UK, people are organising against division, resisting, and standing up for justice, solidarity, and welcome. That is the country we believe in – and that is the future we are fighting for.”**

BID’s Head of Policy and Strategic Litigation, in response to Immigration White Paper, May 2025

# Policy and Strategic Impact Work

August 2024 – July 2025

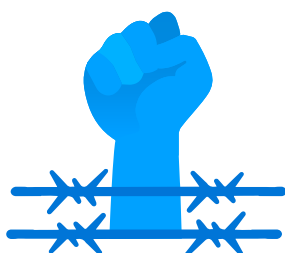
## Operational Improvements Through Tribunal Engagement

BID made formal submissions to the President of the First-tier Tribunal addressing operational delays affecting release from detention. These submissions addressed:

- delays linked to electronic monitoring processes; and
- the timing of bail hearings relative to conditional release dates.

During the reporting period, tribunal leadership confirmed that bail applications may be listed ahead of conditional release dates. Concerns regarding release delays were also escalated to the Home Office.

These operational clarifications reduce the risk of unnecessary continued detention.



## Research and Evidence on Children and Families

BID contributed casework evidence to the Raising Children report, produced in partnership with academic institutions and specialist organisations.

BID supported the development of recommendations and facilitated engagement with policymakers, regulators and oversight bodies following publication.

The report increased awareness of the impact of immigration processes on children and family relationships. Officials indicated interest in further examination of these issues.

In addition, BID supported an academic research partnership examining the long-term impacts of parental deportation on children and families. Research activity commenced during the reporting period.

**Strengthening the evidence base supports improved decision-making affecting children's welfare.**

## Engagement with regulatory and policy frameworks

BID engaged with consultations relating to Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) regulatory fee proposals.



Following sector engagement, implementation of the proposed fee structure was suspended during the reporting period.

BID also contributed responses to consultations on Detention Service Orders, addressing safeguarding procedures, escort arrangements, use of force policies and health-related protocols.

Participation in regulatory consultation processes supports the development of safe and lawful operational standards.

# Public Benefit and Long-Term Impact

The work described above supports BID’s charitable objectives by addressing systemic barriers affecting individuals held in immigration detention.

Key outcomes achieved during the reporting period include:

|                                                                                           |                                                                                    |                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>clarification of legal obligations relating to post-bail accommodation eligibility</b> | <b>improved transparency through successful information disclosure litigation;</b> | <b>strengthened safeguards through tribunal operational changes</b>                                |
| <b>enhanced parliamentary and regulatory scrutiny of detention practices</b>              | <b>increased recognition of gaps in legal advice provision within detention</b>    | <b>strengthened evidence relating to the welfare of children affected by immigration processes</b> |

Several areas of work remain ongoing at the end of the reporting period, including litigation before the European Court of Human Rights and continued monitoring of cross-border detention arrangements.

Trustees consider that this work has delivered meaningful public benefit by improving fairness, accountability and legal safeguards affecting people subject to immigration detention.



## A round up of the year

### August

[BiD crowdfunds £13,000](#) to challenge unjust detentions under the Rwanda policy.

### September

Our [prison](#) and [IRC Legal Advice Surveys](#) find low levels of legal representation and multiple barriers to accessing immigration legal advice whilst being detained.

### October

Actor Fehinti Balogun reads '[A letter to Serco: Spoken Word Poem](#)' by our former client Michael (pseudonym used.)

### November

["I was lucky to survive Brook House immigration centre"](#) Our former client's letter responding to a death at Brook House IRC is published in *the Guardian*.

### December

[BiD takes part in the Big Give](#), doubling donations for the week. Raising £15,000 for our advice line. And, our film about GPS tagging is selected for London Lift Off Film Festival.

### January

[Annie Campbell steps down](#) as director and Charlotte Buckley begins in the role.

### February

BiD launches a [Valentine's Day campaign](#) to end automatic deportation in the UK. We took to the streets to find out what the public think about this heartless policy.

### March

Our [Legal Advice Survey](#) shows people in detention experience persistent challenges and barriers when seeking legal advice and representation.

### April

The Coalition for Asylum Rights and Justice (CARJ), of which BiD is a member, [publish a briefing on the Border Security, Asylum and Immigration Bill](#).

### May

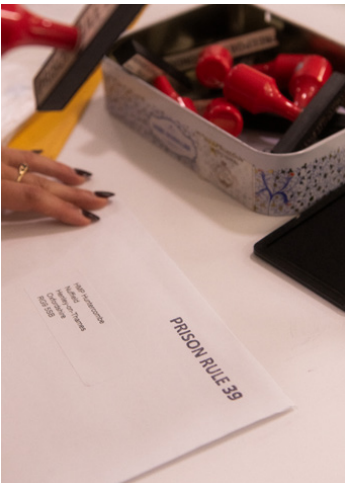
BiD's [Hackney Half Heroes](#) raise over £11,000 for our advice line.

### June

[BiD's Rwanda Project Wins Best Use of Law](#) at Sheila McKechnie Foundation Awards.

### July

Prisons inspector annual report sounds alarm about '[Worst ever](#)' conditions in immigration detention.



# Financial Information

For the year ended 31 July 2025



## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2025

|                                                                | Unrestricted<br>funds<br>2025<br>£ | Restricted<br>funds<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2025<br>£ | Total<br>2024<br>£ |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Income from:</b>                                            |                                    |                                  |                    |                    |
| Donations and legacies                                         | 562,026                            | -                                | 562,026            | 574,782            |
| Charitable activities                                          | -                                  | 136,634                          | 136,634            | 157,300            |
| Investments                                                    | 14,919                             | -                                | 14,919             | 14,801             |
| <b>Total income</b>                                            | <b>576,945</b>                     | <b>136,634</b>                   | <b>713,579</b>     | <b>746,883</b>     |
| <b>Expenditure on:</b>                                         |                                    |                                  |                    |                    |
| Raising funds                                                  | 50,177                             | -                                | 50,177             | 54,460             |
| Charitable activities                                          | 583,271                            | 136,634                          | 719,905            | 692,870            |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                                       | <b>633,448</b>                     | <b>136,634</b>                   | <b>770,082</b>     | <b>747,330</b>     |
| <b>Net expenditure for the year/<br/>Net movement in funds</b> | <b>(56,503)</b>                    | <b>-</b>                         | <b>(56,503)</b>    | <b>(447)</b>       |
| Fund balances at 1 August 2024                                 | 440,675                            | -                                | 440,675            | 441,122            |
| <b>Fund balances at 31 July 2025</b>                           | <b>384,172</b>                     | <b>-</b>                         | <b>384,172</b>     | <b>440,675</b>     |

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 JULY 2025

|                                                           | 2025            |                | 2024             |                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|
|                                                           | £               | £              | £                | £              |
| <b>Fixed assets</b>                                       |                 | 1,631          |                  |                |
| Tangible assets                                           |                 |                |                  |                |
| <b>Current assets</b>                                     | 20,901          |                | 16,028           |                |
| Debtors                                                   | 434,195         |                | 539,961          |                |
| Cash at bank and in hand                                  |                 |                |                  |                |
|                                                           | 455,096         |                | 555,989          |                |
| <b>Creditors: amounts falling due within<br/>one year</b> | <b>(72,555)</b> |                | <b>(118,912)</b> |                |
| Net current assets                                        |                 | 382,541        |                  | 437,077        |
| <b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>              |                 | <b>384,172</b> |                  | <b>440,675</b> |
| <b>Income funds</b>                                       |                 | 384,172        |                  | 440,675        |
| Unrestricted funds                                        |                 | 384,172        |                  | 440,675        |

The trustees have prepared accounts in accordance with section 398 of the Companies Act 2006 and section 138 of the Charities Act 2011. These accounts are prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act relating to small companies and constitute the annual accounts required by the Companies Act 2006 and are for circulation to members of the company.



**“Your assistance was instrumental in securing my bail, and I truly appreciate the effort and care you put into helping me during this challenging time. I wanted to take a moment to personally thank you for your patience, professionalism, and unwavering support. It has been a pleasure working with you, and I will always remain grateful for your help and guidance.”**

Client feedback, 2025



**“I am writing to express my deepest gratitude for the incredible support and assistance you have provided to my son. Thanks to your tireless efforts, he was released yesterday and has been able to move back to his apartment. He is now working closely with his probation officer and the council to ensure a smooth transition. I am truly humbled by the way your team has taken care of him throughout this challenging time. Without your dedication and expertise, I am certain that he would still be in prison. Your work has made a profound difference in our lives, and for that, I am eternally grateful.”**

Client feedback, 2025



**“I am deeply grateful for the care and assistance you provided me during my stay at the IRC. Your professionalism, dedication, and efficient responses left a lasting impression on me.”**

Client feedback, 2025



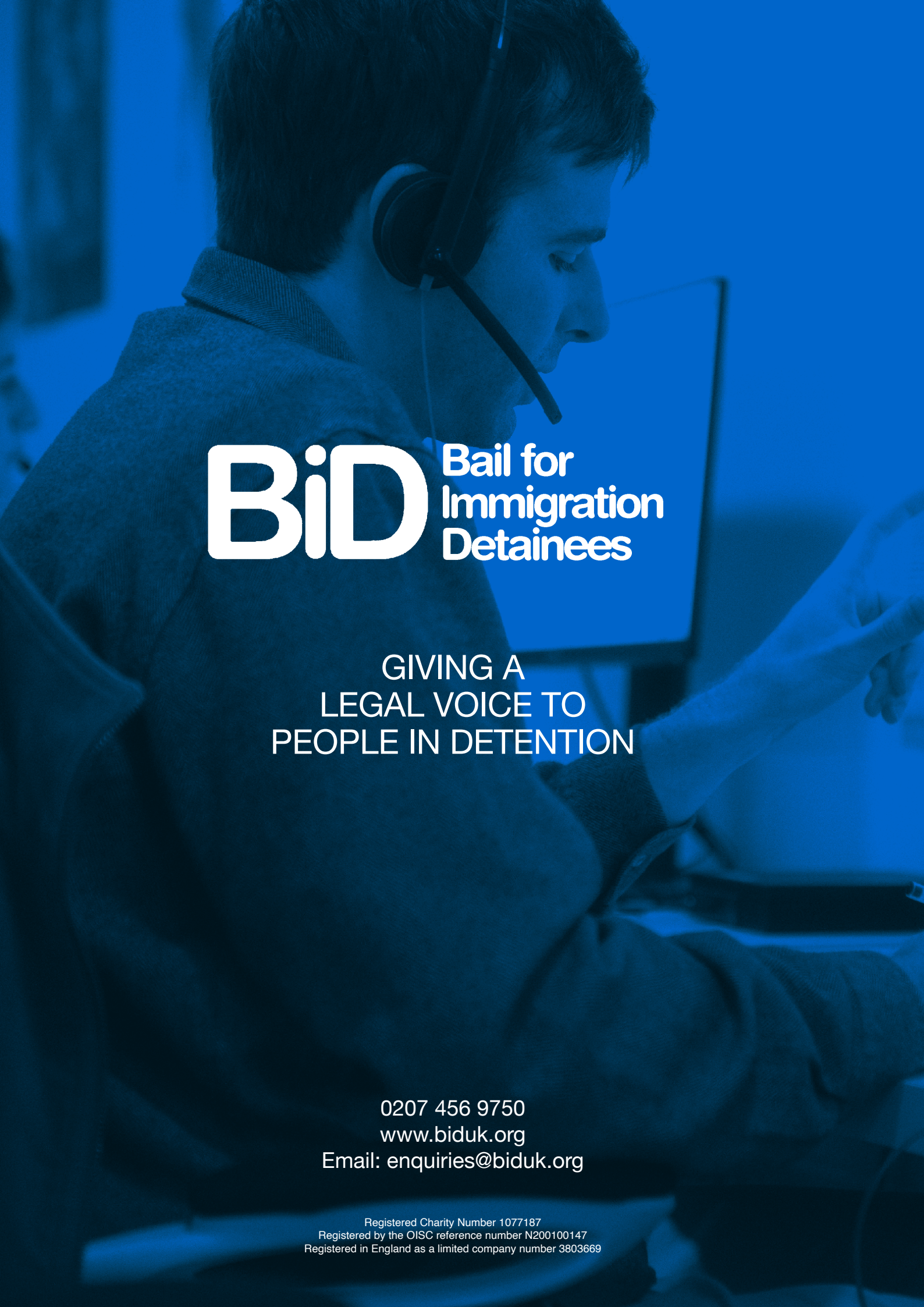
**“This change flies in the face of reason. The British public want refugees who have been given safety in our country to integrate into and contribute to their new communities, so it makes no sense for the Government to erect more barriers. We know that men women and children who are refugees want to feel part of the country that has given them a home, and support to rebuild their lives. So many refugees over many generations have become proud hard-working British citizens as doctors, entrepreneurs and other professionals. Becoming a British citizen has helped them give back to their communities and this should be celebrated, not prevented.”**

Enver Solomon, Refugee Council CEO, in response to Home Office guidance preventing refugees from being granted citizenship if they arrived by boat, February 2025

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**A huge thank you to BID's staff, volunteers, trustees, funders, barristers, solicitors, chambers, and supporters. None of this would have been possible without your dedication and support.**





# **BiD** Bail for Immigration Detainees

GIVING A  
LEGAL VOICE TO  
PEOPLE IN DETENTION

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