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Dear Sirs,

I am seeking clarification and immediate investigation into the current operational use of the Bell Hotel, High Street, Epping.

The property is understood to fall under planning Use Class \*\*C1 (Hotel/Guest Accommodation)\*\*. However, the premises appears to have been repurposed for \*\*semi-permanent housing of asylum seekers\*\*, raising concerns over a \*\*material change of use\*\* outside permitted planning classification.

Please confirm the following:

1. Whether any \*\*application for change of use\*\* has been submitted or granted for the Bell Hotel.
2. Whether the premises is still formally classified as \*\*C1\*\*, and if so:
  - Has the council assessed whether the current use aligns with this classification?
  - Has any investigation or enforcement action been initiated?
3. Whether any \*\*planning permissions\*\*, licensing amendments or environmental compliance notices have been issued in relation to:
  - The property's use as asylum accommodation
  - Its operational or occupancy changes since [insert relevant date range]
4. Whether any agreements, contracts, or consultations have occurred with the \*\*Home Office\*\*, or its subcontractors, regarding the use of this site for migrant or asylum housing.

I reserve the right to escalate this matter via formal complaint and press for enforcement under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 should unlawful use be confirmed.

I request a response within the statutory timeframe and prefer electronic correspondence.

Yours faithfully,  
Andrew  
JAOC

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