

Holding Power to Account – Glossary

The Caribbean: an area off the coast of North America that includes the Caribbean Sea. The area has many island countries, including Jamaica, Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, and the Bahamas.



Detention Centre: a place where people are taken to wait for a decision to be made about their rights. In the case of the Windrush Scandal, Paulette Wilson is taken to a detention centre while the Home Office decided if she was allowed to stay in the country. People in detention centres are not usually allowed to leave until the decision is made.



Hold power to account: to force people in powerful positions to explain their actions, usually because people think their actions are wrong.

Home Office: this is the part of the government that is in charge of policing and deciding what and who comes in and out of the country (this can be called Border or Immigration Control).

Home Secretary: this is the Member of Parliament that the Prime Minister chooses to be in charge of the Home Office. At the time of the Windrush Scandal, the Home Secretary was Amber Rudd.

Journalism: the process of researching and writing or presenting stories for a newspaper, radio or television programme, or news website.

Power: the ability to influence the way other people behave or what they are able to do.

Windrush generation: a group of people that came to the UK from the Caribbean between the late 1940s and early 1970s. The name comes from one of the largest of the boats that people sailed across on, the Empire Windrush.

