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UK Migrant-Hotel Protests as Farage Targets Deportations

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— *Categories: Breaking News*

Protests occurred across multiple cities in the United Kingdom this weekend in response to the use of hotels to accommodate asylum seekers. The demonstrations coincided with Reform UK leader Nigel Farage's announcement of a new immigration plan.

Protesters gathered under the "Abolish Asylum System" banner in Bristol, Liverpool, Horley, Aberdeen, Newcastle, and Cardiff. In Bristol, mounted police were deployed to Castle Park to manage tensions between opposing groups. In Horley, around 200 protesters opposing immigration confronted approximately 50 counter-protesters supporting refugee rights. Authorities issued dispersal orders in several locations, which remained active through Sunday morning.

In Liverpool, police arrested 11 individuals during protests linked to UKIP and a separate counter-demonstration in the city centre. Superintendent Karl Baldwin stated that most demonstrations were peaceful and lawful. Arrests were made for public order offences and assault, and he highlighted the difficulty of balancing the right to protest with public safety.

Farage unveiled his "Operation Restoring Justice" plan, which proposes daily deportation flights, new detention centres at former RAF bases, and a six-month voluntary return programme offering financial incentives. The plan also calls for the UK's withdrawal from the European Convention on Human Rights. Farage estimates the programme would cost £10 billion over five years while saving £7 billion in asylum support expenditure.

Some demonstrations have reportedly involved members of Homeland, a splinter group from Patriotic Alternative, who have organised protests outside UK hotels housing asylum

seekers. Local authorities and police continue to monitor these events to ensure safety and public order.

The unrest follows a recent High Court ruling ordering the removal of asylum seekers from the Bell Hotel in Epping by mid-September. The Home Office is appealing the decision, and several local councils are seeking legal measures to prevent the use of hotels for migrant accommodation.

As the bank holiday weekend continues, police remain on heightened alert, particularly in cities that have experienced previous clashes. Observers note that tensions over immigration and asylum policy remain a recurring flashpoint in the UK, with protests often reflecting broader public debate on government policies.

Background context shows that the UK has increasingly relied on temporary hotel accommodation to house asylum seekers, a practice that has drawn criticism from local councils and campaign groups. These protests form part of wider national discussions on immigration management, public spending, and community relations.

Authorities have urged residents and protesters to remain peaceful and comply with police instructions. Council officials emphasised that all parties have the right to express views lawfully, but public safety and order remain the priority.

The demonstrations and Farage's immigration proposals are likely to remain in the news in the coming weeks as debates continue over the future of asylum policies and migrant accommodation in the UK.