<u>Afghans Data breach 'shocking and horrifying' say Greens</u>

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Reacting to news that thousands of Afghans have moved to the UK under a secret scheme which was set up <u>after a British official inadvertently leaked their data</u>, Ellie Chowns, MP for North Herefordshire and Green Party spokesperson for foreign affairs, said:

"It is nothing short of horrifying that a British security breach exposed the personal details of thousands of Afghans who risked everything to stand alongside our forces, leaving them and their families exposed to persecution, torture, or worse at the hands of the Taliban.

"It's truly shocking that proper data protection practices were not in place to prevent such a dangerous event. And though the government has assured Parliament that action has been taken to prevent such a leak from happening again, this does not negate the great danger posed to thousands through sheer carelessness.

"This breach should never have happened. Yet, in the face of this appalling mistake, it is absolutely right that the government acted decisively to bring those exposed to safety in the UK. These courageous people stood by us at great personal peril and put their trust in the government to not expose them to more risk; the UK owes them nothing less than safe refuge and a chance to rebuild their lives in security and dignity in Britain."

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