

68% of all asylum seekers wait longer than six months for a decision.

51% of refugees are accepted on appeal.

Small boat arrivals account for **45%** of the total number of people claiming asylum in the UK, meaning others will be taking far more dangerous routes.

231,597 refugees, 127,421 pending asylum cases, 5,483 stateless persons in the UK. **44%** increase than last year.

"WE JUST WANTED BETTER LETTERS."



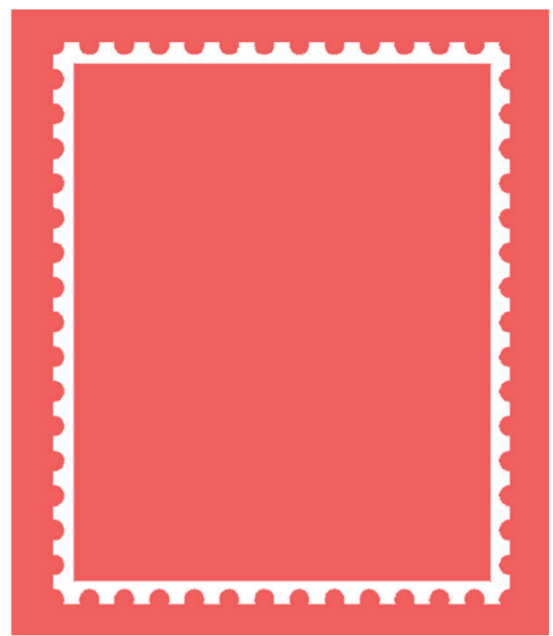
Imagine a world where your biggest desire is a letter stating you have received Refugee status but all you receive is rejection after rejection.

For some people that is their world. For some people that is what keeps them up at night. For some people they are consumed with fear every single day.

'The Better Letter Box' is a space trying to alleviate these feelings and make sure that Refugees and Asylum Seekers are not alone.

Human fundamental rights are not an accessory to a person, they are an **essential** for all.

The Better Letter Box.



Syrian Refugee Children – Running Away From War, Death & Starvation (2016)



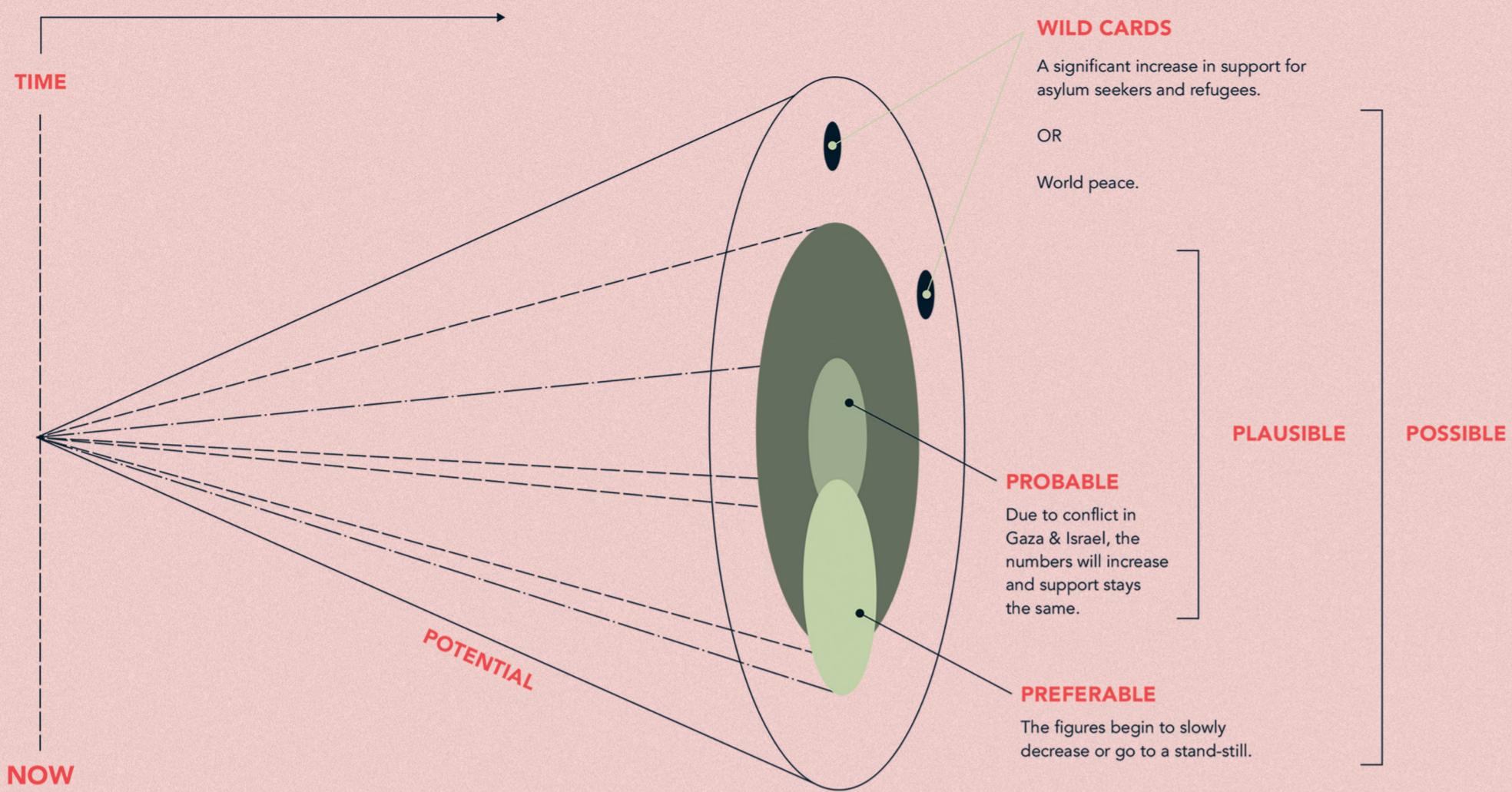
THE WAREHOUSE: 12 Lloyd St, M2 5ND

Lloyd's House sits in the Northwest corner of Albert Square where Southmill Street meets Lloyd Street and Jacksons Row. It was the Manchester Shipping Office and Packing Company.

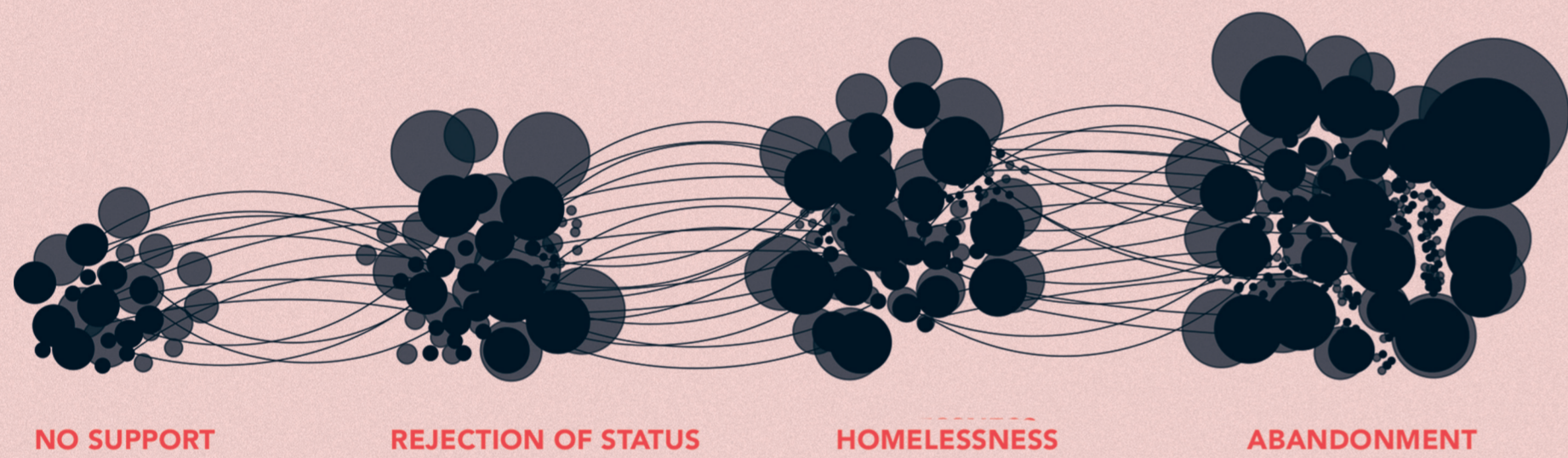
Therefore the history of it being a shipping and packing office led to the concept of the space.

The concept of the building is a post box, which usually relates to letters being sent to different places, which would have taken place in the past in this building. But now, this is a 'fixed post box' where the protagonists are the letters and **the aim is to ensure that those who have experienced displacement feel delivered to safety rather than left adrift.**

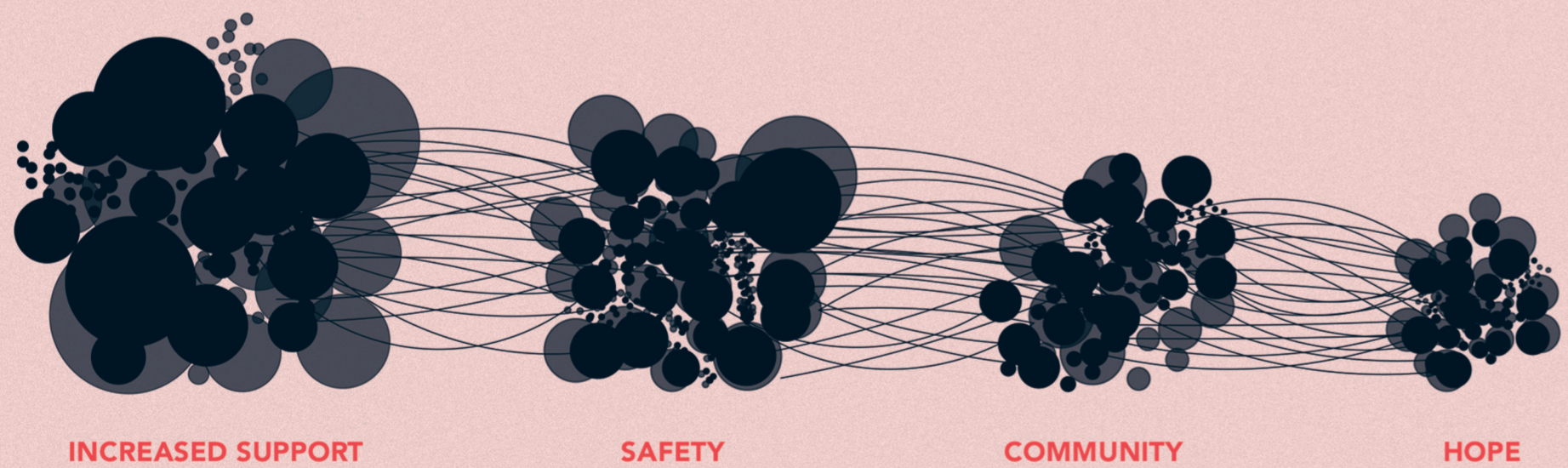




231,597 refugees, 127,421 pending asylum cases, 5,483 stateless persons in the UK.
44% increase than last year.



Increase in problems



Decrease in problems

The Better Letter Box's foundations are built on providing social justice and fair and equal opportunities for all. By predicting the future, The Better Letter Box can provide dignified human rights for all.

Protagonists.



This is Azim, he has just received refugee status and in 28 days his asylum seeker support will cease. He is concerned as to what is to happen next as he is awaiting to be allocated a home as a new refugee. He is currently living in a hotel which is for asylum seekers only. He is worried about his finances as he is currently living on $\pounds 84$ a day and no one has spoken to him about budgeting. His English is limited and he would benefit from further support as he is not in the UK with his family.



Camilla has arrived to the UK with her husband and two children, one aged 6 and one aged 12. Camilla is currently seeking asylum in the UK after fleeing conflict in El Salvador. Camilla has been waiting for a decision on their status for 4 months, it is likely it could take up to 6 months. She has started to become anxious due to this and living in one hotel room with three other people has started to take its toll on her well-being. Camilla has the most progressive English and is struggling that she has to make communication on her own and would like to seek further emotional and practical help for themselves.

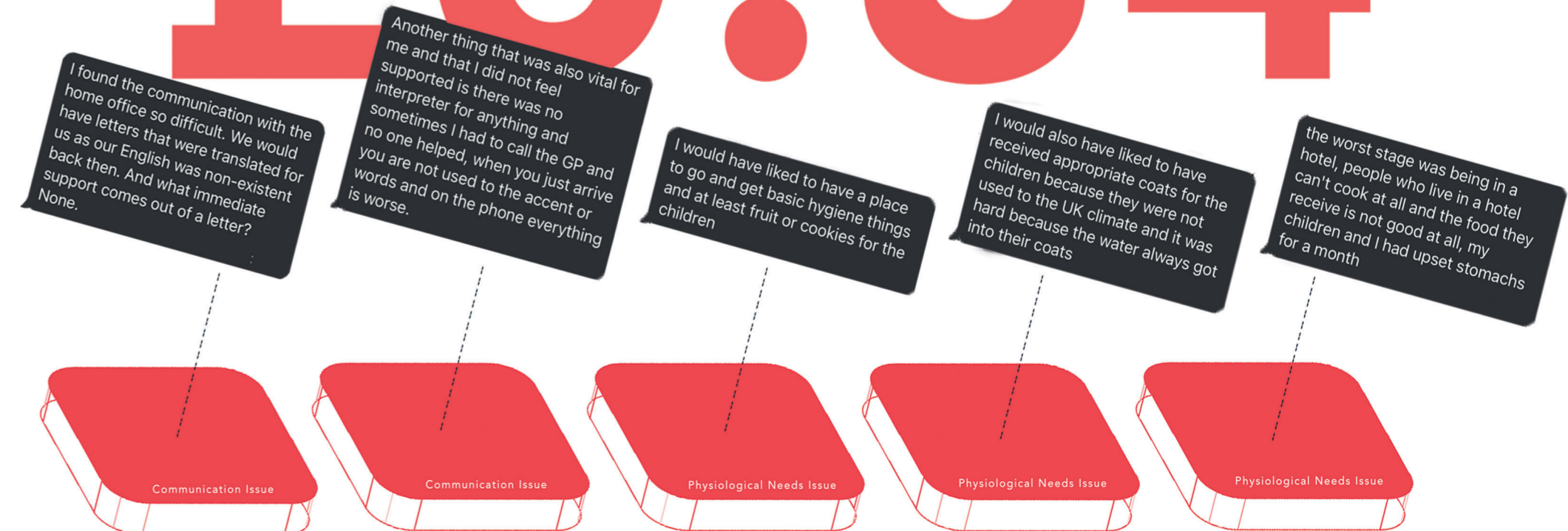


Meet Julianna, she is one of the case-workers working within this space. She will help to provide financial and psychological support to those who want it. She can also assist practically whether it be a reference for a job, a university application, discussions around housing, anything that an individual is struggling with, the specialist team that are in-house will be able to assist. Julianna will also be a friend as many asylum seekers and refugees may feel abandoned and we want them to know that they matter and that we will be there for them.

Protagonist's Needs.

Cash support is available, and is currently set at $\pounds 40.85$ per person, per week making it:

£5.84
a day for food, sanitation and clothing.



Referring back to Maslow's hierarchy of needs; the protagonist cannot progress without the base of physiological needs.



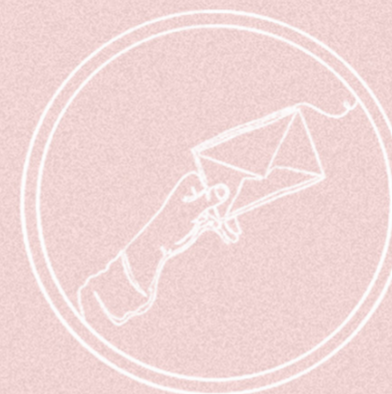
1 The protagonist visits 'The Better Letter Box' and requests support.



2 The case worker conducts an informal assessment with the protagonist to find the best ways to offer them support.

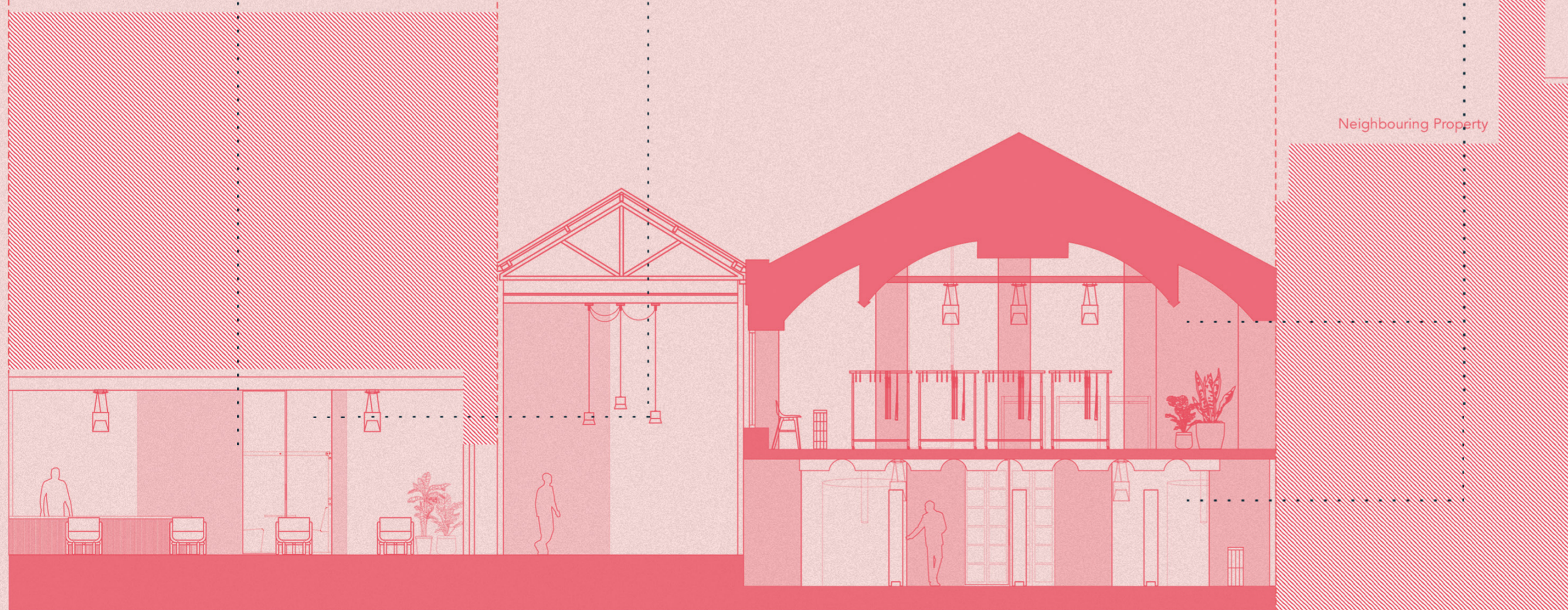


3 Then the case worker explains what beneficial support they can offer them and it is given to them for as long as they need it or want it.



4 The protagonist then receives the support that they want and are received with open ears, rather than feeling left adrift.

Neighbouring Property



Neighbouring Property

Section A Not To Scale

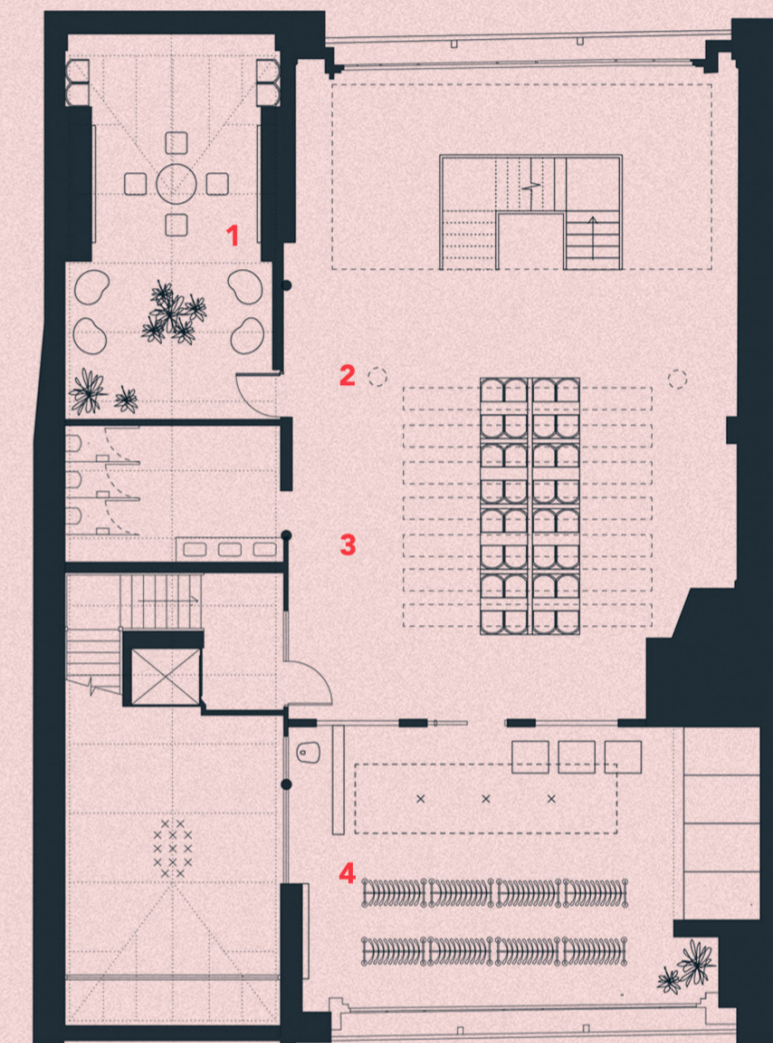
Schedule of Accommodation.

First Floor

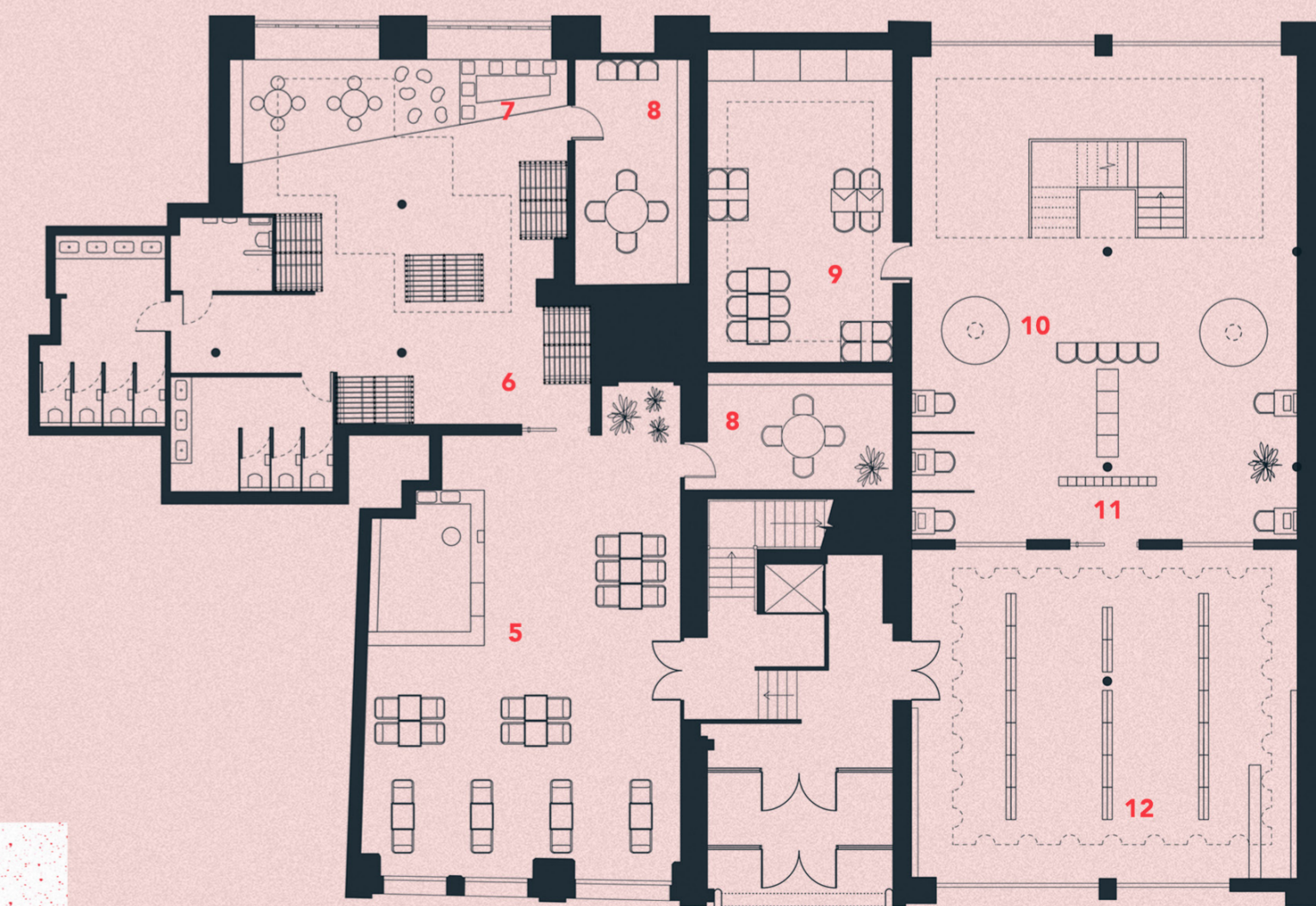
- 1. 'Have a Breather'
- 2. Postal Chute
- 3. 'Postcard Pathways'
- 4. 'The Chute'

Ground Floor

- 5. 'Box Brew'
- 6. 'The Mail Room'
- 7. 'Little Letters'
- 8. 'Envelopes'
- 9. Staff Room
- 10. Postal Chute Base
- 11. 'The Sorting Room'
- 12. 'Corner Shop'



First Floor Not to Scale



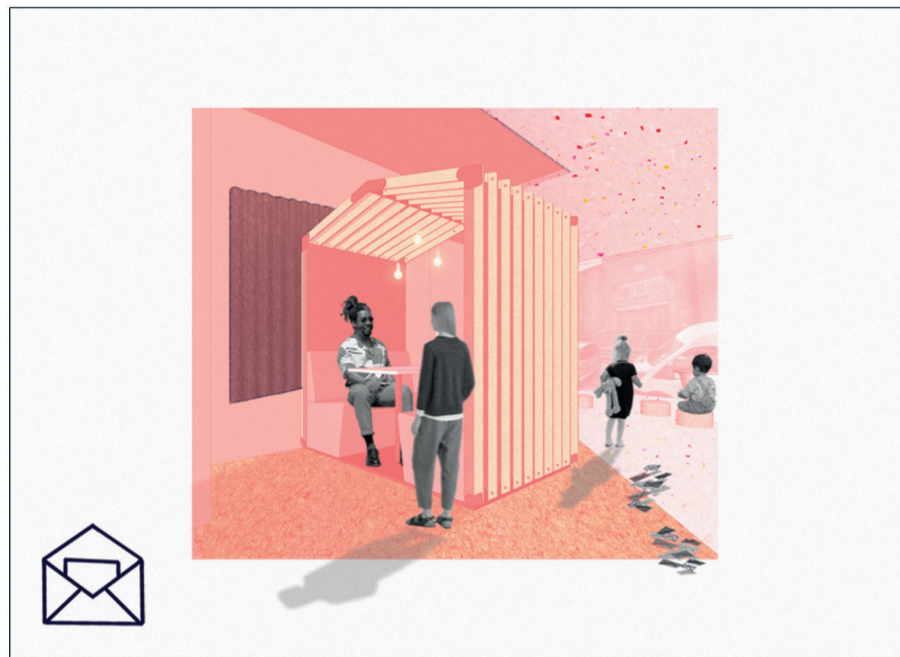
Ground Floor Not to Scale



1 Visit Box Brew where you can relax and enjoy a coffee or if you need support, speak to the individual behind the counter, they will direct you to the Mail Room where you will be met with a 1:1 initial support meeting. The cafe acts as a reception to keep all Refugees and Asylum Seekers protected.



5 This space is named 'Have a Breather'. This was an important requirement as the life of an Asylum Seeker and Refugee has its ups and downs and sometimes, individuals may need space to reflect and think. A space with lower seating to create a grounded space full of greenery to calm the senses.



2 The Mail Room is a safe place for an informal conversation regarding the protagonist's current situation. The case worker will discuss the available support to them at The Better Letter Box and it is the protagonist's decision as to what support they would like to receive. The emphasis on no strings attached help so that the protagonist's are the ones in control.



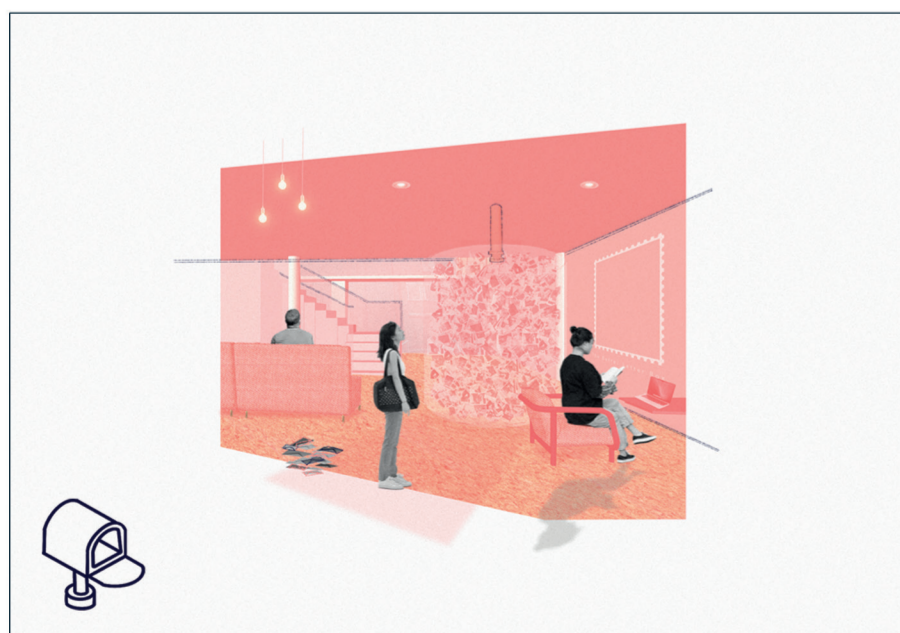
6 Postcard Pathways is a scheme on the first floor allowing the protagonists to have 1:1 English lessons. When Asylum Seekers and Refugees arrive in the UK, they are alone when learning to speak English, so this removes that difficulty and helps them to progress and allow them to feel more confident.



3 The Corner Shop is a mini market stocking popular items at an affordable price. Being able to provide this means any Refugees and Asylum Seekers would have the opportunity to purchase items that they cannot necessary buy from main-line supermarkets.



7 The Chute is a clothing shop where items are donated and sold through 'The Chute'. Items are sold at an affordable price due to the low income that Asylum Seekers and Refugees unfortunately have. Everyone is entitled to clean clothes for all seasons and that is what 'The Chute' is trying to combat.



4 The Sorting Room is a space to allow all Refugees and Asylum Seekers to have access to computers, printers and ID photography as they will need this at some point during their time in gaining certain statuses. The Sorting Room also has two glass cylinders with a postal chute, full of portraits of Asylum Seekers once they reach Refugee status. An act of celebration and encouragement for all.

