

[Asylum Seekers and Refugees](#)

[Migration](#)

[Events](#)

[Funding](#)

[Jobs](#)

The Newsflash is a monthly round up of publications, information, events, funding and jobs relating to asylum seekers, refugees and migrant workers for anyone who wants to keep up to date with the latest developments.

The newsflash is produced by the East of England Local Government Association - Strategic Migration Partnership.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees - including refugee resettlement programmes

Refugees Welcome? The Experience of New Refugees in the UK - A report by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees

The report examines the provisions for new refugees during and after the move-on period. It examines the issues faced by new refugees in terms of housing, health and employment. The report also makes comparisons between provision for refugees who have come via the asylum route and those who have come via a resettlement programme. They recommend that a Minister for Refugees should be appointed to oversee a National Refugee Integration Strategy. Please follow this link to read the report in full:

https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/assets/0004/0316/APPG_on_Refugees_-_Refugees_Welcome_report.pdf

Rural Refugee Network launches Refugee Welcome Guide

The Guide brings together the best practice of voluntary groups and leading organisations at the forefront of welcoming and integrating Syrian refugees. The guide is for those who want to learn from the organisers and politicians who have been leading this work. Please follow this link to access the guide: [Welcoming Syrian Refugees by The University of Winchester - issue](#)

Information Sheet from ILPA: Right to refugee status recognised for people resettled in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and under the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme

An information sheet from ILPA explains the change in government policy so that those resettled in the UK under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme are granted refugee leave, with effect from 1 July 2017, rather than Humanitarian Protection as is the case now. Please follow this link to access the information sheet: [Information Sheet: Right to refugee status recognised for people... · Resources · Immigration Law Practitioners' Association](#)

British Red Cross report – Can't stay. Can't go. Refused asylum seekers who cannot be returned

Refused asylum seekers who have no appeal outstanding are considered to have no basis to stay in the UK. They are expected to make arrangements to leave the UK. However, not all of them can return home. For some, there are no direct flight routes into their country, others are stateless – their country refuses to recognise them as a citizen, and some people simply cannot get a travel document in order to return. If option of going back to their country of origin is not open to everyone, this leaves them stuck in the UK, living in limbo. The report found that many risk falling into crisis. By remaining in the UK for extended periods of time, without support, they are vulnerable to exploitation. Please follow this link to read the report in full:

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/~media/BritishRedCross/Documents/About%20us/Research%20reports%20by%20advocacy%20dept/Cant%20Stay%20Cant%20Go%20webready.pdf>

Coram Children's Legal Centre – April newsletter issued

Please follow this link to access the most recent edition of the newsletter: [MCP April newsletter - new 'Dubs' children, Syrian refugees, we're having a party & more...](#)

Policy statement: section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 – ‘Dubs Children’

Policy statement setting out the basis on which further transfers of unaccompanied children will be made under section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016, to the specified number of 480. Please follow this link to read the statement in full: [Policy statement: section 67 of the Immigration Act 2016 - GOV.UK](#). Please follow this link to read the statement made by the Minister: [Immigration:Written statement - HCWS619 - UK Parliament](#)

Family unity leaflets for asylum seeking children published by the Migrants’ Law project

The Migrants’ Law Project has published leaflets about family reunification for asylum seeking children in Europe who have family members in the UK. The leaflets provide an overview of the processes for family reunification and the evidence needed. They are available in English, Arabic, Dari, Pashtu, Farsi and Tigrinya. Please follow this link to access these resources: <https://migrantslawproject.files.wordpress.com/2014/01/dublin-iii-reformatted.pdf>. And scroll down to read the translated leaflets: [MLP Factsheets | The Migrants' Law Project](#)

Over seventy organisations call on Home Office to allow refugees to rebuild their lives in the UK

Rebuilding Lives has sent an open letter to the Home Secretary in response to the introduction of a new ‘safe return review’ which will take place at the end of the initial five years leave to remain, replacing what had been previously the granting of permanent settlement, indefinite leave to remain in the UK. Instead, the safe return review will see if the Home Office deem it now safe for the refugee to return to that country. Please follow this link to read the open letter in full: [Unsettling refugees: over seventy organisations call on Home Office to allow refugees to rebuild their lives in the UK | RtR Blog](#)

Herts Welcomes Syrian Families (HWSF) achieves charitable status

Herts Welcomes Syrian families started as a network of volunteers which was instrumental in encouraging Hertfordshire councils to back the Syrian Vulnerable Persons resettlement programme. They have grown as the programme in Hertfordshire has grown and have now become a registered charity. Their Charity Commission Registration Number is 1172687. Their charitable status will enable them to engage fully with local councils and statutory agencies, as well as being a huge help when it comes to fundraising. For more information about them and details of how to get involved in their work, please follow this link: [Herts Welcomes Syrian Families - About](#)

Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign (CRRC) – working towards charitable status

CRRC are currently applying to become registered as a charity. This means they will move from the present structure as Unincorporated Association to becoming a Charitable Incorporated Association. Once the Charity Commission has accepted the application, they will hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to which all their volunteers will be invited. Please follow this link for more information: [From grassroots movement to registered charity - Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign](#)

Norwich Integration Partnership – user survey

The Norwich Integration Partnership brings together 3 local voluntary sector organisations: New Routes, The Bridge Plus+ and English+. The partnership aims to facilitate the integration of recently settled communities such as asylum-seekers, refugees and other BME communities. The 3 partner organisations deliver a wide range of activities and interventions: eg community consultations, social activities, English language classes, skills development opportunities, mentoring and befriending, advice and advocacy. They are seeking views on the work of the Project partners and the difference the Project has made to your organisation/service and your service users. This online survey should not take more than 10-15 min to complete. Please follow the link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BD9WVWP>

Home Office concedes unlawful use of Country Guidance on Albania since October 2011

On 9 May 2017, the UK Court of Appeal ruled on case [LC \(Albania\) v SSHD](#) concerning an Albanian national who had his asylum application refused by the Home Office on the grounds of lack of credibility of his sexual orientation and the belief that he would be able to live safely in Albania as a gay man. It emerged that the Home Office had, since October 2011, relied upon overruled guidance when assessing asylum claims related to sexual orientation, victims of trafficking and survivors of domestic violence in relation to Albania. As a consequence, Albanian nationals can lodge fresh asylum claims if they are still in the UK and their cases were rejected based on the unlawful reliance on the outdated guidance. Please follow this link for more information: [No5 - LC \(Albania\) – Home Office concedes unlawful use of Country Guidance on Albania since October 2011](#)

Cities of Migration case study from Canada - Employers Taking Action: Syrian Refugees Jobs Agenda

In a competitive job market and being new to Canada, many Syrian refugees, find it difficult to secure a good job and connect to employers that are hiring. This was the catalyst for the creation of the ‘Syrian Refugees Jobs Agenda’ in December 2015, a roundtable convened by the Executive Director of the Global Diversity Exchange at Ryerson University’s Ted Rogers School of Management. Roundtable members were from different sectors in the Greater Toronto Area – business, government and non-profit organizations – all focusing on identifying employment opportunities for Syrian newcomers and matching their talent to the needs of employers. To find out more about what they did and what the impact was, please follow this link: [Employers Taking Action: Syrian Refugees Jobs Agenda | Hire Immigrants](#)

Introducing the Migrant Women’s Rights Service from Maternity Action

The Migrant Women’s Rights Service aims to increase awareness of the support and housing options available to destitute migrant women. It also provides advice on NHS charging and access to NHS maternity care. There are various potential sources of support available to migrant women who are homeless or who don’t have enough money to buy food and essentials. However, whether a migrant women can access support will depend of a number of factors such as immigration status, the type of leave she may hold, whether she claimed asylum or if she has dependent children. The support system is complex and was changed in 2012 resulting in restricted access to mainstream benefits for migrant women granted leave on family rights ground. Consequently, those with very young children or those unable to work due to pregnancy, are at high risk of becoming destitute and are have to approach social services for emergency support. Please follow this link for more information about the service and other training available: [Introducing the Migrant Women’s Rights Service | Maternity Action](#)

Football Welcomes Refugees – Amnesty International campaign

April marked 80 years since the bombing of Guernica in the Spanish Civil War. Among the thousands who fled the bombs which fell on the Basque Country were six boys who would go on to become professional footballers in England, making them some of the first refugees to play in the English league. Among some of the teams they played for were Brentford, Norwich City, Colchester United and Cambridge United. Please follow this link for more information about the campaign which Amnesty International has begun, involving refugee footballers playing in the UK now: <https://www.amnesty.org.uk/footballwelcomes>

Migration

Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA) – information sheets for EU citizens in the UK

ILPA has produced a series of information sheets, each providing a short (two-page) and accessible overview of EU rights of residence and the issues affecting citizens from European Economic Area (EEA) and from Switzerland and their family members living in the UK in the context of Brexit. The series is published at: <http://www.ilpa.org.uk/pages/brexit-information.html>

Report predicts UK will be unable to manage increased demand from EU nationals for residency without system change

A new immigration system will not be ready by the time we formally leave the EU, argues a new report by the Institute for Government. The UK could therefore be forced to keep the controversial ‘free movement of people’ for several years post-Brexit. The report finds that successful implementation of a new immigration system by April 2019 is unfeasible – not just for government, but also employers, landlords and providers of public services. The report recommends that the Government keeps the current system until a replacement is ready. Please follow this link to read the report in full:

https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/Brexit_immigration_WEB.pdf

Home Office guidance issued - status of EU nationals in the UK: what you need to know

The page states: ‘You do not need to do anything as a result of Article 50 being triggered. There will be no change to the rights and status of EU nationals living in the UK while the UK remains in the EU. Under EU law you don’t need a document to confirm your residence status in the UK. If you’re planning to apply for a document just to confirm your status, you can [sign up for email alerts](#) instead. These email updates will let you know about developments that might affect you, including the steps that you may need to take to confirm your status in the UK after we leave the EU. The UK remains a full member of the EU until we exit the EU. All the rights and obligations of EU membership remain in place until then. Please follow this link to access the page and guidance in full: [Status of EU nationals in the UK: what you need to know - GOV.UK](#)

IPPR report – the government should seek a new deal on migration that allows free movement for key workers

In a new report, IPPR, makes the case for a new deal on migration as part of the Brexit negotiations that allows free movement but only for certain categories of people - for instance particular occupations or sectors. IPPR argues that in an UK-EU agreement on migration, the government should consider how to secure an ambitious free trade deal, how best to avoid negative effects on the labour market, and address public concern on immigration. Please follow this link to read the press release and access the report in full: [The government should seek a new deal on migration that allows free movement for key workers in the economy | IPPR](#)

Operation Nexus – Home Office guidance issued around ‘high harm’ individuals

This guidance sets out Immigration Enforcement’s definition of ‘Nexus High Harm’ and explains how the High Harm strand of Operation Nexus functions including referral procedures, information sharing agreements and casework capability work. The overarching aim of Operation Nexus is to improve the management of foreign nationals and foreign national offenders (FNOs) with a focus on strengthening cross-organisational working between the Home Office and police. Please follow this link to access the guidance in full:

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/599878/Operation-Nexus-High-Harm-v1.pdf?utm_source=ECRE+Newsletters&utm_campaign=8dbe854c42-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_04_28&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3ec9497afd-8dbe854c42-420529541

KLARS from Kings Lynn have changed their name to ACCESS – supporting migrants in East Anglia

KLARS has been active in West Norfolk and Fenland, offering support to migrants from Eastern Europe and elsewhere, in Kings Lynn, Wisbech and the surrounding area. But did you ever wonder what KLARS meant? Their full name was Kings Lynn Area Resettlement Support – a name which means little to their clients, stakeholders or the wider community. So, after much thought and research, they have decided to change their name to: ACCESS - supporting migrants in East Anglia. To see their new look, visit: www.accessmigrantsupport.org.uk and find them on Facebook by searching [@accessmigrantsupport](#)

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants - 2017 General Election: An Opportunity for Immigration Reform

Please follow this link for a resource for those attending political hustings and debates in order to raise immigration questions with parliamentary candidates: [The Questions on Immigration You Need to Ask Your Local #GE2017 Candidates | Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants](#)

Times Educational Supplement (Tes) - School hate crimes spike following Brexit and Trump votes

Reports of hate crimes and hate incidents in schools rose by 89 per cent in the middle of the Brexit campaign, police figures obtained by Tes investigation reveal. Schools in England experienced significant spikes in “hate crimes” and “hate incidents” around the time of the Brexit vote and the election of US president Donald Trump, a Tes investigation has found. Teachers and organisations working with young people have suggested that last year’s political events – and the media coverage linked to them – may have normalised hate speech and hate crime against ethnic minorities and foreign nationals. Please follow this link to read the article in full: [Exclusive: Spike in school hate crimes and incidents following Brexit and Trump | News](#)

Oxford University Migration Observatory briefing – grants of settlement

This briefing gives details about how many non-European migrants are granted settlement in the UK every year, their demographic characteristics and the various bases for their grants of settlement. Please follow this link to read the briefing paper in full: [Settlement in the UK - Migration Observatory - The Migration Observatory](#)

Events

Migration Policy Institute - Building an evidence base to support refugee resettlement – 24 May, webinar

This webinar, starting at 13:30, will highlight the findings of a forthcoming MPI Europe report on critical gaps in research and evaluation of resettlement programmes, and recommendations for improving evidence gathering and knowledge sharing between resettlement countries. The discussion will also include insights from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and national resettlement actors on the knowledge and support needs that new and expanding resettlement countries face, and what role international initiatives such as the Emerging Resettlement Countries Joint Support Mechanism and the European Action on Facilitating Resettlement and Refugee Admission through New Knowledge (EU-FRANK) can play in filling these gaps. Submit questions to the presenters in advance by emailing e: events@migrationpolicy.org. Please follow this link to find out how to join in: [Building an Evidence Base to Support Refugee Resettlement | migrationpolicy.org](#)

Roma Support Group training: Working with Roma in Safeguarding Context - 26 May, central London

Trainers deliver interactive presentations including films, group discussions and innovative methods such as forum theatre. The session also provides the opportunity meet other practitioners working with Roma in your area. This training is beneficial for those working in Children’s services including adoption / fostering teams, Adult social services, Family intervention and support services, Children’s Centres, Schools, Health services including safeguarding leads, Police, Youth services and voluntary organisations. To find out more about the training, and to book a place, please visit their website: [Roma Support Group - training](#) or email them on e: rsep@romasupportgroup.org.uk

Cambridge Chinese Community Centre Dragon Boat Festival – 27 May, Cambridge

The Cambridge Chinese Community Centre will be holding a second Dragon Boat Festival this year. It will be on Jesus Green Park and River Cam (near Chesterton Road under the Foot Bridge over the River) CB4 3AN from 10am to 4.30pm. Cambridge Chinese Community Centre welcome all communities to come along and enjoy this event - for setting up stalls, performance, forming a own team for the Dragon race or simply attending as audience. For more information please contact Anthony Reynolds, Liaison Officer for Cambridge Chinese Community Centre on e: tonrey3@gmail.com or on m: 07711528111

INTRAN interpreter training information events – 13 June or 29 June, Ipswich

Interest is particularly welcomed from Kurdish-sorani, Pashto, Bengali-Sylheti, Arabic, Bulgarian, Tigrinyan, Polish, Mandarin, Lithuanian, Hungarian, Romanian, Albanian, Portuguese, Latvian Cantonese and Turkish speakers. Anyone interested in training as an interpreter should come to either Ipswich County Library on 13 June between 10am and 5pm, or the Red Cross on Chevallier Street on 29 June between 5pm and 7.45pm. For more information please contact Nicola Turner on Nicola.turner@norfolk.gov.uk

Refugee Week materials launched in readiness for 19-25 June 2017

This year's theme is 'different pasts, shared future'. Please follow this link to access the free resources available to draw attention what your organization is doing to support Refugee Week 2017: [Free Materials Archives | Refugee Week](#). There is also the opportunity to upload details of events taking place in the east of England. Featured so far are what's on in Bedford, Hertford and South Woodham Ferrers.

The Roma Support Group: Cultural Awareness Training - 21 June, Sheffield

This training event will look at Roma culture, juggling different cultural norms, the key issues affecting the Roma, and how to work more effectively with Roma individuals and families. Up to a third of a million East European Roma live in the UK and Roma families can be hard to engage with. Services in many areas have been challenged to assess and accommodate the needs of the Roma. Having a basic understanding of Roma culture and a few strategies to follow can make interaction with Roma families and communities easier. Lunch and refreshments are included in the delegate fee, and discounts are available for team bookings. Full information, and on-line booking facilities, can be found at www.cclimited.org.uk. Alternatively, call them on t: 0115 916 3104.

ECIT Summer University: Countering threats to European citizenship across borders, reconfiguring its future - 30 August to 1 September 2017, Brussels

This three-day event will bring together people from all over Europe and from different backgrounds - students, academics, plus representatives of the European Institutions and Civil Society organisations - to debate European Citizenship from all angles: its gaps, challenges and future. The aim with more cross-sectoral dialogue is to build consensus as to the elusive nature of European citizenship. About 75 participants are expected at the Summer University and over 200 people will participate at the public debate in the evening. To attend the 3-day Summer University a participation fee of 100€ is requested to cover the costs. A special participation fee of 60€ is foreseen for students, unemployed and interns. [Click here](#) to reserve your seat! If you have any questions, please contact the organisers on e: info@ecit-foundation.eu

Funding

Suffolk Police & Crime Commissioner's Fund – relaunch funding priorities December 2017

The Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner's Fund replaces the previous Safer Suffolk Fund. Grants of between £250 and £20,000 are available to support the work of voluntary and community groups, Charities, Social Enterprises and Community Interest Companies that deliver services that help make Suffolk a safer place to live, work, travel and invest in. There is an exclusion for support services around domestic and sexual abuse as these are supported via a separate funding stream. Please contact a Grants Officer on t: 01473 602602 prior to submitting your application if you have any questions. The deadline for applications for this round is **11 July 2017**. From December 2017, the fund will be awarded based on projects which are responding to an identified theme, starting with human trafficking, female genital mutilation, modern day slavery, honour based violence, hate crime and other offences committed out of sight, online, etc. The deadline for this round of applications is **11 October 2017**. Please follow these links to access: [Criteria](#) | [Application Form](#)

Suffolk County Council invitation to tender for Supporting Integration Migrant Drop-In Service

Suffolk County Council are currently out to tender for the provision of a Supporting Integration Migrant Drop-In Service. This opportunity is available in the `Current Tenders` area of commissioning portal. Interested parties are invited to express their interest to gain full access to the tender documentation. The deadline date for submissions of the tender is 12:00 **Noon 31 May 2017**. Please note late returns will NOT be permitted. The contract will run from 4 July 2017 to 31 March 2019. Please follow this link to access the commissioning portal and the tender opportunity: [Suffolk Sourcing - E-Tendering & Contract Management portal - Project Manage - Tender](#)

Allen Lane Foundation

The Allen Lane Foundation supports work that benefits groups of people who face hostility in the UK. The priority is adults in these priority groups: Asylum seekers and refugees; Gypsies and Travellers; LGBTQ communities; Migrant communities; Offenders and ex-offenders; Older people; People experiencing mental health problems or People experiencing violence or abuse. Applications are welcomed from small registered charities, voluntary groups, and charitable organisations. Maximum Grant available: £15,000. Applications reviewed when the Trustees meet in February, June and October in any year. For more information, please follow this link: <https://allenlane.org.uk/>

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust

<http://www.wcmt.org.uk/> funds individuals to travel overseas in pursuit of new and better ways of tackling a wide range of the current challenges facing the UK. They are currently open for applications and all UK citizens resident in the UK over the age of 18 are eligible to apply. One of the areas they are particularly focusing on at the moment is [Migration](#), and they are asking for applications focused on strengthening cohesion and communication, tackling isolation and supporting communities to live harmoniously together and realise their economic potential. Please follow this link for more information: [E-Poster](#)

Suffolk Co-production Network (SCONE) & Healthwatch Black and Minority Ethnic & Diversity Group Small Grants Process

Applications are invited from projects that reach out and work with BME Communities with a focus on disabled and older people. We want to work with communities and groups to understand what we can offer them and how we can work better with them in future. We are looking for one project in each of the following areas: West Suffolk - East Suffolk – Waveney. The 3 grants will be one off payments of up to £3,500 per project. Joint applications that demonstrate a partnership between BME and diverse communities are encouraged. The closing date for applications is at **12 noon on 2 June 2017**. To obtain an application pack and/or book a place at the workshop, please contact Sophie Hawkins on e: sophie.hawkins@scodp.org.uk or t: 01473 276115

Jobs

Recruitment Opportunity for Language Interpreters – Hertfordshire Interpreting and Translating Service (HITS)

HITS have opportunities for language interpreters across Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire to undertake paid assignments in a range of public sector settings, such as hospitals, GP surgeries, various local authorities and constabularies. Working with INTRAN, Community Action Dacorum HITS is expanding geographically and so building on their 15 year experience as the contracted provider of interpreting and translation services to Local Authorities, NHS Trusts and Criminal Justice Agencies throughout Hertfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Oxfordshire and Milton Keynes. HITS have worked in partnership with INTRAN for many years. Between 2006 and 2009, HITS worked with INTRAN as the lead partner in the “Opening Doors” project that provided financial support to DPSI students in the East of England. Since 2009, they have been commissioned by INTRAN to provide face-to-face interpreting on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council.

They are an ethical provider and pride themselves on fair and prompt payment and being transparent and accessible in all its dealing with interpreters. As a non-commercial provider, it does not have owners or shareholders and looks to invest any surplus income into its award-winning training courses. If you have experience of language interpreting or are interested in being trained as an interpreter, please contact Ian McKenzie e: ian@communityactiondacorum.org.uk or Fatima Ikram e: fatima@communityactiondacorum.org.uk or call t: 01442 867212.

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