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The Newsflash is a two-weekly 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

Home Office produces new induction guide for asylum seekers on UK rights and expectations,

The Home Office announced that the second part of their induction guide 'UK Rights and Expectations' has now been published and can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-support-uk-rights-and-expectations. It is available with translations in 10 languages. Along with Pack A '[Living in Asylum Accommodation](#)', the booklet will be handed out to all new households in dispersal accommodation. These booklets are the first port of call if a service user has a question/query, along with the regional materials given out by the housing providers. The booklets also signpost to organisations which can assist service users, so stakeholders' are encouraged to direct service users' attention to them.

Alternative routes to contact Migrant Help

The director of Asylum Services for Migrant Help has acknowledged that there are lengthy waiting times to get through to their telephone centre. As their peak times are from 10:30 to 16:00, callers are reminded that they are open 24 hours a day, 365 days of the year and can assist with queries whatever the time is. Alternatively, please use the following routes/ email addresses: For Issue Reporting and Advice and Guidance: there is a new section onto the Service User Portal, which can be found on the portal under the Contact Us option (Email). E: ASCorrespondence@migranthehelpuk.org is to be used for all other communications relating to asylum support including supporting documents for support applications.

E: Escalations@migranthehelpuk.org is for cases that need escalating to managers.

E: Submissions@migranthehelpuk.org is for communications relating to asylum support applications that have been submitted to the Home Office.

E: S98@migranthehelpuk.org is for applications (and requested evidence) relating to a request for S98 support applications.

E: Outreach@migranthehelpuk.org is for requests for an outreach appointment.

Lastly, a webchat option is available to access by clicking on Contact us and Live chat on the Service User Portal.

News comment by UNHCR's Chief of Mission in Libya, on the situation at the Gathering and Departure Facility (GDF) in Tripoli

In late October, 200 people, including migrants and refugees, arrived at the GDF in Tripoli. Most had been released from the Abu Salim detention centre; others came from urban areas, with the hope to be hosted at the GDF and be resettled from there to third countries. Since the opening of the facility in December 2018, over 2,300 have transited through the GDF, mostly women, unaccompanied children and families. Resettlement remains a crucial tool to save the lives of the most vulnerable. However, there are only 55,000 resettlement places available worldwide. www.unhcr.org/unhcrs-chief-mission-libya-situation-gathering.html

NATECLA publishes framework for good practice in voluntary ESOL

The new framework from NATECLA is now available via this link::

<https://www.natecla.org.uk/news/920/NATECLAs-new-Framework-for-ESOL-volunteers-out-now>

UN Agencies and advocates publish new guidance on durable solutions for migrant children

The International Organisation for Migration, Unicef, the UN Human Rights Office, Child Circle and others have developed guidance for state authorities in the European Union on the design and implementation of a decision-making process that considers durable solutions for migrant children, whether they are accompanied by their parents or not. Please follow this link to access the report in full: https://picum.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/2019_Guidance_childrens_rights_in_return_policies.pdf

European Commission Progress report on the Implementation of the European Agenda on Migration

Four years ago, the EU faced an exceptional challenge when around two million people arrived at its shores in the space of two years, in search of refuge or a new life, risking their lives to escape war, political oppression or poverty. Faced with the human tragedy unfolding in the Mediterranean, the EU took action to avert the loss of life at sea. However, at the time, the EU lacked a collective policy on migration management and border security. In May 2015, the European Commission unveiled a European Agenda on Migration intended to address immediate challenges and equip the EU with the tools to better manage migration in the longer term. This progress report highlights achievements to date:

- Irregular border crossings into the EU fell to 150,000 in 2018 – the lowest figure in five years. Key to this has been partnership with third countries, such as the EU-Turkey Statement.
- The EU has shown tangible and rapid support to Member States under most pressure.
- The EU has improved the legal pathway of resettlement for people needing international protection to Member States, with almost 63,000 people resettled since 2015.

Please follow this link to read the report in full: https://european-agenda-migration/-report_en.pdf

MENTA and East of England SMP launch refugee entrepreneurship project

The pilot project will be delivered by MENTA, who provide training and advice to both established and new businesses across Norfolk and Suffolk (www.menta.org.uk) in partnership with East of England SMP. It is part of a one-year programme jointly funded by the Home Office and the National Lottery Community Fund, which will be overseen by the Centre for Entrepreneurs (CFE). Working directly with the refugees and established local businesses, in Norwich, Ipswich and Peterborough, the pilot will deliver tailored start-up programmes that will take refugees from the idea stage to the launch of their business. Please follow this link for more information about the programme: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/entrepreneur-training-pilots-for-refugees>
Please see the events section of the newsflash for more details of the launch events.

Immigrant Futures: investing in refugee talent

Last spring, Hire Immigrants and Cities of Migration hosted a series of webinar on the role of local employers in connecting newcomers and refugees to opportunity, and the contributions that refugees make to receiving communities, workplaces and neighbourhoods. Videos and resources are available at: [Refugee Training Programs](#) ; [Pathways to Refugee Employment](#); [Investing in Refugee Talent](#)

Herts welcomes Syrian families renamed and charity film launch

At a special meeting in October, members voted to change their name to Herts Welcomes Refugees. This better describes their role welcoming and supporting all refugees in Hertfordshire and, going forward, those coming to the county under the new government scheme, due to replace the Syrian resettlement programme in 2020. Their short film, Suspended, shows how important it is to offer this resettlement route to safety. Please be aware that some scenes are quite harrowing. Do watch, share and vote for it in the Charity Film Awards here: <https://charityfilmawards.com/videos/suspended> .It is being shown to older students in secondary schools.

SAFE project on the asylum process, rights and entitlements, care provision and the integration of UASC

[SAFE](#) is a transnational project supporting frontline practitioners and care professionals, foster carers, kinship and Dublin family caretakers by enhancing their knowledge, skills and confidence, enabling them to provide better quality family-based care to unaccompanied and separated children. SAFE stands for Supporting un-Accompanied children with Family-based care and Enhanced protection and is being implemented by the British Red Cross in partnership with KMOP (Greece), the Danish Red Cross and CARDET (Cyprus). The SAFE project offers free and accessible online training for care professionals and family based carers. The training courses were developed to give a solid understanding of the situation unaccompanied and separated children face. The UK-specific training modules for care professionals (social workers, personal advisors, healthcare professionals, guardians, youth workers, mental health therapists, law practitioners, non-profit organisations and volunteers etc) and foster careers focus on the asylum process, rights and entitlements of these children, care provisions and integration in the UK. To access the training, please visit: <https://safeproject.eu/elearning-course/>

Migration

AIRE Centre launches two toolkits – Permanent Residence and EU Settled status

The AIRE Centre has launched their tree info tool for Permanent Residence (PR) and EU Settled Status (EUSS). Both toolkits are designed to take users through multiple questions, which mirror the ones in the actual PR and EUSS applications, to provide them with an idea of whether they would be eligible to apply for either. It is easy to use, it increases people's confidence in applying and is all done in a safe environment. In addition, the centre has created information sheets on EUSS in seven languages: [info sheets](#). To access the info tool, please follow this link: [Am I eligible to apply for Settled Status? | The AIRE Centre](#)

EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) quarterly statistics released to end of September 2019

This report provides detailed statistics on applications made to the EUSS from 28 August 2018 to 30 September 2019, and applications concluded during the same time period. The total number of applications received up to 30 September 2019 was 1,860,190. Those nationalities with the highest number of applications received were:

- Polish (347,300)
- Romanian (280,610)
- Italian (200,750)
- Portuguese (162,530)
- Spanish (115,680)

These five nationalities combined represent 60% of applications received. The number of concluded applications up to 30 September 2019 was 1,524,510. Of these, 61% (929,580) were granted settled status and 38% (586,710) were granted pre-settled status. There were 7,960 withdrawn or void applications and 260 invalid applications. Two applications were refused on suitability grounds. Please follow this link to read the data release in full: www.gov.uk/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-september-2019

Home Office updates EU Settlement Status caseworker guidance

[EU Settlement Scheme caseworker guidance](#). The first document has been amended to reflect the changes to Appendix EU, mainly in respect of provision for the operation of the EU Settlement Scheme in the event that the UK leaves the European Union without a deal.

Coram Children's Legal Centre – Migrant Children's Project October newsletter

This latest edition reports on the announcement from the Ministry of Justice that looked after children with an immigration or nationality law issue are back in scope for legal aid. They respond to news of the Essex lorry deaths and give links in this response to their factsheets on trafficking. They remind readers of the need for EU children to apply for EU Settled Status, and encourage people supporting a child who might be eligible to refer to Coram Children's Legal Centre on e: mcp@coramclc.org.uk. Please follow this link to access the newsletter in full, for details of upcoming training and the latest reports: [MCP October newsletter - legal aid for looked after children, supporting young victims of trafficking, EU settlement scheme update & more](#)

ECPAT UK statement on Essex lorry tragedy

The CEO of ECPAT UK issued a statement on the deaths of 39 individuals in a lorry in Tilbury, Essex. Here is an extract from that statement:

This case is a tragic example of the risks facing individuals who cannot migrate in a safe and legal way. Smuggling and trafficking are often conflated. Smuggling involves the movement of people across an international border, when a person cannot access a legal route to migrate. The transaction between the person and the smuggler ends on arrival at their destination. In cases of human trafficking, the movement can take place through clandestine entry across international borders but it can also happen when a person enters a country legally or within a country where a person does not cross an international border at all. However, there is a grey area between the two due to the inherent vulnerability to exploitation of people who have a precarious immigration status and cannot access safe, legal routes in migration. It can be particularly confusing in cases when an individual may think they are being smuggled by paying an agent to enable them to travel overseas. However, the agent may deceive and exploit them - this then becomes human trafficking.

For more information on the vulnerabilities to trafficking of children and adults migrating from Vietnam to the UK through Europe, see ECPAT UK's [Precarious Journeys](#) report.

Oxford University's Migration Observatory guide to migration data at local authority level

The Migration Observatory's new guide to migration data at the local authority level can be found via this link: <https://dataguide.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/>. It brings together all the publicly available data sources the Migration Observatory could find from across government departments and the ONS, and it will be regularly updated as new data is released.

Ministry of Justice announces eligibility changes for separated migrant children

Separated migrant children will be eligible for legal aid to help with citizenship and non-asylum immigration applications and appeals from 25 October 2019. This amendment means that separated children seeking to regularise their non-asylum immigration status in the UK will be within the scope of legal aid. Please follow this link for further details: [government/civil-news-eligibility-changes-for-separated-migrant-children](#)

Maternity Action launches legal challenge to exempt destitute migrant women from NHS maternity care charging

The Judicial Review seeks to exempt destitute migrant women and their children from NHS charging for maternity care, as well as victims of FGM, domestic abuse and sexual violence. Maternity Action felt that after three years of giving evidence in consultations and inquiries and demanding a full, independent review of the impact of charging on the most vulnerable migrant women, they had no other recourse. To read an overview of their case, please read their [Director's blog here](#).

Government releases impact assessment of European temporary leave to remain if the UK leaves the EU without a deal

This is an impact assessment of temporary immigration arrangements for EEA and Swiss citizens and their close family members moving to the UK after Brexit if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. European Temporary Leave to Remain will, if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, form part of the immigration arrangements that will apply to EEA and Swiss citizens and their close family members who move to the UK after Brexit but before the introduction of the new points-based immigration system in January 2021. EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members living in the UK before exit can, if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, apply for status under the EU Settlement Scheme until 31 December 2020. Please follow this link to access the impact assessment in full: [impact-assessment-of-european-temporary-leave-to-remain](#)

Chartered Institute of Housing and BME National – Housing Rights quarterly newsletter issued

Much of the newsletter focuses on EU settlement with reference to housing rights. Please follow this link to the Housing Rights website <https://www.housing-rights.info/index.php>, and follow the links for latest news or go to the [Brexit page](#) for news on the rights of European nationals after the UK leaves the EU.

Events

Improving the experiences of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children - 21 November, London

This event from the London Borough of Islington will be from 9:30-4pm at the London Art House, Angel, N1 8PA. This conference is aimed at bringing together professionals and frontline workers across disciplines to develop communication and collaboration across the sector to improve UASC outcomes. In this conference, organisers are hoping to achieve tangible outcomes to improve collaboration in the sector in order to collectively provide a national response to the needs required in supporting UASC. The event will bring together experts in social care, law, exploitation, advocacy, health and education. For more details and to register for the event please see the link <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/improving-the-experiences-of-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-conference-tickets-76422560937>. For any queries, please contact e: uasc@islington.gov.uk

Refugee Entrepreneurs launch events – 21 November, Ipswich – 22 November, Peterborough – 28 November, Norwich

These kick-off events are highlighting the skills of refugees who may want to use their talents to start their own businesses, but need help to get their ideas off the ground. Anyone attending these events will meet local refugees who will bring examples of their work and explain the businesses they would like to set up. Attendees are invited to get involved in the project as a: Trainer – Supporter – Mentor - Community champion - Adviser. Each event will run from 11:00 to 14:00 in the following locations. Please follow the link to register to attend:
Ipswich International Church, Barrack Corner, Ipswich, IP1 2NB
https://smp.eelga.gov.uk/events/cfe_refugee_pilot_ipswich/
Gladstone Connect Allama Iqbal Centre, 157 Cromwell Road, Peterborough, PE1 2EL
https://smp.eelga.gov.uk/events/centre_for_entrepreneurs_refugee_pilot_project_pet/
The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich, NR2 1AW https://smp.eelga.gov.uk/events/cfe_refugee_pilot_norwich/

Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum (CECF) Cultural Diversity Day Event 2019 – 24 November, Cambridge

The Cambridge Ethnic Community Forum invites anyone interested to an afternoon with a full range of interesting and exciting performances ranging from poetry to dance. This is a free event but tickets must be obtained through <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cecf-cultural-diversity-day-...>Eventbrite booking. Refreshments and snacks will be on sale.

Funding

Migrant Help - procurement for their commissioning framework to help deliver outreach services now open

This tender invitation can be accessed through the Delta portal. It will be open until 15:00 on 22 November. They are looking for organisations to help them deliver outreach services on a spot purchase basis. Outreach services could include:

- New asylum support applications.
- Change of circumstances for existing supported applicants.
- Assisting with Positive and Negative move on.

The adviser organisations use to complete the work will need to have OISC level 1 and be willing to undergo a CTC check. Please also note that any work under AIRE contract must be delivered by paid members of staff only. Please follow this link to the tender invitation: <https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/75P34E8VMK>

Jobs

Immigration Advice Worker BRASS, Bedford. Two days per week. Actual salary: £9,600 pa (full time equivalent salary: £24,000 pa). Contract type: 1 year with possibility of renewal

Join this passionate, small team dedicated to improving the lives of refugees and asylum seekers! Help refugees and asylum seekers to tackle immigration matters. The successful candidate will attend their regular, free advice sessions and work with refugees, volunteers and staff to resolve immigration cases. Experience is essential and qualifications at OISC level 2 is preferred. More information: Contact Brian Cunningham at e: brian@brass27b.org or call 01234 211 381.

Refugee Employment Network (REN) Co-ordinator. North London. £26,000 p.a. Fixed term contract to 31 March 2020

World Jewish Relief is the UK Jewish community's leading international development and humanitarian agency. They tackle poverty, helping the world's poorest Jews and reaching beyond their community. They are seeking a personable and numerically confident Refugee Employment Network Co-ordinator to work in a growing part of World Jewish Relief's refugee programmes. The ideal candidate will be a highly organised and independent worker with experience of administrative and financial systems. The primary purpose of the role is to provide an exemplary level of organisational, financial and programme administration across REN. You will need to be able to communicate with confidence with the sector and employers. The closing date for applications is 22 November 2019, 11.59 pm. For more information please contact Janice Lopatkin on t: 020 8736 1250 or e: janice@worldjewishrelief.org. Submit your CV, completed Recruitment Monitoring Form and Covering Letter by clicking [Apply now](#). Please follow this link to access the recruitment pack: worldjewishrelief.org/refugee-employment-network-coordinator

Part-time Sessional ESOL Tutors – Peterborough City College. PTTLS/CTLLS/DTLLS: £23,308.02 – £31,330.42 pro-rata depending on level of teaching qualification. Non-Qualified Teaching rate: £21,970.40 – £23,308.02

City College Peterborough is seeking talented ESOL and IT tutors to contribute to the success of our provision for adults aged over 19 and teach on a range of qualification and non-qualification courses at our main College sites and in the community. Pay scales are dependent on teaching qualifications held. ESOL applicants will have gained teaching experience in the UK or overseas and hold the Cambridge CELTA or Trinity Cert. TESOL qualification or equivalent.

To apply: please download a copy of the Job Description (below) relating to your teaching qualification level and fill in the [Tutor Application Form](#). You will also need to write a personal statement showing how you meet the Person Specification criteria within the Job Description. Return by e-mail to e:

recruitment@citycollegepeterborough.ac.uk or by post to Recruitment Department, City College Peterborough, Brook Street, Peterborough PE1 1TU. Tutor Job Descriptions:

[No teaching qualifications](#)

[Accredited Level 3 teaching qualification or equivalent](#)

[Accredited Level 4 teaching qualification or equivalent](#)

[Accredited Level 5+ teaching qualification or equivalent](#)

Closing date for receipt of applications: **Friday, 22 November 2019.**

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT) Grant committee member, Rights and Justice Committee.

London

The JRCT wishes to appoint a co-opted member to join its Rights and Justice Committee from June 2020. The committee wishes to broaden its range of viewpoints to include those of an individual with lived experience of systemic racism who can use their perspective to work collectively for change. The Trust's Rights and Justice programme brings together work in the fields of human rights, racial justice and migrants' rights. The Trust is concerned that the rights of vulnerable and marginalised communities in the UK are being eroded, particularly BME communities, migrants and refugees. The Trust focuses on work at a national level to hold governments to account, to grow public support and to strengthen the hand of those advocating with and for these communities. The role of a co-opted member is to complement the committee's expertise in rights and justice, by offering the deep understanding that comes from personal experience. Knowledge of the policy landscape, current challenges and opportunities is helpful, as is an awareness of the key organisations working in the field. The committee usually meets three times per year, typically in February, June and October. The meetings are currently held in London from 11.00 until 16.00. The main work of the committee is assessing grant applications. Co-opted members are fully involved in this process.

- [Click here for more information, including a person specification and how to apply](#)

The closing date for receipt of applications is **29 November**. All applications will be acknowledged and if they are interested in appointing you, they will arrange a meeting to discuss this further.

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