



East of England
Local Government Association

Well-being and work for Refugee Integration: Project Launch

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Welcome to the launch of our project



This project is part funded by the EU Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund. Making management of migration flows more efficient across the European Union

The project is based on the principle that being well enough to be economically active is the most significant step towards becoming integrated in society.

(European Parliament, 2016)

Informed and inspired by other projects

- The work of the STEP programme from World Jewish Relief in Yorkshire.
 - The agencies who are part of the Refugee Employment Network.
 - The agencies working in Austria, Germany, Sweden and Denmark who make up the ELAINE project.
 - The Centre for Entrepreneurs refugee entrepreneurship project.
 - Concept Training's LIST programme.
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Why do refugees need special help?

➤ Well-being:

- Living with effects of trauma
- Low level mental health issues from displacement – anxiety, low self-esteem.
- Talking therapy in English.

➤ Work:

- Unfamiliar job market
 - Qualifications which aren't recognised.
 - Unused skills start to disappear.
 - Low levels of English.
 - Barriers e.g. DBS checks
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The project is made up of two key strands

➤ Well-being:

- Regional network of therapists.
- Dedicated to refugee clients.
- Different skills e.g. art, music therapy
- Different specialisms – adults or unaccompanied children

➤ Work:

- Regional network of skills assessors & employment advisers.
 - Specialist ESOL skills modules.
 - Employer Liaison to secure work placements.
 - Mentor for refugee entrepreneurs
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Where can you find our project?



Well-being	Work	ESOL
Stevenage	Hertfordshire	Hertfordshire
East Herts/West Essex	Essex	Essex
Colchester	Norwich	Norwich
Peterborough	Peterborough	Peterborough
Ipswich	Ipswich	Ipswich
Luton	Bedford	Bedfordshire
Cambridge		



Only those who are ready should work: the evidence

- Refugees with poor language skills are most at risk of exclusion and long-term dependency
- Vocational language training can facilitate integration into the labour market.

Home Office 2019: Integrating refugees What works? What can work? What does not work? A summary of the evidence second edition

But the real evidence of what refugees value comes from.....

➤ The people themselves.
