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The Newsflash is a bi-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.

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- [On Our Doorstep, Special Refugee Week Screening and Director Q & A – Electric Palace Cinema, Harwich – 19 June 2022 19:30](#)
- [Refugee Week – 20-26 June 2022](#)
- [Tackling Virginitly Myths virtual events – Karma Nirvana – Various dates](#)
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## JOBS

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- [Project Coordinator, Luton – British Red Cross Refugee Support](#)
- [Campaign and Partnership Officer – Karma Nirvana](#)
- [Communications Officer – Karma Nirvana](#)



## Asylum Seekers and Refugees – including refugee resettlement

### Nationality and Borders Act 2022

The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 was signed into law on 28 April 2022. But there is a difference between a law being “on the statute books” after being passed by Parliament and it actually being “in force”. Most of the 2022 Act is not yet in force and will be phased in over time.

The commencement provisions are found in [section 87](#) of the Act. Section 87 provides that a handful of provisions came into force straight away, on 28 April. Some other sections of the Act also came into force on the day it became law, insofar as they allow the Secretary of the State to make or consult on regulations.

On 28 June 2022, the first set of [commencement regulations](#) made under the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 will bring into force around a third of the Act’s 82 substantive sections. Some of these provisions, in particular those on removing asylum seekers to a “safe third country”, are being accompanied by changes to the Immigration Rules which also come into force on 28 June. Read more on this [here](#)

### New statement of changes to the Immigration Rules: HC 17 (Borders Act)

A new [statement of changes](#) to the Immigration Rules (HC 17) was published on 11 May 2022. It is largely focused on changes to the asylum system following the passage of the Nationality and Borders Act 2022 and the agreement with Rwanda to remove asylum seekers to that country. The changes come into force on 28 June 2022 unless otherwise indicated. That is the date on which key asylum provisions of the 2022 Act come into force (two months from when the Act became law, which was 28 April).

Notably, changes have been made to ‘Appendix Ukraine Scheme’, in relation to children who arrive in the UK under the Home for Ukraine Scheme:

- A requirement for parental consent for a child applying to join a parent or legal guardian under the Homes for Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme is being introduced. It applies where a child is travelling to the UK without their parent(s) or legal guardian to join a parent or legal guardian in the UK. The consent of the parent or legal guardian in the UK will be required.
- The written consent must confirm support for the child’s application, that the child will live with the parent or legal guardian in the UK, covering the child’s travel to and reception arrangements in the UK.

For a summary of the changes from Free Movement, click [here](#)

### United Kingdom and Rwanda reach agreement on the offshore processing of asylum claims

Following a [ministerial direction](#) from the Home Secretary to the Home Office Permanent Secretary, Matthew Rycroft CBE and published on 14 April 2022, this [Memorandum of Understanding](#) sets out the agreement between the UK Government and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda on offshore processing of asylum claims.

The objective of this arrangement is to create a mechanism for the relocation of asylum seekers whose claims are not being considered by the United Kingdom, to Rwanda, which will process their claims and settle or remove (as appropriate) individuals after their claim is decided.

### Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda – Equality Impact Assessment

On 9 May 2022, the Home Office published an [assessment](#) of how the Migration and Economic Development Partnership with Rwanda may affect groups with particular protected characteristics.

### First migrants set for Rwanda to be given final notice

The [Home Office](#) has begun issuing formal directions to the first group of people being relocated to Rwanda. It comes after the Home Office issued notices of intent in May 2022 informing some individuals that they were in scope for relocation. The removal direction confirms that they will be going to Rwanda and when. The first flight is expected to take place on 14 June.

## Independent Advisory Group on Country Information (IAGCI) orders rapid review of Rwanda policy

[Section 48\(2\)\(j\)](#) of the UK Borders Act 2007 provides that the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) shall: “consider and make recommendations about...the content of information about conditions in countries outside the United Kingdom which the Secretary of State compiles and makes available, for purposes connected with immigration and asylum, to immigration officers and other officials.”

To assist the Chief Inspector in fulfilling this statutory role, a body of experts sitting as the Independent Advisory Group on Country Information (IAGCI) regularly reviews the Country of Origin Information (COI) products that are issued by the Home Office. The Home Office refers to these products in procedures that assess claims of individuals for refugee status or other forms of international and humanitarian protection. COI is also used in policy formulation.

The IAGCI reviews products to provide assurance to the Chief Inspector that the content is accurate, balanced, objective and up-to-date and has sought a country expert to review the country information contained in the following Country Policy and Information Notes (CPINs) on Rwanda, published in May 2022:

- [Country policy and information note: Rwanda, assessment, May 2022 \(18 pages\)](#)
- [Country policy and information note: Rwanda, asylum system, May 2022 \(56 pages\)](#)
- [Country policy and information note: Rwanda, general human rights, May 2022 \(101 pages\)](#)
- [Country policy and information note: Rwanda, interview notes \(Annex A\), May 2022 \(75 pages\)](#)

The review is due by 8 July 2022. For further information, click [here](#)

## Inspection of contingency asylum accommodation - Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI)

This inspection focuses on the use of hotels as contingency asylum accommodation. It follows the ICIBI's inspection in February 2021, of the use of Napier Barracks and Penally Camp as contingency asylum accommodation. The use of hotels as contingency asylum accommodation is not new, but the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on moving people on to Dispersed Accommodation increased the demand for Initial (and contingency) Accommodation, and therefore hotels. This was exacerbated by the sharp rise in asylum intake in summer 2021. By November 2021, 21,500 asylum seekers were being accommodated in 181 hotels, more than double the figures in May 2021.

The [report](#) made 7 recommendations which were all [accepted](#) by the Home Office.

The ICIBI has also completed a number of inspections which are awaiting publication including:

- An inspection of the initial processing of migrants arriving via small boats at Tug Haven (24 February 2022)
- A short re-inspection of Napier Barracks (21 April 2022)

Live inspections include:

- An inspection of the use of hotels for housing unaccompanied asylum-seeking children

## Call for evidence – Current standards of Temporary Accommodation across England

The All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Households in Temporary Accommodation (TA) has launched a [call for evidence](#) about current standards of TA across England. The enquiry relates to people placed in temporary asylum accommodation and placed by local authorities as homeless.

The purpose of this call for evidence is to support investigations into the viability of and need for a national system through which TA standards are monitored, regulated and enforced. It is also to help increase the APPG's understanding of what the issues are that people living in TA face on a day to day basis right now in England, and form part of a national strategy to improve the health and wellbeing of all that live in TA.

The information provided will aid the work of the Households in Temporary Accommodation APPG.



## **Home Office launches consultation to improve arrangements for asylum accommodation dispersal (Full Dispersal Model)**

The Full Dispersal model will reduce and end the use of hotels by allowing the Home Office to procure dispersal properties within the private rental sector in all local authority areas across England, Scotland and Wales, rather than the minority of local authorities which currently participate, this approach will reduce pressures on those local authorities.

The Home Office will work with local authorities, through an informal consultation, to design the details of how the full dispersal system will operate in each region. The online [consultation](#) will invite views from Devolved Governments, Local Authorities and Non-Government Organisations who have an interest in asylum dispersal and resettlement. It will shape the design of a reformed asylum dispersal system which covers all local authority areas in England, Scotland and Wales and is:

- Fair, sustainable and value for the tax payer
- Collaborative, providing increased engagement and involvement of local authorities
- Innovative and responsive to changing demands and needs.

In addition to the online consultation, the Home Office are also undertaking regional engagement workshops with local authorities to agree a regional allocation model, to implement full dispersal for the coming years. The model will consider the impacts on urban and rural areas as well as market capacity. It will provide local authorities with more control and autonomy at a regional level by asking them to collectively agree an approach to dispersal in their region and presents an opportunity for national and local government to work together to ensure the system works better for communities across England, Scotland, and Wales.

The first round of regional workshops will commence on 16 May. These workshops will provide further detail around next steps and set out a timetable for the development of regional allocations and regional plans. The Home Office and commercial partners will work in partnership through the Strategic Migration Partnerships (SMPs) to reach regional agreements which work for all parties. If, however, local authorities are unable to agree an approach to dispersal in their region, then the Home Office and its commercial partners will move ahead with a regional plan. This will be achieved through a backstop; a weighting exercise, designed through the consultation, to determine allocations in that region.

A second round of engagement workshops will commence at the mid-point of the consultation, to build upon the responses through the online consultation, gathering additional qualitative evidence to provide the Home Office with a richer evidence base.

To support the implementation of a full dispersal model, as part of the consultation process, the Home Office will undertake a New Burdens assessment. This will be an opportunity to better understand the costs associated with asylum dispersal and engage with the local government sector. Where genuine additional and ongoing costs are identified, these will be addressed in line with the New Burdens Doctrine and subject to a post-implementation review.

The consultation will close on 1 July 2022, and it is expected that regional plans will be implemented shortly after. Following the consultation closure, the Home Office will continue to work closely with local government and other interested partners to inform the development of the design of the new system.

A document showing the survey questions can be viewed [here](#)

## **Military to take operational command of responding to small boats in the Channel**

The Home Office [announced](#) on 14 April that the military will now take operational command of responding to small boats in the Channel, in partnership with Border Force.

This will happen with immediate effect and be backed up by £50 million in new funding. This change will deliver new boats, aerial surveillance and military personnel which will supplement Border Force teams and their existing patrol vessels and will provide a Wildcat helicopter.



## Home Office withdraws Channel “pushbacks” policy

The Home Office has withdrawn its “pushback policy” which set out a plan to return migrant boats in the English Channel to France. On 23 December 2021, judicial review proceedings had been issued by three human rights organisations and a union representing Border Force officers challenging the Defendant's policy of turning around small boats and diverting them from UK territorial waters into French territorial waters (commonly referred to as the “pushback” policy)

On 14 April 2022, the Prime Minister mentioned in the course of announcing the new Rwanda policy that the pushbacks policy was not to be implemented, and on 24 April, the Government Legal Department wrote to confirm that the turnaround tactic was being reconsidered, and that as a result “the policies and procedures which are the subject of the ongoing litigation are withdrawn”. The resulting consent order is [here](#).

To read more about the withdrawal, click [here](#)

## Refugee Council advice line for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children in England

The Refugee Council’s Independent Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children Support Service (IUSS) is a service for unaccompanied children seeking asylum in England. Refugee Council advisers work directly with unaccompanied children seeking asylum, providing impartial and independent information, advice and guidance to help them to navigate the asylum and looked after children’s systems.

For more information, click [here](#).

Flyers for the service in English, Amharic, Arabic, Tigrinya and Vietnamese are also available by clicking [here](#)

## Right to Remain online toolkit to support asylum seekers with the substantive interview process

This [toolkit](#) looks at what you should do before the interview including information about preliminary information questionnaires (PIQs). Read this page to find out what the interview will be like and what questions you may be asked. You can also find out what you need to do after the substantive interview.

This page has some additional general information on the interview process including a video and translations into a number of languages.

## Open University launches Open Futures Sanctuary Scholarships programme for displaced refugees

A new fund has been launched by The Open University (OU) to support people displaced by conflict or crisis to build a brighter and better future. The [Open Futures Sanctuary Scholarships programme](#) is designed to help refugees, forced migrants and people seeking asylum; those fleeing armed conflict, violence, or persecution in their home nation, including those currently affected by the war in Ukraine.

The £240,000 per year fund offers 12 scholarships each year for the next three years, awarding a full fee waiver amounting to £20,000 per student. A further 50 fully funded places will be offered on OU Access Modules starting in Autumn 2022 with the aim of providing qualifying applicants with the skills and confidence to progress into Higher Education.

People arriving in the UK seeking refuge because of threats to their lives face many challenges, but they also have a chance to build a new life and a hopeful future for their families. It often means the first time they can engage with higher education and/or have access to meaningful employment.

The scholarships fund will provide a study starter pack and access to careers and employability services including bespoke guidance, online tools, events, and links to employers.

## Guidance for businesses offering work to people coming from Ukraine

This [publication](#) provides guidance for businesses considering making offers of employment to people coming to the UK from Ukraine.



## Ukraine Family Scheme and Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme (Homes for Ukraine) visa data

As of 30 May 2022, the total Ukraine Scheme visa applications received was 143,900. This is comprised of:

- Ukraine Family Scheme: 46,000
- Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: 97,900

The total Ukraine Scheme visas issued to people is 120,200

- Ukraine Family Scheme visas: 40,300
- Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme visas: 79,900

As of 29 May 2022, the total arrivals of Ukraine Scheme visa-holders in the UK was 65,700

- arrivals via Ukraine Family Scheme: 23,100
- arrivals via Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: 42,600

For more data on Homes for Ukraine visa applications, visa grants and arrivals ranked by Local Authority, click [here](#)

## Homes for Ukraine: guidance for matching organisations

The Homes for Ukraine scheme allows people who are fleeing Ukraine to seek sanctuary and who have no family ties to the UK to be sponsored by named individuals who can offer them a home, such as a spare room or unoccupied residential self-contained unit for at least 6 months.

Charities, businesses and faith and community groups have a key role to play in welcoming individuals arriving in the UK. Through this scheme, organisations can also play a role in connecting individual sponsors with those who wish to be sponsored ('matching'). This [guidance](#) explains how organisations can safely and effectively facilitate matches as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme.

## Homes for Ukraine: organisations supporting the matching process

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities has published a [list](#) of voluntary and community sector organisations running schemes which provide support for and help match people coming from Ukraine with sponsors in the UK, as part of the Homes for Ukraine scheme. A [list](#) of voluntary and community sector organisations running schemes which provide support for and help match sponsors with people coming to the UK from Ukraine has also been published. It is expected that these lists will grow over time, so you are encouraged to check them regularly.

The charities' websites also contain helpful guidance and other types of information and support.

## Anti-trafficking charities launch a new website aimed at keeping Ukrainian refugees safe and stopping exploitation

A coalition of anti-slavery and human rights groups has launched a new [website](#) for Ukrainian refugees in the UK, aimed at keeping them safe from trafficking and helping them adjust to their new home. The website is available in the Ukrainian, English and Russian languages and is a "one-stop shop" of useful websites, helplines, and other information – anything from where to get basic travel and housing advice to opening a bank account and understanding your rights as a worker. It includes links to the Government's information for displaced Ukrainians.

Andrew Wallis, CEO of anti-slavery charity [Unseen](#), one of the groups behind the initiative says: "There are millions of Ukrainian people on the move, many of them with no support network, who are vulnerable to all sorts of exploitation. The more information we can give them on how to stay safe in the UK and where to go for support for an entire range of issues, the better. It will stop exploitation. It's vitally important we get this information out there quickly as the situation gets more urgent by the day. We are already receiving calls from Ukrainian refugees to our Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline. And we are also getting worrying signals from other organisations in Europe regarding the trafficking of displaced Ukrainian people."

## **The war in Ukraine and associated risks of human trafficking and exploitation: Insights from an evidence gathering roundtable**

On 24 February 2022 the Russian Federation launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Many millions of people have been displaced both within Ukraine and beyond its borders. Faced with one of the fastest growing refugee situations in recent history, both state and non-state actors are increasingly turning their minds to how to prevent this clear humanitarian crisis from turning into a human trafficking crisis.

In response to these concerns and the need for evidence to inform policy and practice, University College London (UCL) and the Office of the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC) convened an international, multi-agency online roundtable on 7 April 2022. The roundtable focused on risks of human trafficking and exploitation arising from the war in Ukraine. The emphasis was on the UK context, situated within lessons and concerns from the broader international landscape. Over one hundred specialists participated in the roundtable, including representatives from civil society, national and transnational governmental organisations, law enforcement, labour market enforcement, healthcare, academia and industry.

In the roundtable discussions, five main themes were identified:

1. Conflict drives trafficking and exploitation
2. The UK's visa-based responses contains considerable risks and needs more clarity, resourcing, and accountability
3. Information gaps and overloads may exacerbate risks of trafficking and exploitation
4. Insecurity, fear and the broader political climate around immigration and asylum create difficult conditions in which to respond
5. Longer-term strategic planning is vital but seems to be lacking to date

Click [here](#) for more on these themes.

Based on the overall evidence, 25 concrete policy recommendations were made. More detail on the thematic findings and specific recommendations can be found in the [full report](#).

## **The Ukrainian Conflict Could Be a Tipping Point for Refugee Protection – Migration Policy Institute (MPI) Commentary**

Recent displacement crises - from Syria, Afghanistan, and Venezuela to Myanmar, South Sudan, and most recently, Ukraine - have imposed huge stresses on the humanitarian protection regime. Yet individual countries and regional organizations have been innovating to meet the challenge and expand the options available for humanitarian protection in ways that ease pressures on overburdened or underdeveloped asylum systems.

In a new [commentary](#), MPI and MPI Europe Director for International Research Meghan Benton and MPI President Andrew Selee examine some of the alternative pathways that countries in Europe and Latin America are taking to receive the displaced and incorporate them into their communities and labour markets. Swift grants of temporary protection status by the European Union for Ukrainians, the ten-year status that Colombia has given more than 1.7 million displaced Venezuelans, and use of existing mobility agreements by Argentina and Uruguay to grant short-term residency to Venezuelans all represent pragmatic arrangements.

While some have dismissed these solutions as “protection lite” and note the shortcomings that temporary protection regimes can bring, the commentary argues that alternate arrangements are common sense, particularly for regional movements that sit at the intersection of labour mobility and displacement.

The commentary also explores expanded use of complementary pathways, such as private and community sponsorship and use of work, study, and family reunification channels, to admit people in need. And it discusses the need to streamline integration processes and have them be part of the consideration from day one.

“These approaches will not work in every case, and they should not replace existing mechanisms for asylum and refugee protection, but they will be an increasingly important addition to the existing protection regime when the conditions on the ground allow for pragmatic solutions that complement traditional asylum and refugee designations,” Benton and Selee conclude.



## Migration

### Support for vulnerable applicants to the EU Settlement Scheme

On 4 April 2022, the Home Office announced further funding to help vulnerable EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members applying to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). The additional funding of £2.5 million will go to a network of 68 grant funded organisations located throughout the UK which help people to apply to the EUSS who have vulnerabilities such as language barriers and IT support.

For more information, click [here](#)

### Application for change of conditions of leave to allow access to public funds if your circumstances change: Updated 29 April 2022

This update clarifies that those with a British National (Overseas) (BNO) visa who successfully apply for a change of conditions will be able to apply for settlement through the BNO route after 5 years living in the UK.

Apply [online](#) if you already have leave granted on the basis of your family or private life and your financial circumstances change.

Read more on eligibility, evidence required and timeframes for assessing requests [here](#)

### Call for evidence: An inspection of the immigration system as it relates to the agricultural sector

The Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) invites anyone with knowledge and experience of the interaction between the UK immigration system and the agricultural sector to submit evidence to inform an inspection in this area.

The Independent Chief Inspector is interested in assessing the extent to which the Home Office's immigration functions support the agricultural sector. To that end, it is expected that this inspection will adopt a broad perspective on the interaction between the UK's immigration system and the agricultural sector, examining such areas as:

- the efficiency and effectiveness of the [Seasonal Agricultural Worker Pilot](#)
- the extent and quality of communication and engagement between the Home Office and the agricultural sector
- the current suitability of the Home Office's licencing system for visa sponsorship
- the effectiveness of the Home Office's compliance requirements on sponsors, including how these safeguard employees from exploitation

The Independent Chief Inspector would be pleased to hear both what is working well and what could be improved. Information received in response to this call for evidence will play an important part in defining the scope and focus of the inspection.

To learn more about how to submit your evidence, click [here](#)

The ICIBI has also completed a number of inspections which are awaiting publication including:

- An inspection into the immigration system as it relates to the higher education sector (21 April 2022)
- An inspection of GPS electronic monitoring of Foreign National Offenders (5 May 2022)
- An inspection of juxtaposed controls (19 May 2022)
- An inspection of Family Visas (20 May 2022)

Live inspections include:

- An inspection of the Hong Kong British National (Overseas) visa route



## **When Harm Remains: An update report on trafficked and unaccompanied children going missing from care in the UK – ECPAT UK and Missing People**

A new [report](#) from ECPAT UK (Every Child Protected Against Trafficking UK) and Missing People finds that one in three (378 of 1,231 – 31%) trafficked children went missing from local authority care in 2020, which is a rise of 25% (24.9%) since 2018, when last reported.

ECPAT UK and Missing People’s analysis of data from Freedom of Information requests to local authorities shows that trafficked children who went missing in 2020 had an average of eight missing episodes that year. This is a significantly higher rate of going missing than the looked after children population of England who had an average of 6.5 missing episodes in the same year.

‘When Harm Remains’ highlights that the number of identified and suspected trafficked children in local authority care has increased by 22% over the last few years, from 960 trafficked children in care in 2018 to 1,231 in 2020.

Trafficking is child abuse and trafficked children are victims of modern slavery, and continue to be one of the groups of looked after children most at risk of going missing in the UK. While one in three trafficked children in the UK went missing in 2020, one in 10 looked after children went missing in England that year, and one in 200 children went missing overall in the UK.

When child victims go missing from care, it’s often an indicator that they have been re-trafficked: traffickers identify the child or young person and find ways to remove them from care for the purpose of subjecting them to further exploitation.

You can read the full press release [here](#)

## **Practitioner Responses to Child Trafficking: Emerging Good Practice - Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC) and Cumberland Lodge report**

The Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner (IASC) and Cumberland Lodge have released a [report](#) on practitioner responses to child trafficking. The report makes 10 practical recommendations to improve the multi-sector response to child trafficking, setting out that the response to child trafficking and exploitation needs to be:

- child-centred
- culturally competent
- contextual
- collaborative

It concludes that although it is clear that considerable progress has been made since the Modern Slavery Act 2015 came into force, there are still significant concerns about the safeguarding response to child victims of trafficking.

## **Children's Champion 2022 – ECPAT UK**

Nominations have opened for ECPAT UK’s Children’s Champion award 2022. Each year, ECPAT UK recognises someone who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to trafficked children with their Children's Champion award. The winner will be selected in June by a panel of young people affected by trafficking, staff members and trustees. Find out more about the award and submit your nominations [here](#) before 17.00 on Friday 17 June.

If you wish to share information about the award with your networks and on social media, you can retweet the details [here](#).

## **Translated Health Information for Patients – Doctors of the World**

This series of [resources](#) addresses common questions including how to register with a GP, COVID-19 and the vaccine as well as keeping young people healthy.



## Chartered Institute of Housing - Housing rights quarterly newsletter

This issue of the housing rights newsletter has several articles about helping Ukrainians and also important updates on right to rent checks and other issues.

The April issue can be downloaded [here](#) and includes the following articles:

- Helping Ukrainian refugees – what you need to know
- Homes for Ukraine – two views from Scotland
- Government plans come under scrutiny
- More questions on the crisis in Ukraine
- The Nationality & Borders Bill returns to the Commons
- Key changes to ‘right to rent’ checks
- Latest news on tackling destitution
- The EU Settlement Scheme – problems continue
- Asylum – latest news on accommodation and other issues
- Building knowledge and skills for fairer outcomes in homelessness applications
- Refugees show the way in Coventry
- A final word: can we offer a kinder and more compassionate welcome to refugees?

## Raise minimum wage for social care workers rather than loosening visa rules, says the Migration Advisory Committee

There should be a higher minimum wage just for social care workers rather than looser visa rules, the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) has recommended in their [new report](#).

The government has previously, at the MAC’s urging, put social care workers on the Shortage Occupation List to allow them to be sponsored for Health and Care visas. The committee now recommends scrapping the Immigration Skills Charge and waiving or reducing settlement fees for some care workers but keeping the minimum salary threshold for sponsorship at £20,480.

## Updated Employer’s Guide to Right to Work Checks

The most significant updates contained in this guidance which was updated on 6 April 2022 relate to:

- changes in the way Biometric Residence Card, Biometric Residence Permit (BRC/BRPs) and Frontier Worker Permit (FWPs) holders prove their right to work
- changes to the lists of acceptable documents (Annex A):
  - the removal of current documents issued by the Home Office to a family member of an EEA or Swiss citizen, which indicated that the holder had permission to stay in the United Kingdom.
  - amendments to List A and B, group 1 to remove Biometric Immigration Documents (Biometric Residence Permit) issued by the Home Office
  - amendments to List B, group 1 to remove frontier worker permits issued under regulation 8 of the Citizens’ Rights (Frontier Workers) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020.
  - addition to List B, group 2 of a Certificate of Application (CoA) digital or non-digital confirming a valid application to the EUSS on or after 1 July 2021 together with a Positive Verification Notice (PVN) from the Employer Checking Service (ECS).
  - amendments to List B, group 2, document no 3 to include an application for leave to enter or remain under Appendix EU to the Isle of Man Immigration Rules and removal of reference to applications submitted on or before 30 June 2021.
- information on sponsored work and student categories (Annex C)
- changes and further guidance to enable employers to use Identity Service Providers (IDSPs) to carry out digital identity verification as part of a right to work check (Annex D).
- extension to the COVID-19 temporary adjusted right to work checks until 30 September 2022 (Annex E).

To read the guidance in full, click [here](#)



## **Harmed Not Heard: Failures in Safeguarding for the Most Vulnerable People in Immigration Detention – Report by Medical Justice**

Immigration detention is the practice of detaining people who seek asylum or those with an unsettled immigration position for administrative purposes. It is not part of any criminal sentence. Detention decisions are made administratively by caseworkers employed by the Home Office applying legal principles and government policy. Although there is a process of regular internal reviews of the decision to detain, there is little independent oversight, and no upper time limit. Individuals do not know in advance how long they will be held in detention.

Historically the power to detain people was intended to be used on a very limited basis, but since its introduction in 1971, the numbers of people subject to such detention have rapidly increased. 24,497 people entered immigration detention in the year ending December 2021. The current government has demonstrated a commitment to continuing the practice of immigration detention since it opened a new Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) for women (Derwentside) in September 2021. This brings the total number of IRCs dedicated to detaining people only for immigration reasons within the UK to seven.

This [report](#) summarises the research consensus concerning the adverse effect of detention on the mental health of detained people, immigration detention safeguarding law and policy and Medical Justice’s analysis of the systemic failure of those safeguards for vulnerable people.

## **35 projects across England awarded funding for events from Windrush Day Grant Scheme 2022**

35 charities, community groups and councils across England are to receive a share of £500,000 to commemorate Windrush Day on 22 June 2022 which marks the outstanding contribution of the Windrush Generation and their descendants. In the East of England, projects in Peterborough, Tilbury and Luton have received funding.

Telling the stories of Peterborough’s Windrush generation will be the centre of a celebratory programme in Peterborough that both raises awareness and celebrates, with a long-term legacy of the Windrush Generation in the city. It’ll take place in the form of a special radio programme, dominoes world record championship, sharing food recipes, curry cook off, family activities, dance, Caribbean music, an exhibition documenting the story and a dynamic education programme looking not just the Windrush story in Britain, but also the countries they left and their cultural heritage and traditions. There will be an opportunity for local Peterborough Polish and Italian migrant communities that followed to share their stories with Windrush members through events which promote social mixing.

In Tilbury, the project will coincide with the unveiling of the Windrush Monument on 22 June at Waterloo, bringing 180 people down the river to celebrate with the local Tilbury community on Windrush Day. This will include arriving in Tilbury by boat at a celebration in the Cruise Terminal, and on the dock where the MV Empire Windrush originally docked which will be a special event for many people. The displays and performances at the terminal and on the boat will showcase hand painted flags telling Windrush stories to the fantastic Walkway of Memories by Ewewright.

In Luton, the funding will help reach more people in the Luton community by enabling You Are Able CIC to provide a film screening event for their documentary ‘A Bit British’. This event will showcase Luton’s Caribbean community and the positive contributions it has made across the town over the generations. It will also enable You Are Able to provide screenings and workshops in schools and community groups to help improve community cohesion and build on Luton’s diverse background. The documentary aims to archive the connections as many of these individuals have since passed away but have left in many cases a verbal history with their children. This intends to leave a record that can educate future generations and used a resource, and the project plans to place the documentary with Luton Heritage Forum.

Click [here](#) to learn more about the projects funded by the scheme.



## Events and Training

### City of Sanctuary Thematic Network Forum: Dispersal and Wraparound – 14 June 2022 12:00-13:30

Local Government is at the heart of helping families settle into their communities and access a range of wrap-around services. Members of the City of Sanctuary Local Authorities Network have been leading the way in creating places, policies and practices that ensure people of sanctuary seeking background can find safety and understanding among their communities.

Following announcement of Government's 'Full Dispersal Model' which will allow the Home Office to procure properties in all Local Authority areas across England, Scotland and Wales you are invited to a discussion drawing on the experience of existing dispersal areas.

The aim of the session is to support local authorities as they think through responses to the now launched informal consultation, as well as to begin thinking about plans for their regions. To that end the forum will also look at wraparound services that can have a positive impact on the experience of people going through the asylum system. The forum will hear from several local authorities, strategic partners, as well as key 3rd sector organisations supporting this work.

Click [here](#) to register

### On Our Doorstep, Special Refugee Week Screening and Director Q & A – Electric Palace Cinema, Harwich – 19 June 2022 19:30

To mark the beginning of refugee week 2022, there will be a screening of 'On Our Doorstep' at the Electric Palace in Harwich, which is the port where the Kindertransport came through in 1938.

'On Our Doorstep' delves deep into an aspect of the ongoing refugee crisis that rarely reached the press. This film is a behind-the-scenes look at the extraordinary grassroots movement that rose to aid the Calais 'Jungle', and the community that sprang up there, before it was forcefully demolished.

This is the story of what happens when young and inexperienced civilians are forced to devise systems and structures to support 10,000 refugees; and are left unguided to face the moral and emotional dilemmas, blurred lines and frequent grey areas of giving aid to vulnerable people.

Originally arriving in the Calais 'Jungle' as a volunteer, Thomas Laurance ended up embedding himself and documenting what he saw over the year he spent there, until the camp's destruction in October 2016. Upon returning to the UK, Thomas sourced footage from other filmmakers, activists, volunteers and refugees, weaving together a patchwork of intimate frontline experience that offers unique access to the communities of the 'Jungle'. 'On Our Doorstep' stands as a reminder of the continuing work ordinary civilians do to help those forced to seek safety away from home.

Click [here](#) to book a ticket

### Refugee Week – 20-26 June 2022

Refugee Week is a UK-wide festival celebrating the contributions, creativity and resilience of refugees and people seeking sanctuary. Founded in 1998 and held every year around World Refugee Day on the 20 June, Refugee Week is also a growing global movement.

Refugee Week is an umbrella festival, and anyone can get involved by holding or joining an event or activity. Events happen in all kinds of different spaces and range from arts festivals, exhibitions, film screenings and museum tours to football tournaments, public talks and activities in schools.

For more information and to find out about events taking, click [here](#)



## **Tackling Virginit**

Karma Nirvana are hosting a series of free 'Tackling Virginit

- Dispel the 'virginit
- Challenge harmful perceptions linked to virginit
- Outlines the new law to ban virginit

Click [here](#) for event dates and to book

## **Free e-learning courses for those who want to improve their support for the emotional wellbeing of asylum seekers and refugees – Solace**

These courses have been developed with the intention of increasing access for refugees and asylum seekers to compassionate and impactful wellbeing support across the UK. Their aim is to support a network of informed individuals and services and support learners to be a refugee mental health champion in their organisation. The e-learning courses are:

- Understanding Refugee and Asylum Seeker Mental Health
- Effective Therapeutic Support for Asylum Seekers

For more information, click [here](#)

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## **Funding**

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### **The Trinity Language Access Fund – Support for Ukrainian Nationals**

The Trinity Language Access Fund has been developed to provide English language learning and examination grants for learners who experience barriers due to race inequality, settlement status, special needs, disability and more.

In an effort to support the millions of families that have had to take refuge as a result of the conflict in Ukraine, Trinity College London is pleased to introduce a special round of the Trinity Language Access Fund to help those who have been affected by the war.

Trinity College London have made a commitment to substantially increase the fund, and to create a special application round that will award grants for English language learning projects that are specifically focused on supporting Ukrainian nationals. Teachers and organisations working with Ukrainian learners anywhere in the world are encouraged to apply for funding to help with the costs of English lessons, equipment, materials or exams.

Those looking to submit an application in this additional and extended Trinity Language Access Fund round can do so from Monday 4 April 2022 up until **Monday 27 June 2022**.

For further information, click [here](#)

### **Department for Education grant for senior mental health lead training**

The Department for Education (DfE) is offering a grant of £1,200 for eligible state-funded schools and colleges in England to train a senior mental health lead to develop and implement a whole school or college approach to mental health and wellbeing. This training is not compulsory, but it is part of the government's commitment to offer this training to all eligible schools and colleges by 2025.

Eligible schools and colleges are now able to apply for a senior mental health lead training grant to commence training within the 2022 to 2023 financial year, up to 31 March 2023. Grants will be provided to cover (or contribute to) the cost of attending a quality assured course and may also be used to hire supply staff whilst leads are engaged in learning.

For more information, click [here](#)



## **Call for applications for research funding: Improving the identification of adults with lived experience of modern slavery in the UK – The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre**

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (Modern Slavery PEC) has re-opened a call for proposals on a research project on improving the identification of adults with lived experience of modern slavery in the UK.

The aim of this research project will be to identify promising practice to improve the identification of adults with lived experience of modern slavery in the UK and the quality of referrals into the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), as well as to explore the reasons behind a decision to give or not to give consent to enter the UK NRM.

The scope of the research is limited to adults with lived experience of modern slavery in the UK. Exploring the journeys of people who opt not to enter the NRM and the impact this has on recovery and outcomes is out of scope, as is exploring why people decide to leave the NRM.

A maximum budget of £80,000 at 100% full economic cost (FEC) is allocated for this project. The Modern Slavery PEC expects to fund one project for this work. Please note that a portion of this funding is conditional on the successful team putting in place a data sharing agreement with the Home Office to analyse Duty to Notify referral data, redacted to protect personal details (agreed to in principle).

The project may be led by either a UK higher education institution, an approved research organisation eligible to receive UKRI funding, or a charity registered in the UK with a focus on modern slavery.

To read the full call document, click [here](#)

**The deadline for applications is 16:00 on 22 June 2022**

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## **Jobs**

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### **Project Coordinator, Luton – British Red Cross Refugee Support**

The British Red Cross have an exciting new opportunity for a Project Coordinator who is passionate about helping people to join the team.

This role is at the heart of the Refugee Support and Restoring Family Links team - a small team connected by the common goal of helping people who have been displaced as a result of their migration status. In this role you will be responsible for developing, coordinating and delivering casework and wellbeing and integration activities for refugees, asylum seekers and other vulnerable migrants. You will play a key role within the Refugee Support and Restoring Family links function and will work to help support vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers and ensure they receive a person centred and holistic experience.

You will also undertake a range of duties designed to develop, maintain and promote the service by engaging external workshop facilitators, managing volunteers who support project activities and providing follow-up support for service users.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)

**Application Deadline: Tuesday 14 June 2022, 23:59**

### **Campaign and Partnership Officer – Karma Nirvana**

The Campaign and Partnership Officer will work closely with the Executive Team to pursue, elevate and drive the campaign and partnership work within their strategy. Specifically, Karma Nirvana are looking for someone who will support influencing work on both a national and local level. This will include supporting the development and delivery of their strategic priority to improve cross-governmental accountability in responding to Honour Based Abuse as a form of domestic abuse to influence policy, law and practice responses.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)

**Application Deadline: Friday 17 June 2022, 12:00**



## **Communications Officer – Karma Nirvana**

Karma Nirvana are looking for a creative and enthusiastic communicator to help us to tell our story. This role will support the development of the Karma Nirvana brand in line with their new strategy; communicating key messages in a way that visibly shifts the public debate. This role will also support Karma Nirvana to reach new professional audiences with training courses and services.

This role will have a strong focus on digital development – working closely on their website and social media platforms, helping to grow the audience and communicate key messages.

For more information and to apply, click [here](#)

**Application Deadline: Friday 17 June 2022, 12:00**

If you have had this passed on to you and you want to receive e-mail updates yourself, you can subscribe by emailing [helen.hancock@eelga.gov.uk](mailto:helen.hancock@eelga.gov.uk)

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