

[Asylum Seekers and Refugees](#)

[Migration](#)

[Events](#)

[Funding](#)

[Jobs](#)

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.

## **CONTENT**

---

### **ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES – INCLUDING REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT**

---

- [Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme \(ACRS\) – Guidance](#)
- [UK Resettlement Scheme funding instructions, 2022-23](#)
- [Thousands of Ukrainian refugees offered school places around the country – Press Release](#)
- [100,000 Ukrainians welcomed to safety in the UK](#)
- [Homes for Ukraine Scheme now open to applications from unaccompanied children](#)
- [A re-inspection of Napier Barracks – Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration report](#)
- [An inspection of the initial processing of migrants arriving via small boats at Tug Haven and Western Jet Foil December 2021 – January 2022 – Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration report](#)
- [Channel crossings, migration and asylum – House of Commons Committee report](#)
- [Safe routes to the UK are closed: displaced people share their experiences – Refugee Legal Support report](#)
- [Outside the Frame: Unaccompanied children denied care and protection – ECPAT UK report](#)
- [Lives on Hold: The Experiences of People in Hotel Asylum Accommodation – Refugee Council research report](#)
- [Experts by experience research opportunity for young people who arrived in the UK as unaccompanied asylum seeking children](#)
- [High Court hearing on lawfulness of policy of relocating asylum seekers to Rwanda is adjourned until September](#)
- [Rwanda Commentary – Asylos](#)
- [Differentiated asylum system takes effect from 28 June 2022](#)
- [Revised National Transfer Scheme marks 1 year since launch](#)
- [Guidance to support HC2 applications for asylum seekers](#)

---

### **MIGRATION**

---

- [Key EU Settlement Scheme reminders](#)
- [EU Settlement Scheme: Zambrano primary carers - Guidance](#)
- [EU Settlement Scheme statistics](#)

[Back to the top](#)

- [Unlocking the door: A roadmap for supporting non-UK nationals facing homelessness in England – Report by Homeless Link and The No Accommodation Network \(NACCOM\)](#)
- [Varying a settlement application and granting permission to stay](#)
- [Taking Care: How local authorities can best address immigration issues of children in care – Report by South London Refugee Association and Coram Children’s Legal Centre](#)
- [Fee waiver introduced for children applying for British citizenship](#)
- [Creating Stable Futures: Human trafficking, participation and outcomes for children – Interim report by ECPAT UK](#)
- [Windrush Compensation Scheme statistics](#)
- [Chartered Institute of Housing – Housing rights quarterly newsletter](#)
- [No recourse to public funds \(NRPF\) policy found to be unlawful](#)

---

## EVENTS AND TRAINING

---

- [One Year On: The Situation for At-Risk Afghans in Afghanistan and Abroad – Migration Policy Institute Webcast – Wednesday 10 August 2022, 15:00-16:30](#)
- [Moving Forward with Your Education \(Refugees and Asylum Seekers\) – Refugee Education UK \(REUK\) – Tuesday 16 August 2022, 16:00-17:30](#)
- [Capacity building: Journey with an Unaccompanied Child – Refugee Youth Service](#)

---

## FUNDING

---

- [Shared Ground Fund – Paul Hamlyn Foundation](#)

---

## JOBS

---

- [Immigration Advisor \(Rough Sleepers Team\) OISC Level 2/3 or Solicitor with IAAS accreditation – RAMFEL](#)
- [Coordinator of Experts by Experience Task Force – RAMFEL](#)
- [Employment & General Advice Worker \(Ukraine Programme\) – Suffolk Refugee Support](#)

## Asylum Seekers and Refugees – including refugee resettlement

### Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) – Guidance

The UK formally opened this scheme on 6 January 2022 and the Home Office announced further details of the Afghan citizens resettlement scheme in June 2022.

The scheme will prioritise:

- those who have assisted the UK efforts in Afghanistan and stood up for values such as democracy, women's rights, freedom of speech, and rule of law
- vulnerable people, including women and girls at risk, and members of minority groups at risk (including ethnic and religious minorities and LGBT+)

The government will resettle more than 5,000 people in the first year and up to 20,000 over the coming years.

The scheme is not application-based. Instead, eligible people will be prioritised and referred for resettlement to the UK through one of 3 referral pathways, as set out in this [latest guidance](#):

1. Under Pathway 1, vulnerable and at-risk individuals who arrived in the UK under the evacuation programme have been the first to be settled under the ACRS. Eligible people who were notified by the UK government that they had been called forward or specifically authorised for evacuation, but were not able to board flights, will also be offered a place under the scheme if they subsequently come to the UK.
2. Under Pathway 2, the Home Office is now able to begin receiving referrals from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) of vulnerable refugees who have fled Afghanistan for resettlement to the UK. UNHCR has the global mandate to provide international protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees. UNHCR will refer individuals in accordance with their standard resettlement submission criteria, which are based on an assessment of protection needs and vulnerabilities.
3. Pathway 3 was designed to offer a route to resettlement for those at risk who supported the UK and international community effort in Afghanistan, as well as those who are particularly vulnerable, such as women and girls at risk and members of minority groups. In the first year of this pathway, the government will consider eligible, at-risk British Council and GardaWorld contractors and Chevening alumni for resettlement. There are 1,500 places available in the first year under Pathway 3. This number includes the principal applicants and their eligible family members.

Find out about eligibility and how to express interest in resettlement through Pathway 3 [here](#).

Funding instructions for the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) and Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP), 2022-23 have been released and shared with local authorities, and will be published on gov.uk shortly.

### UK Resettlement Scheme funding instructions, 2022-23

Local authority funding instructions for the UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS), 2022-2023, have been released. This includes funding instructions for Healthcare under the scheme.

The funding instructions can be accessed [here](#)

### Thousands of Ukrainian refugees offered school places around the country – [Press Release](#)

[New statistics](#) show almost 10,000 children from Ukraine have been given school places and the data will be used to make sure all school age children from Ukraine are getting a good education.

Once the parents or guardians of children arriving from Ukraine have put in an application for a school place it is for the local authority or school to offer a suitable place for each child within 15 school days. Schools and councils across the country have stepped up to the challenge and 9,900 places have been offered to pupils from Ukraine.

Guidance and resources to help education staff support Ukrainian pupils have also been released, and can be accessed [here](#).

[Back to the top](#)

## 100,000 Ukrainians welcomed to safety in the UK

More than 100,000 people from Ukraine have arrived in the UK under the Ukraine Family Scheme and Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Since March the government has worked with councils and communities to help them build new lives in the UK.

Maria Kartashova, who lives with her host in Surrey said: “I want to send my gratitude to all the British people and my sponsors personally. What you are doing for the Ukrainian people is more than help. You support us at every stage, spend your time and energy, pay attention and give care. I cannot put into words how grateful I am.”

Refugees Minister Lord Harrington said: “It is important that we recognise the selfless work of the public to help Ukrainians integrate into their communities.”

Read the full press release [here](#)

## Homes for Ukraine Scheme now open to applications from unaccompanied children

The Homes for Ukraine Scheme is now open to applicants who are under 18 and not travelling with or joining their parent or legal guardian. It was [announced](#) on 22 June 2022 that the Homes for Ukraine Scheme would allow children and minors under the age of 18 who have already applied through scheme to come to the UK without a parent or guardian. From 1 August 2022, the Homes for Ukraine Scheme will open to new applicants who are under 18.

The process for new applications will be different and requires the planned sponsor to first undergo safeguarding checks before an eligible child can begin their visa application. Planned sponsors of eligible children can start their applications via a new online service. This will enable local authorities to begin safeguarding checks. The visa application process will open to new applicants on 10 August.

The below sets of guidance have been amended to reflect this change:

- [Guidance for councils](#)
- [Guidance for applicants and parents](#)
- [Guidance for sponsors](#)
- [Guidance on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme \(including children applying without their parent or legal guardian\)](#)

The Immigration Rules have also been amended and the statement of changes and explanatory memorandum can be accessed [here](#). The changes to the rules will take effect from 10 August 2022.

## A re-inspection of Napier Barracks – Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration report

In March 2022, the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) reviewed the improvements the Home Office had made to the management and operation of Napier Barracks following the ICIBI/HMIP (Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Prisons) inspection of February 2021.

Publishing the [report](#), David Neal, the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, said:

“The re-inspection found that the management and oversight of Napier have improved, with strong working relationships in place between the Home Office, the provider, and its subcontractors. The more positive atmosphere at the site reflects the work undertaken to improve the facilities and activities, and the introduction of a 90-day maximum duration of stay which gives residents more certainty over the time they will spend at Napier. There was also evidence of increased engagement with non-governmental organisations and community groups, all of which contribute to the positive mental and physical wellbeing of residents...”

He went on to say:

“I was disappointed that work had not been undertaken to improve the poor condition of the shared dormitories, with those accommodated there reporting a lack of privacy, unacceptable noise levels, and disruption to sleep. I am concerned that a timescale has not been set for the completion of any improvements despite Home Office plans to increase the number of residents accommodated on the site.”

## **An inspection of the initial processing of migrants arriving via small boats at Tug Haven and Western Jet Foil December 2021 – January 2022 – Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration report**

Three years into the small boats crisis, a written [report](#) by the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICIBI) which was published on 21 July 2022 has found the Home Office response is both ineffective and inefficient, exposing gaps in security procedures and leaving vulnerable migrants at risk.

In 2021, 28,526 people arrived on the south coast in small boats, according to Home Office statistics – a significant increase from 236 in 2018.

An inspection of the Tug Haven processing facilities, which have since closed, along with those at Western Jet Foil, both in Dover, found the Home Office's response to the challenge of increasing numbers of migrants was poor, particularly in terms of systems, processes, resources, data collection and accurate record keeping. A new processing centre for migrants opened in January 2022 at a former Ministry of Defence site at Manston, also in Kent, and further facilities are also due to open later this year at Western Jet Foil.

Read more about what David Neal, the ICIBI, said [here](#).

## **Channel crossings, migration and asylum – House of Commons Committee report**

Published on 18 July 2022, this [report](#) seeks to consider why there has been a sharp and apparently continuing rise in the number of small boats carrying migrants to the United Kingdom across the English Channel in the past five years. The inquiry also sought to find out what can be done to prevent such crossings, both here in the UK and in other countries including in particular the neighbouring EU, what the UK's obligations are to those who seek to reach the UK's shores, and what can be done to prevent the smuggling and trafficking of people across international borders by criminal gangs.

For a summary of the report's findings, click [here](#)

## **Safe routes to the UK are closed: displaced people share their experiences – Refugee Legal Support report**

New research published in this [report](#) highlights the barriers that refugees, asylum seekers and people fleeing conflict face to being reunited with loved ones in the UK. The research finds that the UK framework for family reunion can drive people to risk their lives to reunite with their families.

The report uses interviews with clients of Refugee Legal Support, legal practitioners and the charity's own experience and data from its Family Reunion from Europe project, highlighting 6 key barriers to family reunion from Europe to the UK.

## **Outside the Frame: Unaccompanied children denied care and protection – ECPAT UK report**

This [report](#) focuses on concerns about children arriving in the UK alone who are being accommodated in hotels by the Home Office whilst awaiting placement via the National Transfer Scheme.

New data from the report shows that in a ten-month period, 45 unaccompanied children arriving in the UK went missing after they were placed in hotel accommodation by the Home Office. Parliamentary Question responses show the Home Office has housed 1,606 children in hotels between July 2021 and June 2022 and Home Office figures released in response to a Freedom of Information request submitted by the children's rights charity show that between June 2021 and March 2022, unaccompanied children went missing from the hotels at an average rate of one every week, with more than ten going missing in just one of those months.

ECPAT UK has received reports of Albanian boys as young as 11-12 going missing, including a report of a child 'jumping out of windows'. Unaccompanied children who go missing are at high risk for serious harm, abuse, exploitation, trafficking and re-trafficking.

## **Lives on Hold: The Experiences of People in Hotel Asylum Accommodation – Refugee Council research report**

This [report](#) looked into the experiences of people seeking asylum living in hotel accommodation in England, a follow up on the Refugee Council’s research [report](#) on the same topic from last year.

The report identified a range of problems and challenges as a result of insufficient support provided in asylum hotels. It provides an update on the situation for people living in hotels, with new information and evidence from Refugee Council services, the internal Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning project which was set up at the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as two Freedom of Information Requests that provide a rich source of data and information.

A year on, the report findings confirm that people seeking asylum continue to experience significant issues whilst living in hotel accommodation, facing barriers and delays when they raise problems with relevant authorities. It is of huge concern that the scale of the problems is now significantly greater, as the hotel population almost tripled over the course of 2021 with 26,380 people accommodated in hotels across the UK at the end of 2021.

## **Experts by experience research opportunity for young people who arrived in the UK as unaccompanied asylum seeking children**

Through the development of the Local Authority Academic Fellowship programme, the National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) are supporting local authorities to become more research active. Supported by Central Bedfordshire Council, Kirstie Baughan, Children’s Social Work Audit Manager was accepted by the NIHR to undertake a fully funded doctorate. Inspired by her experience of volunteering at a migrant camp in Calais to undertake further research into how unaccompanied asylum-seeking children integrate into local communities, her hope is to learn more about what works for young people and develop practical guidance to support practitioners.

Kirstie is looking for young adults to join her research team as experts by experience. If you know of any young people who arrived in the UK as unaccompanied asylum seeking children, that may be interested in taking part, please contact [kirstie.baughan@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:kirstie.baughan@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) to find out more.

## **High Court hearing on lawfulness of policy of relocating asylum seekers to Rwanda is adjourned until September**

A legal challenge brought by charities Care4Calais, Detention Action and the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS) against the Home Secretary’s plan to relocate people seeking asylum to Rwanda was scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 19 July and will now be heard in September. The Court is understood to have granted a written request for an adjournment made by lawyers for the claimants, as they were not ready to proceed.

## **Rwanda Commentary – Asylos**

In May 2022, the UK Home Office published four Country Policy and Information Notes about Rwanda in order to assist them in their assessment whether Rwanda could be classified as a ‘safe third country of asylum’, and whether a person relocated to Rwanda would face a real risk of being subjected to treatment contrary to Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights.

In this [commentary](#), Asylos identifies what they consider to be the main information gaps and omissions in the Country Policy and Information Note: Rwanda, asylum system, and the key inconsistencies between the available Country of Origin Information on the Rwandan asylum system and the conclusions reached in the Country Policy and Information Note: Rwanda, assessment.

Asylos hopes that this commentary will provide a useful guide for legal practitioners and decision makers in respect of observed inconsistencies, gaps and omissions in relation to the above-mentioned Country Policy and Information Notes, as well as providing additional relevant Country of Origin Information on the issues identified.

## Differentiated asylum system takes effect from 28 June 2022

The Nationality and Borders Act 2022 introduced two groups of refugees; each group may be provided with a different form of permission to stay. This policy applies to individuals granted refugee status following asylum applications made on or after 28 June 2022.

- refugee permission to stay for Group 1 refugees
- temporary refugee permission to stay for Group 2 refugees
- temporary humanitarian permission to stay for recipients of humanitarian protection

The [guidance](#) states that individuals who sought to register an asylum claim before the commencement date of 28 June 2022 but were provided with an appointment to attend a designated place to register their asylum application on or after 28 June will be considered to have 'made an asylum claim' before the commencement date but only if they attend their scheduled appointment.

An individual granted refugee status will either be granted refugee permission to stay or temporary refugee permission to stay as defined in the Immigration Rules. The type of permission to stay granted is dependent on whether the claimant meets the criteria in Section 12 of the 2022 Act.

If an individual with refugee status meets both the requirements set out in Section 12(2) and, where applicable, the additional requirement set out in Section 12(3) of the 2022 Act, then they are a Group 1 refugee, and as such will be granted refugee permission to stay. Refugee permission to stay will normally last for 5 years and will include the right to work, recourse to public funds and access to family reunion. They will also be eligible to apply for settlement on a protection route (also referred to as 'settlement protection') after having refugee permission to stay for 5 years.

If an individual with refugee status fails to meet the requirements of Section 12(2) and (3) of the 2022 Act, then they are a Group 2 refugee, and will be granted temporary refugee permission to stay as a result. Upon commencement, temporary refugee permission to stay will normally last for 30 months and may include the right to work, recourse to public funds and family reunion rights limited to that which meet the threshold of Article 8 of the ECHR. The conditions attached to temporary refugee permission to stay may change at a later point. A recipient of temporary refugee permission to stay will be able to apply for further permission to stay after 30 months and may apply for settlement on the 10-year long residency route.

An individual granted humanitarian protection will be granted temporary humanitarian permission to stay. There is only one form of permission to stay for individuals with humanitarian protection. This will normally last for 30 months and the conditions are identical to temporary refugee permission to stay. The conditions attached to temporary humanitarian permission to stay may change at a later point.

## Revised National Transfer Scheme marks 1 year since launch

[Announced](#) on 10 June 2021 and launched on 26 July 2021, the revised National Transfer Scheme (NTS) is a voluntary transfer arrangement between local authorities for the care of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) who arrive in the UK and claim asylum. The aim of the NTS is to ensure that no local authority faces an unmanageable responsibility in accommodating and looking after children. The expectation for each local authority under the scheme is for the number of UASC to be no higher than 0.07% of their overall child population, which across local authorities in the East of England would equate to a total of 943 UASC.

On 23 November 2021, the Minister for Safe and Legal Migration, Kevin Foster, wrote to local authorities across the UK to inform them of the government's intention to temporarily mandate the National Transfer Scheme. Under this [change](#) all local authorities were directed to accept transfers of UASC into their care.

Home Office [data](#) show that between July 2021 – March 2022, 1,488 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children were transferred across the UK through the NTS, including 249 UASC transferred to the care of local authorities in the East of England.

## Guidance to support HC2 applications for asylum seekers

New guidance aimed at professionals supporting asylum seekers around access to healthcare and prescriptions has been released. It has been put together by a national working group that was established to improve the process for issuing HC2 certificates to people seeking asylum.

A HC2 certificate entitles you to free NHS prescriptions, dental treatment, wigs and fabric support, sight tests, vouchers towards the cost of glasses or contact lenses and necessary travel costs to and from hospital for NHS treatment under the care of a consultant. Anyone, regardless of their immigration status can apply for this.

To find out how to apply for an HC2 certificate, click [here](#)

---

## Migration

---

### Key EU Settlement Scheme reminders

- Switching from pre-settled to settled status: Individuals with pre-settled status can apply to switch to settled status as soon as they are eligible. This is usually after they have lived in the UK, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man for five years in a row (known as 'continuous residence'). Note that it is the length of their continuous residence, and not the time elapsed since the grant of pre-settled status, which makes someone eligible for settled status. To ensure they maintain their status in the UK, they need to apply for settled status or an extension of pre-settled status before their pre-settled status expires. To find out more click [here](#).

- Support available: Support is still available to those who need help to make a late application to the scheme. Please share this [link](#) to services across your channels. Details of further Home Office telephone and Assisted Digital support can be found [here](#).

- Evidencing status in the UK: Status holders will have created a UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) account when they applied to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). They will use their UKVI account credentials to sign in to the online '[view and prove](#)' service, where they can access their immigration status (eVisa) and use it to evidence their rights.

- International travel and EUSS status: Non-EEA nationals who hold EUSS status and are a visa national (that is they are a national of a country which would mean they would normally require a visa to visit the UK) should always take their valid biometric residence card (BRC) with them when they travel internationally and to significantly reduce the risk of them being wrongly refused travel to the UK on the basis of their immigration status.

- Late applications: The deadline for most people to apply to the EUSS was 30 June 2021, but applicants may still be able to apply if their deadline to do so was after 30 June 2021 or there are 'reasonable grounds' for the delay in making an application. It is free to apply to the EUSS [here](#).

- Temporary protected rights: Eligible EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members who make a valid late EUSS application will have their rights in the UK temporarily protected until they receive the outcome of their EUSS application and of any administrative review or appeal. More information can be found [here](#).

- Applying on behalf of children: An application must be made for every eligible child within a family. Parents should check if they need to make a late application on behalf of their children, even if they have already applied to the EUSS and been granted a status themselves. More information can be found [here](#).

- Joining family members: There is no cut-off date for applications from eligible joining family members, who can join EU, EEA and Swiss citizens with EUSS status based on residence in the UK by 31 December 2020 at any point, provided they apply to the EUSS within three months of their arrival in the UK. Further information for joining family members is available [here](#).

## EU Settlement Scheme: Zambrano primary carers - Guidance

Following the Court of Appeal's judgment in the case of [Akinsanya v Secretary of State for the Home Department \[2022\] EWCA Civ 37](#), the Home Secretary has reconsidered the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) requirements for applicants relying on being a Zambrano primary carer. Such a person is a direct relative or legal guardian who, at the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, had a right to reside in the UK as the primary carer of a British citizen because, without that right, the British citizen would have been compelled to leave the UK and the EU. Such persons did not have a right under EU law to acquire permanent resident status in the UK and are not covered by the Citizens' Rights Agreements.

From 13 June 2022 to 25 July 2022, people were able to apply or re-apply to the EUSS as a 'person with a Zambrano right to reside' and be deemed to have reasonable grounds for having missed the deadline to apply, which was 30 June 2021.

Where a person applies after 25 July 2022, they will need to show there are reasonable grounds why they missed the 30 June 2021 deadline. You can find non-exhaustive examples of such grounds [here](#).

Guidance showing the circumstances in which you can apply to the EUSS as a 'person with a Zambrano right to reside' can be found [here](#)

## EU Settlement Scheme statistics

30 June 2022 marked the anniversary of the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) application deadline, which for most people was 30 June 2021. As of 30 June 2022, 6,699,200 applications were made, of which 647,200 were received after 30 June 2021, and 6,473,800 applications were concluded, of which 1,029,900 were concluded after 30 June 2021. 5,909,800 grants of settled and pre-settled status have been made under this scheme.

Concluded applications by outcome type as of 30 June 2022:

- Settled - 51% (3,282,000)
- Pre-settled - 41% (2,627,800)
- Refused - 5% (306,300)
- Withdrawn or void - 2% (133,000)
- Invalid - 2% (124,600)

For more information, click [here](#)

## Unlocking the door: A roadmap for supporting non-UK nationals facing homelessness in England – Report by Homeless Link and The No Accommodation Network (NACCOM)

Over 2021-2022, Homeless Link and NACCOM conducted research with local authorities, homelessness and immigration stakeholders and people with lived experience of homelessness and restricted eligibility across England. With the support of partner areas Bedford, Haringey and Manchester, the research captured practice and policy lessons from the pandemic and tried to identify an achievable, long-term approach to better supporting this group.

Based on the research, this [report](#) puts forward an ambitious but achievable roadmap for change for local authorities and Government to sustainably tackle homelessness among non-UK nationals with restricted eligibility. Doing so means looking beyond statutory duties to operationalise anti-racist, trauma-informed and person-centred principles, as well as ensuring that immigration control does not get in the way of good social policy.

The report provides good practice case studies, legal analysis around accommodation options, an overview of suitable national accommodation models and stories and testimonies from people with lived experience to support policy and practice improvement.

## Varying a settlement application and granting permission to stay

The Home Office has published [guidance](#) on when officials should vary an application for indefinite leave to remain and instead grant an extension of permission to stay (i.e. limited leave to remain). The stated rationale is to ensure that people who apply for settlement and don't qualify, but who do qualify for limited leave to remain, are not left without immigration status.

The guidance applies to settlement applications made under:

- Appendix Settlement Family Life
- Appendix Private Life
- Appendix Innovator
- Appendix FM
- Appendix Hong Kong British National (Overseas)

Read more on this [here](#)

## Taking Care: How local authorities can best address immigration issues of children in care – Report by South London Refugee Association and Coram Children's Legal Centre

At least one in every 10 children in care and more than 10,000 young care leavers in England have unresolved immigration or citizenship issues. Without better immigration support from local authorities, these children face uncertain and unsafe futures.

This [report](#) finds that delaying providing help on immigration and nationality issues could be costing local authorities hundreds of thousands of pounds per year. A citizenship application for a child costs £1,012. By comparison, waiting to resolve immigration issues until the young person leaves care can cost as much as £130,000 per young person in Home Office fees and support with living when that young person is barred from claiming benefits.

Lack of immigration status or citizenship prevents children from being able to lead full lives. For older children in care and care leavers, resolving these issues early means they avoid unnecessary complications with everyday activities like applying for jobs or university, seeking scholarships, grants, or student loans, setting up a bank account, getting a driving licence or renting accommodation.

## Fee waiver introduced for children applying for British citizenship

The Home Office has introduced a fee exemption and fee waiver for children under 18 who are eligible to register for British citizenship. Currently, children eligible to register for British citizenship have to pay a £1,012 fee. This includes children within families who have no recourse to public funds as well as children who are looked after by a local authority.

From 16 June 2022, the following will be available:

- A fee waiver for children applying to register as British citizens if they and their parents or guardians can show they cannot afford the fee
- A fee exemption for children who are looked after by a local authority
- A fee exemption for children applying to register as British citizens who are outside the UK and in a similar situation to being looked after by a local authority
- A related exemption from the fees payable for a citizenship ceremony or administration of a citizenship oath and pledge

The Home Office has published [guidance](#) on processing applications for a citizenship fee waiver for individuals under the age of 18. The Project for the Registration of Children as British Citizens has also produced helpful [Practitioners' note](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) documents on this topic. Further information and a commentary from NRP Network can be found [here](#)

## **Creating Stable Futures: Human trafficking, participation and outcomes for children – Interim report by ECPAT UK**

This [report](#) summarises the main findings from a 12-month participatory research study based on the voices of young people who have experience of modern slavery. The research aimed to understand what positive outcomes for these young people would look like, and what the pathways towards these positive outcomes might be. It examines how to ensure protection and support for children who have experienced modern slavery.

The findings of this participatory research study are structured around the four General Principles of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) namely, non-discrimination (Article 2), the best interests of the child (Article 3), the right to life, survival and development (Article 6) and the right to participation (Article 12). This interim report will be followed by a final report and a child-led positive outcomes framework.

## **Windrush Compensation Scheme statistics**

Under the Windrush Compensation Scheme which launched on 3 April 2019, those affected may be able to claim compensation if they suffered losses because they could not show that they had a right to live in the UK.

On 28 July 2022 the Home Office published the latest set of [data](#) on the Scheme, which covers the period to the end of June 2022.

- The total amount paid or offered to claimants through the scheme has increased to £53.78 million.
- £43.9 million has been paid across 1,098 claims and a further £ 9.8 million has been offered, awaiting acceptance or pending review.
- The statistics also show that 52.5% of claims have had a final decision.
- During the month of June, the Home Office paid out over £1.6 million in compensation.

For more information, click [here](#)

## **Chartered Institute of Housing – Housing rights quarterly newsletter**

The July issue of the housing rights [newsletter](#) has been published and includes the following articles:

- Changes to homelessness regulations ‘take away hard-won rights’
- Helping Ukrainian refugees – latest developments
- Nationality and Borders Act starts to take effect
- Key changes in ‘right to rent’ checks
- ‘No recourse to public funds’ challenged again, post-pandemic
- It’s ten years since the ‘hostile environment’ began
- The EU Settlement Scheme – problems continue
- Asylum – latest news on accommodation and other issues
- Other news

## **No recourse to public funds (NRPF) policy found to be unlawful**

In [R \(AB & ors\) v Secretary of State for the Home Department \[2022\] EWHC 1524 \(Admin\)](#), on 20 June 2022 the High Court upheld an application for judicial review brought by a mother and her two British children against the Home Office’s NRPF policy on the basis that it still fails to comply with the legal obligation to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The ‘no recourse to public funds’ policy was introduced in 2012 and has been found to be unlawful in previous cases.

The High Court found that the Home Office’s guidance still fails to comply with the section 55 duty, as it still focuses on applicants proving their destitution rather than looking at the impact that lack of recourse has on their children in and of itself.

More information on the case is available [here](#)

---

## Events and Training

---

### **One Year On: The Situation for At-Risk Afghans in Afghanistan and Abroad – Migration Policy Institute Webcast – Wednesday 10 August 2022, 15:00-16:30**

Marking the one-year withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan and the fall of Kabul to the Taliban, this webinar will reflect on the humanitarian and development challenges in Afghanistan and for neighbours, the difficult choices facing aid donors, and what needs to be done to ensure at-risk Afghans can reach safety.

The first panel will address the humanitarian and development situation in Afghanistan and the region, and the second panel will discuss ongoing efforts to secure safe pathways and prospects for innovations and further international coordination.

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

### **Moving Forward with Your Education (Refugees and Asylum Seekers) – Refugee Education UK (REUK) – Tuesday 16 August 2022, 16:00-17:30**

An in-depth guide for young refugees and asylum seekers who wish to go to college or university in the near future.

In the workshop REUK will look at:

- Ways of how you can move forward in your education after arriving in the UK.
- An overview of educational institutions (primary school; secondary school; Further Education college, etc.) and the various qualifications you can achieve at each institution.
- Possible routes through the English education system up to University.
- The various barriers you may face along the way and ideas of how to overcome them.

This event is designed specifically for asylum seekers and all those with no recourse to public funds.

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

### **Capacity building: Journey with an Unaccompanied Child – Refugee Youth Service**

Refugee Youth Service have developed a new two-day training programme exploring the experience of unaccompanied child refugees and how to use this experience to best support them. The training is based on real people and real events and is delivered by Refugee Youth Service's former frontline staff, bringing participants into direct contact with first-hand witnesses of unaccompanied children's journeys.

The training is delivered in two parts, plus the option of a third, bespoke session. These can be taken back-to-back or separately. Find out more [here](#)

---

## Funding

---

### **Shared Ground Fund – Paul Hamlyn Foundation**

The Shared Ground Fund supports organisations working towards the following long-term objectives:

- Influencing migration system reform: helping to build a policy and legal framework based on the principles of fairness, accessibility, due process, efficiency and respect for human rights.
- Improving access to support services, to ensure systemic exclusion which forces individuals into poverty is addressed and the needs of people who migrate are met, so that they have the longer-term support they need to settle, integrate and thrive in the UK.
- Strengthening civic participation so that people who have migrated to the UK have a stronger voice and are represented and meaningfully involved in the structures and services that affect their lives.
- Informing public understanding and countering the polarisation of migration and integration narratives.

Grants from £30,000 – £400,000 for work lasting up to 4 years. You can apply at any time, there are no deadlines.

For more information and details of how to apply, click [here](#).

---

## Jobs

---

### **Immigration Advisor (Rough Sleepers Team) OISC Level 2/3 or Solicitor with IAAS accreditation – RAMFEL**

The Refugee and Migrant Forum of Essex and London (RAMFEL) is an OISC level 3 registered charity, which provides advice to help people access justice. The legal advice provision is expanding and RAMFEL are looking for new advisers to join their legal team. The role gives an opportunity to assist some of the most vulnerable people in our society. The focus of the role is on supporting people who are sleeping rough to regularise their immigration status. This will include applications relating to the EUSS, and human rights applications with particular focus on long residence applications.

RAMFEL are looking for several full-time advisors but are willing to employ on a part time basis for the right candidate. Only applications from candidates with relevant legal experience will be considered. Qualifications needed are OISC level 2/3 or Solicitor with IAAS accreditation.

Applications from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals, and those who are migrants or refugees, and who have lived experience of the impact of UK immigration policy and/or of rough sleeping are particularly welcomed and encouraged.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply

**Closing date for applications: Wednesday 10 August 2022, midnight**

### **Coordinator of Experts by Experience Task Force – RAMFEL**

RAMFEL are looking for a highly organised and passionate individual to coordinate the creation and facilitation of an Experts By Experience (EBE) task force. This group will be led by people who have first-hand experience of the UK's immigration system, and will help RAMFEL as an organisation set strategic direction to ensure that migrants in the UK are treated both more fairly and more humanely.

This role is a great opportunity for someone looking for their next challenge within the charity sector and who wishes to use their real-life experience of the immigration system to campaign for meaningful and lasting changes to the way migrants are treated in the UK. Lived experience of the impact of immigration policy and practice is considered highly desirable for this position.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply

**Closing date for applications: Friday 12 August 2022, midnight**

### **Employment & General Advice Worker (Ukraine Programme) – Suffolk Refugee Support**

Suffolk Refugee Support currently have two exciting opportunities to join the team and help improve the lives of refugees and asylum seekers in Suffolk. They are looking for two Employment & General Advice Workers, one based in the West of Suffolk, and one in the East of the county. The successful candidates will be responsible for delivering advice and employment support for Ukrainian refugees arriving in Suffolk through the Ukraine Family Scheme or Homes for Ukraine Scheme.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply

**Closing date for applications: Thursday 25 August, 12 noon**

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)

If you wish to unsubscribe from the Newsflash please email [helen.hancock@eelga.gov.uk](mailto:helen.hancock@eelga.gov.uk)

[Back to the top](#)