

East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership Briefing

December 2017

The East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership Briefing brings together different sources of information relating to Asylum Seekers, Refugees, and Migration.

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Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)

The UASC National Transfer Scheme (NTS)

The interim [National Transfer Scheme](#) was introduced in July 2016 to enable an equitable distribution of unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) across the country and to ensure that no local authority faces an unmanageable responsibility in accommodating and looking after unaccompanied children. The expectation for each region under the transfer scheme is for the number of UASC to be no higher than 0.07% of their overall child population, which for the East Midlands as a whole equates to a total of 676 unaccompanied children. Within the East Midlands, five of the nine upper tier authorities are currently accepting transfers. Participation in the scheme remains voluntary.

National Transfer Scheme Data: The Home Office has recently published [data on local authority participation in the National Transfer Scheme](#) since its introduction in July 2016 (see the 'NTS_01' Tab for details).

NTS to be extended to rest of UK: The National Transfer Scheme will be extended to the rest of the UK, [Brandon Lewis has announced](#). The UK government has introduced legislation to extend the Scheme to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Since the scheme was introduced last July, over 550 children have been transferred between English local authorities.

The Dubs Amendment (S.67 of the Immigration Act 2016)

Further to the [written statement \(HCWS467\)](#) to Parliament in February and a subsequent [written statement \(HCWS619\)](#) in April regarding the future of Section 67 of the Immigration Act (the "Dubs Amendment") (see EMSMP Briefings Feb and Apr 2017), the Government has specified the number of places as 480. This figure includes over 200 children already transferred under s.67 from France as part of the Calais camp clearance. It does not include children transferred to the UK pursuant to the family reunion criteria of the Dublin III Regulation. In total, over 900 unaccompanied asylum seeking children were transferred from Europe to the UK in 2016.

Following the increase in the "specified number of children" to 480, the Home Office published in July an updated [policy statement](#) on the basis for further "Dubs" transfers to the UK. Those eligible for transfer to the UK are to be the most vulnerable, and likely to include victims of trafficking and sexual abuse; survivors of torture; survivors of violence; and children with mental or physical disabilities. In the East Midlands, the Strategic Migration Partnership and participating local authorities are working with the Home Office and other regions in the UK to identify appropriate placements for these arrivals from France, Greece and Italy.

High Court challenge to UK Government's closure of the Dubs Scheme refused

A [legal challenge](#) by the Help Refugees charity to the Government's implementation of the Dubs Amendment to the Immigration Act 2016 began on 20 June at the High Court. Help Refugees, represented by Leigh Day Solicitors, argued that the Government's consultation with local authorities by which it reached the number of children to be relocated was 'seriously defective' and that the number of child refugees within this category should be increase.

The outcome of this appeal was announced on 3rd of November 2017 and the application was refused, with the Government's consultation process being deemed as both lawful and 'sound' meaning that the specified number of 480 was rationally determined. At the time of writing the Help Refugees charity are considering a further appeal.

Updated guidance on assisting children who come to the UK under Dublin III

Coram's Migrant Children's Project has produced [updated guidance](#) on assisting children who come to the UK under the Dublin regulation to join family members already here. The factsheet contains information on Dublin III children's legal needs and what duties local authorities have towards them, both while they are with their families and in case of family breakdown.

UASC Frequently Asked Questions

The Association of Directors of Children's Services (ADCS) has produced a [UASC FAQ sheet](#) covering a range of issues relating to unaccompanied migrant children, including **Dublin III reunifications**.

Government Safeguarding Strategy for UASC and revised Guidance published

The following have been published by Department for Education on 1st November 2017:

- The Safeguarding Strategy for Unaccompanied asylum seeking and refugee children: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-and-refugee-children>
- The revised care of unaccompanied migrant children and child victims of modern slavery - statutory guidance for local authorities: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-of-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>
- The Government's response to the Consultation on the revised statutory guidance for local authorities on the care of unaccompanied asylum seeking and trafficked children. <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/care-of-unaccompanied-and-trafficked-children>

The safeguarding strategy includes a training programme for foster carers who support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children. The training will be made available to 1,000 foster carers and support workers and is backed by the updated statutory guidance, a review of local authority funding and a drive to improve inter-agency advice and information sharing. It complements the existing guidance available to every foster carer as part of their duties under the Prevent strategy. Other measures announced in the strategy will help prevent children from going missing and support those who are reunited with family members.

Guide to the Rights and Entitlements of Unaccompanied Migrant Children

Coram Children's Legal Centre has published an updated guide, "[Seeking Support: a guide to the rights and entitlements of separated children](#)" providing comprehensive, practical advice to professionals on how to work with unaccompanied or separated children and young people and ensure they access the support and protection they need. The guide is free and available to download or via mail order (postage and packaging cost applies).

The Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS)

Refugees of all nationalities fleeing Syria are now eligible for resettlement in the UK

The Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme will be [expanded](#) to include refugees of all nationalities who have fled the conflict in Syria to neighbouring countries. The Home Secretary Amber Rudd [announced](#) on the 3rd July that vulnerable refugees of any nationality, not just Syrian, who fled the conflict to neighbouring countries and are unable to safely return to their home country could now be resettled in the UK with immediate effect. There has been no change to the 20,000 commitment.

In 2015 the government committed to resettle 20,000 Syrian refugees from the Middle East and North Africa Region (MENA) by 2020 and more than 7,000 Syrians have already arrived in the UK through the scheme.

The policy change follows advice from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) who identified that a diversified resettlement scheme was required to address the needs of the refugee population in the region.

In summary, this means that any family who had made Syria their home and had to flee as a result of the conflict will now qualify for resettlement. This could be families where only one of the adults is a Syrian national and the spouse holds another passport – or whole families who had made their lives in Syria and have fled in the same way that their Syrian neighbours had to – but until now, only Syrian nationals qualified for resettlement in the UK.

Implementation of status change from Humanitarian Protection to Refugee Status

The Home Office announced in March 2017 that from 3rd July 2017 anyone resettled under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) and Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS) will be granted refugee status instead of Humanitarian Protection.

Those who have already been resettled in the UK before 3rd July 2017 will need to request to change their status. Individuals will be able to submit a request to change their status from 31st July 2017 by completing the following request form <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/request-to-change-humanitarian-protection-status-to-refugee-status> . Please note that completion of the request form does not require support from a qualified Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC) representative.

'Towards Integration' - UNHCR Report on the VPRS

A recent UNHCR report says that 8,000 people have been settled in the UK under the Syrian refugee programme and that the scheme is working "relatively well" though some families in isolated areas or small towns are struggling and would prefer to be accommodated in cities for better employment and education prospects.

The full report is available here: <http://www.unhcr.org/uk/news/latest/2017/11/59fc7d9b4/uk-resettlement-offers-syrians-fleeing-war-a-chance-to-rebuild-lives.html>

Further details of UASC and VPRS Programmes

The Local Government Association maintains a [one-stop resource](#) aimed at councillors and council officers to answer questions relating to taking in refugees and unaccompanied children.

Information on the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme can be found on the [Refugee Resettlement page](#) of the East Midlands Councils website. If your council would be interested in finding out more about the Scheme, please contact Brein.Fisher@emcouncils.gov.uk

Click [here](#) for the latest news from the East Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership.

Coram Children's Legal Centre – Access free legal information on topics relating to migrant and refugee children

Coram Children's Legal Centre's new website features [a whole selection of new fact sheets and resources](#) on subjects that relate to migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking children and young people. The fact sheets cover such topics as [asylum](#), [immigration](#), [EU law](#), [nationality](#), [access to local authority support](#), [education](#) and [healthcare](#), and more. Each legal fact sheet also comes with an introduction to the topic for non-legal professionals.

Online tool to help advise destitute families

An online tool to help local authority practitioners and voluntary sector advisers work out support options for destitute families with no recourse to public funds has been launched by the NRPF Network and COMPAS. The web tool – <http://migrantfamilies.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/> - aims to help local authorities to make best use of reduced and scarce resources in order to adhere to statutory child safeguarding duties, by: acting as an aid to enable local authority staff to conduct assessments more efficiently by explaining key elements of the complex law that governs eligibility for social services support; and providing information to help plan how a case might be resolved.

The latest news from the NRPF Network is available [here](#).

Gender Based (dis)Honour Violence

Asylum Aid and NatCen have launched [their new report](#), which shines a light on what's happening to Women in the UK who have suffered gender based violence and had their initial claim for protection refused.

The study found that, according to judges, lawyers and the appellants themselves, the asylum appeals system exhibits examples of good practice already in place, although the application of this is not consistent. The report argues for greater sharing of judges' best practice and the introduction of practical measures such as providing childcare and pre-tribunal visits for women to familiarise themselves with the court.

Get the [full report here](#) as well as a video discussing the findings.

Report: 'We are still here: the continued detention of women seeking asylum in Yarl's Wood'

The Government's "Adults at Risk" policy says that people who are vulnerable or particularly "at risk" of harm from detention should not normally be detained. Under this policy, survivors of sexual or gender-based violence are recognised as "at risk", and so unsuitable for detention. The government also introduced a 72-hour time limit on the detention of pregnant women, with the aim of ensuring that they are not routinely detained.

This report highlights the results of the research undertaken by Women for Refugee Women to help them assess the effectiveness of the Adults at Risk approach. Their research shows flaws in this new approach. Please follow this link to read the report in full: <http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/2016/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/We-are-still-here-report-WEB.pdf>

Community Sponsorship

The Home Office Community Sponsorship marketing material was updated in September 2017. This includes a leaflet which outlines community sponsorship and what is required of a prospective sponsor and a video, which outlines the community sponsorship journey from sponsors' perspectives. The full list of resources can be found on the link below, including application materials such as resettlement plan templates. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apply-for-full-community-sponsorship>

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Migration

Latest immigration statistics released

The Government's latest [quarterly immigration statistics \(July – Sept 2017\)](#) have been released by the Home Office. The data relates to those coming to the UK for work, study and family reasons; grants of asylum and protection; those gaining citizenship; and those being detained or returned.

In the year ending September 2017, there were 15,618 grants of asylum, alternative forms of protection and resettlement, compared with 15,433 in the previous year. This comprised of:

- 8,147 grants of asylum to main applicants and dependents (down 9%)
- 1,123 grants of alternative form of protection to main applicants and their dependents (down 29%)
- 6,348 people provided with protection and support under a resettlement scheme (up 30%)

The number of asylum applications in the UK from main applicants decreased by 21% to 26,617 in the year ending September 2017.

There were 924 grants of asylum, or an alternative form of protection, to Syrian nationals (including dependents) at initial decision in the year ending September 2017.

An additional 4,980 Syrian nationals were resettled under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS). Since this scheme began in 2014, a total of 9,394 people have been resettled.

There were 2,765 asylum applications from UASC in the year ending September 2017, a 15% decrease compared to the previous year of 3,244.

The largest numbers of asylum applications from UASC were from Sudanese (which increased by around 5 times the number in the previous year) and Eritrean nationals, both accounting for 16% of applications each. This was followed by Afghan nationals (13%) and Albanian nationals (11%).

Of the 1,778 initial decisions relating to UASC made in the year ending September 2017, 56% were grants of asylum or another form of protection, and 24% of those were grants of temporary leave (UASC leave). UASC applicants that are refused will include those from countries where it is safe to return children to their families, as well as some applicants who were determined to be over 18 following an age assessment.

In addition, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) has published its latest [Migration Statistics Quarterly Report \(MSQR\)](#). The MSQR is a summary of the latest official long-term international migration statistics for the UK for the year ending June 2017 published by Office for National Statistics (ONS). The report also includes data from the Home Office and the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for the year ending September 2017.

Net migration fell to 230,000 in the year ending June 2017. This was down from the recent peak seen in the year ending June 2016 and is now at a similar level to 2014. EU net migration accounts for over three-quarters of the fall in net migration. Over the longer term, varying levels of net migration are not unusual and net migration has been seen to rise and fall between 140,000 and 336,000 over the last 20 years. While immigration continues to be higher than emigration, the total number of people immigrating has fallen. At the same time, the number of EU citizens emigrating has increased.

Modern slavery national awareness raising campaign

The Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) has joined forces with the national charity Crimestoppers for an awareness raising campaign about Modern Slavery, how to spot it and what to do if you suspect you may have encountered it – [Spot the Signs: Modern Slavery is on your Doorstep](#).

Report – Stolen freedom: the policing response to modern slavery and human trafficking

In a report from HM Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services, '[Stolen freedom: the policing response to modern slavery and human trafficking](#)' the ways in which British police have failed to support suspected victims of modern slavery have been highlighted. This includes prematurely closing cases; unwillingness to identify cases of slavery in unrelated reports; delays in victim protection, and retrospectively dismissing slavery concerns. A key issue is that some police officers treat potential victims of modern slavery and human trafficking as immigration offenders.

Report – Trafficked into Detention: how victims of trafficking are missed in detention

A new [report](#) by Detention Action shows that the Home Office “often wrongly convicts trafficking victims of criminal offences relating to their exploitation,” leading to detention and deportation saying this means the Government is effectively “denying protection [...] to victims of trafficking,”

The report notes, that the Home Office has a “conflict of interest” between its responsibility to identify and protect victims of trafficking and its role in detaining and removing undocumented migrants. The prioritisation of these enforcement responsibilities leads potential victims of trafficking to be detained without careful assessment of their situations. Once in detention, the Home Office is primarily responsible for making National Referral Mechanism (NRM) referrals and reasonable grounds decisions - which grant individuals protection as trafficking victims.

Modern slavery victims to receive longer period of support

The Minister for Crime, Safeguarding and Vulnerability announced reforms to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) which will see the minimum period of ‘move-on’ support for victims significantly increase from 14 days to 45 days, the establishment of ‘places of safety’ which will provide immediate support to potential victims, as well as up to 6 months of ‘drop-in’ services, developed in partnership with The Salvation Army, for those transitioning out of the NRM.

The government will also roll out nationally the provision of Independent Child Trafficking Advocates, who will provide specialist support and act in the best interests of trafficked children.

Please follow this link to read the announcement in full:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/modern-slavery-victims-to-receive-longer-period-of-support>

'Eliminating Recruitment and Employment Fees Charged to Workers in Supply Chains' Toolkit

Global NGOs, industry organisations and businesses are increasingly recognising that charging recruitment and employment fees to workers is exploitative. In the worst cases it can lead to situations of debt bondage and forced labour and, as such, eliminating recruitment fees charged to workers is a fundamental action that companies working towards slavery-free supply chains must implement.

The new 'Eliminating Recruitment and Employment Fees Charged to Workers in Supply Chains' Toolkit has been developed by the Association of Labour Providers (ALP) in partnership with the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and has been written in straightforward language to support brands, retailers, employers and labour providers to implement the standards and necessary systems to eradicate the charging of fees to workers in their operations and supply chains.

The Toolkit is available to download for free from: <http://responsiblerecruitmenttoolkit.org/>. The Responsible Recruitment Toolkit website will launch in full in early 2018, providing practical, interactive guidance for brands, retailers, employers and labour providers across the breadth of responsible recruitment good practice.

This part of the Toolkit has been issued as a public draft for consultation to stimulate debate and to inform where more detail and clarity is required. Feedback is welcomed to

info@labourproviders.org.uk and an updated toolkit containing these revisions is planned to be issued by April 2018.

APPG on Migration says post-Brexit immigration system must consider needs of small business

The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Migration has released [a report](#) looking at the needs of other economic stakeholders following Britain's exit from the EU. The report is the result of an enquiry launched in February 2017 looking at the impact and effects that leaving the European Union, and in particular its Single Market, would have on Small and Medium Sized Businesses (SMEs) and the public sector in the UK.

A key finding of the report is that SMEs are frustrated that many of their employees are being labelled as 'low-skilled' despite skills and/or qualifications being required for the role. This labelling poses two problems:

1. It prevents recruitment from outside the EU/EEA, as many of the roles fall on the wrong side of the 2011 government's definition of 'high-skilled work'.
2. The labelling contributes to an image problem in many sectors, making recruitment from the domestic workforce more difficult as the jobs are perceived as unattractive or underpaid.

Brexit: 'Breakthrough' deal paves the way for future trade talks

On 8th December, a [joint report](#) from the negotiators of the European Union and the United Kingdom Government was published on progress during phase 1 of negotiations under Article 50 TEU on the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union.

The rights of European citizens' living in the UK

The Migrants Rights Network [reports](#) that the European Court of Justice (ECJ) has ruled in a landmark case that a European citizen who becomes a British citizen does not lose the right to have a spouse from a non-EU country live with them in the UK.

Immigration barristers say that this will have widespread implications for EU citizens applying for British passports and those married or considering marriage to a third-country national. There will be ongoing consideration of these rights as agreement is reached in relation to Brexit terms.

The deportation of homeless EU citizens

On Tuesday 21 November, the High Court began its judicial review of the Home Office's policy of detaining and deporting homeless EU citizens as granted to the Public Interest Law Unit at Lambeth Law Centre and North East London Migrant Action (NELMA).

This policy gained attention earlier in the year when a [report by Corporate Watch](#) revealed how several agencies – including homelessness charities – were sharing information with the Home Office to facilitate deportations.

Last week, the High Court declared that the [policy was illegal](#). A judge decided that the measure, introduced last year, was discriminatory and broke freedom of movement rules. She said, "rough sleeping, even accompanied by low level offending such as begging, drinking in a public place and other street nuisances, would not be grounds for removal" and the Home Office's "less favourable" treatment of rough sleepers from outside the UK could not be justified. The government said it was disappointed by the ruling - which applies to people from the EU and European Economic Area - but would not be appealing.

Changes to access to secondary healthcare for overseas visitors including migrants with no recourse to public funds

An amendment has been implemented to the NHS (Charges to Overseas Visitors) Regulations 2015 as a result of further work by the Department of Health's Visitor and Migrant NHS Cost Recovery Programme.

The amendment includes the following changes that came into force on 23rd October 2017:

- Extend the obligation to charge for NHS-funded services provided in respect of overseas visitors to include secondary and community services provided by other non-NHS providers;
- Require that, except in certain circumstances ('immediate necessary service'), an estimate of the full charge of a service is secured in advance of the service being provided; and
- Amend existing exemptions from charge Source: The National Health Service (Charges to Overseas Visitors) (Amendment) Regulations 201

Further details are provided by the [NRPF Network's Factsheet](#) on the issue.

Mental Health Services for migrant communities

A new manual for the commissioning of mental health services for migrant communities was been released by Mind. The stated purpose of this manual is to help local decision makers, commissioners and service providers better understand and assess the needs of vulnerable migrant communities.

The manual is available here: <https://mind.org.uk/media/14259589/mental-health-commissioning-with-migrant-communities.pdf>

Roma Support Group

The Roma Support Group is a Roma-led registered charity working with East European Roma refugees and migrants. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for Roma refugees and migrants by helping them to overcome prejudice, isolation and vulnerability. It is also the Group's objective to make the public aware of Roma culture, heritage and the current situation of Roma refugees and migrants in the UK through cultural and informative events and publications.

Further details of the work of the Roma Support Group is available via their [website](#).

Legal Aid

The Bach Commission has published its [final report](#) and in doing so has joined the ranks of a huge number of organisations highlighting the impact of the removal of legal aid for children in many areas of law. The report calls for 'all matters concerning children [to] be brought back into the scope of legal aid.'

CCLC's fact sheet on legal aid - including accessing exceptional case funding for children with immigration issues - can be downloaded [here](#).

ESOL Resources

The East of England Strategic Migration Partnership has produced a [menu](#) of ESOL apps and resources for refugees to use on their smart phones and support their language learning at home. (With thanks to the East of England SMP).

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Funding

The Controlling Migration Fund

The purpose of the Government's Controlling Migration Fund (CMF) is to provide additional support for local authorities in areas experiencing pressures linked to recent immigration.

The Fund will be available over the four years from 2016-17 to 2019-20. Unlike previous similar funds the Controlling Migration Fund focuses on responding to the problems caused by high migration into

localities as identified by local authorities and will deliver benefits to the established resident population. The Fund has two parts:

- A local service impacts part of £100m, to help English local authorities and their communities experiencing high and unexpected volumes of immigration to ease pressures on local services.
- An enforcement part worth £40m to direct enforcement action against people in the UK illegally in order to reduce the pressure on local areas.

The Fund is directed at achieving benefits for established resident communities. The local services element of the Fund will support a broad range of measures:

- Activities to build community cohesion and encourage integration
- Tackling the increase in rough sleeping by non-UK nationals
- Tackling rogue landlords
- Other approaches
- Evidence and local intelligence

The CMF Prospectus containing further details and the Proposal Form, and a FAQ factsheet, are available [here](#).

Restart Refugee Support Programme

The [Restart Refugee Support \(RRS\) programme](#) has as its primary goal to contribute to the rapid economic adjustment of professional refugees resettled in the UK by supporting individuals' own efforts towards self-sufficiency.

The RRS programme provides cost and interest-free loans for activities which lay the groundwork for durable economic integration. The programme is based on the belief that financial independence brought about by economic integration gives people choices, drives growth in their economies and inspires others in their communities.

The Life Chances Fund

The Life Chances Fund (LCF) is an £80m fund, which aims to help those people in society who face the most significant barriers to leading happy and productive lives.

The £80m has been committed by central government to contribute to outcome payments for payments by results (PbR) contracts which involve socially minded investors - i.e. towards Social Impact Bonds (SIBs). These contracts must be locally commissioned and aim to tackle complex social problems.

The overall objective of the LCF is to help people in society who face the most significant barriers to leading happy and productive lives. It will do this by:

- Increasing the number and scale of SIBs in England;
- Making it easier and quicker to set up a SIB;
- Generating public sector efficiencies by delivering better outcomes and using this to understand how cashable savings are;
- Increasing social innovation and building a clear evidence base of what works;
- Increasing the amount of capital available to a wider range of voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector providers to enable them to compete for public sector contracts;
- Providing better evidence of the effectiveness of the SIB mechanism and the savings that are being accrued; and
- Growing the scale of the social investment market.

The LCF will issue thematic call outs, or invitations for bids from applicants for SIBs across six themes:

- Drug and alcohol dependency – e.g. early diagnosis and treatment
- Children's services – e.g. reducing time spent in residential care, preventing entry into care; supporting unaccompanied asylum seekers under age 16 to find stable foster placements
- Young people – e.g. NEET prevention, youth unemployment and youth justice
- Early years – e.g. early intervention, school preparedness and education
- Healthy lives – e.g. long term health conditions, public health interventions
- Older people's services – e.g. independent living, adult social care and social isolation

The fund is now open for Expressions of interest (EOIs) for Social Impact Bonds for all six themes. Expressions of Interest must be submitted by noon 15th September 2017 via the [LCF website](#) where you can find more information and guidance on the policy areas.

Goldman Sachs Syria Grant Fund

The Syria Grant Fund is a national fund to support and enable resettled refugees from Syria to access employment, training and education opportunities, as well as develop their English language skills. Funded by Goldman Sachs Gives, and administered by the Refugee Council, this fund will give resettled refugees from Syria access to vital resources to facilitate and enhance their integration into British life. Grants will be paid directly to individuals, and not to the organisations supporting them. The Grant Fund is open throughout the year and applications can be made at any time.

Anyone who has been resettled to the UK under the Vulnerable Person Resettlement Programme (VPR) - of any nationality - can apply to the grant for financial support to access employment, education or training opportunities; either for themselves and/or their families. The fund is also open to people wishing to improve their level of English to enable them to move closer to the labour market.

Individuals resettled via the Community Sponsorship Scheme can also apply. The Grant Fund is to meet the cost of specific items which relate to the individual moving towards employment or education, for example clothing for an interview, fees to access a College Course, or childcare costs (OFSTED/Care Inspectorate registered childcare providers only) to enable someone to attend a training course. The Grant Fund does not cover costs for any electronic equipment such as mobile phones, laptops or tablets. However the Fund can support an application for financing an IT course, to enable someone to improve their computer skills and search for work online. Further detail including how to apply can be found at www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/syriagrantfund.

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Training and Events

Summit on Asylum and Refugee Resettlement in the East Midlands (March 2018)

The East Midlands Councils Summit on Asylum and Refugee Resettlement in the East Midlands event in March 2018 will provide delegates from across local authorities, health, housing providers and wider public and voluntary sector organisations an opportunity to:

- Understand the main issues facing local government in respect of refugee programmes, economic and social impact and modern slavery
- Consider local capacity and impact
- Consider how local government and wider partners in this region should respond to current and future developments

The Programme for the event will include:

- Current and Future Challenges in the Delivery of National Policy
- The National Perspective and Priorities
- Economic and social impact of migration
- Modern Slavery

Further details to follow.

Using a trauma informed approach to recognise and address the impact of complex trauma on families (20 February, Melton Mowbray) (£100)

The experience of repeated trauma, particularly during the developmental period, results in a broad range of emotional, cognitive and behavioural difficulties that impact not only on an individual's mental health, but also their physical health, their psychosocial functioning and their ability to interact effectively

with services. Understanding how repeated and complex trauma affects individuals can greatly enhance working practices for all frontline practitioners regardless of their training background or clinical role.

Hosted by East Midlands Councils, and delivered by Dr Sheena Webb, Consultant Clinical Psychologist, this training is aimed at Health and Local Authority staff working with refugees.

This training will provide participants with an understanding of how repeated and complex trauma affects individuals and will discuss how a trauma informed approach can help professionals to create a sense of safety in their service that promotes engagement and recovery. The training will look at specific manifestations of complex trauma and in particular how this might present in terms of mental health, substance misuse, domestic abuse and parenting. The training will also help staff develop confidence in their interactions with severely traumatised individuals and can feel empowered about their capacity to help this group of people in the context of whichever service they are providing.

Click [here](#) for further details and to book.

The Rights and Entitlements of Young Refugees and Migrants (21 February, London) (£90)

Coram Children's Legal Centre's one-day training course (Wednesday 21 February 2018, 10:00am to 4:30pm) covers law, policy and processes affecting migrant and asylum-seeking children and young people, focusing on unaccompanied children who are looked after and care leavers. Participants gain an understanding of these children's particular needs and vulnerabilities, gaining a practical understanding of how to support them across different areas: the asylum and immigration system, trafficking, age assessment, care and support including transition at 18 and 21, and access to education.

Click [here](#) for further details.

NRPF and human rights assessments for Children and families (28 February, London) (£150)

This course by the NRPF Network aims to provide participants with information about the relevant legislation to be able to undertake legally sound child in need and human rights assessments for children and families with no recourse to public funds. Click [here](#) for further details and to book.

Tackling Modern Slavery in UK Businesses/ Global Supply Chains (various dates/ locations in January and February 2018)

Stronger Together offers training solutions to assist business in tackling modern slavery. In September, they are running open workshops covering "Tackling Modern Slavery in UK Businesses" and "Tackling Modern Slavery in Global Supply Chains". For more details and to book, click [here](#).

Access to education for migrant children (31 January, London) (£36)

This training session by Coram Children's Legal Centre is designed to give an overview of legal entitlements and issues around access to education for children and young people who are within the immigration or asylum systems. Education at all levels will be covered: compulsory education, ESOL, college and university. Click [here](#) for further details and to book.

Immigration and care planning for looked after migrant children and care leavers (Summer 2018 – bookings being taken now) (£150)

This course by the NRPF Network aims to provide participants with information to support effective care planning for migrant children and young people leaving care in order to assist with implementing the Department for Education's statutory guidance, Care of unaccompanied and trafficked children.

In addition, the course will enable local authorities to implement statutory duties by undertaking human rights assessments in order to establish whether the provision of leaving care support is necessary to prevent a breach of human rights or EU treaty rights where a young person is in an excluded group. Click [here](#) for further details and to book.

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Future East Midlands SMP Briefings

The next Strategic Migration Partnership Briefing will be February 2018.

If you have received this Briefing via a colleague and would like to receive it directly, would like to unsubscribe, or have any comments or suggestions for future content, please contact:

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