

The NEMP (North East Migration Partnership) Newsletter brings together various sources of information, which relate to Refugees, Asylum Seekers and Migration within the North East area. If you have anything you would like to be included in the next Newsletter please email: nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk.

NEMP are delivering direct updates to our partners regularly due to the current climate rather than publicising them on the website as information changes quickly and is often not a suitable forum.

Subject	
<p>Migrant Help</p>	<p>AIRE Newsletter</p> <p>Migrant Help have published their latest 'AIRE newsletter' on 19th June 2020 and can be found here.</p> <p>Migrant Help Outreach</p> <p>Migrant Helps outreach team assist with everything under AIRE where the service user is at risk or has specific needs. We tailor the main AIRE service to ensure we cater to the needs of our most vulnerable service users. This helps us to ensure our service is delivered appropriately to those who require extra support. Migrant Helps outreach team is able to assist with anything that our First Response Centre or EAGL teams complete such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum payment issues, • Requests for assistance, (For MH to notify the Home Office of safeguarding concerns) • S98 (Emergency Home Office Accommodation applications) For asylum seekers. • S95 and S4 applications, (Home Office Accommodation applications) For asylum seekers. • Change of Circumstances, (to notify the Home Office of a change when on S95 / S4 support)

- Positive and negative move on.
- During the covid-19 pandemic we are offering welfare calls to service users who are feeling isolated, suffer with mental health problems or are a victims of domestic violence.
- We tailor the frequency of our welfare calls to suit the need of the service user.

Our outreach service is currently assisting service users by phone during the pandemic, we monitor the case through until the issues are resolved. We also offer welfare calls to service users who are feeling isolated during the pandemic and regularly keep in contact with service users who require this. Our outreach service is ready to assist:

- Victims of domestic Violence,
- Victims of torture,
- Victims of modern day slavery
- Victims of Female Genital Mutilation,
- Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Trans and Intersex service users,
- Pregnant service users,
- Single parents or families,
- Service users In need of community care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness,
- Service users unable to take care of themselves or unable to protect themselves against significant harm or exploitation,
- Service users at risk of self-harm or suicide,

We are happy to assist when there is a genuine reason you believe the service user requires additional support. How to request outreach:

- If you would like to request outreach please email outreach@migranthelpuk.org
- Please include the service users name, port or NASS reference, phone number and reasons why you are requesting outreach along with the service user vulnerability when emailing to request outreach.
- We have a vulnerable outreach referral form you can use to request outreach, If you need a copy of this please email the above inbox to request.
- Our outreach team will then come back to confirm we will action or we may ask for further information to see that the service user meets the above criteria.
- Our outreach inbox is up to date and the team welcome your referrals.

<p>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)</p>	<p>National Transfer Scheme</p> <p>There have been reports in the media recently regarding significant numbers of unaccompanied children arriving in small boats on the south coast and some south east authorities are finding it difficult to cope with the unprecedented number of arrivals. Local authorities in the north east have been asked to consider whether they can offer placements for UASC arriving into Kent and Portsmouth. These LAs are at the top of their already significantly expanded capacity to accommodate and support UASC in line with the PHE guidance and their own resources can no longer cope. UASCs from Kent and Portsmouth will be transferred to LAs with available placements via the National Transfer Scheme.</p> <p>UASC and UASC Care Leaver Funding</p> <p>The Home Office recently announced funding uplifts for LAs caring for UASC and UASC Care Leavers, you can read the announcement here https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-funding-uplift-announced-for-councils-caring-for-children-seeking-asylum . Further details of the funding available to LAs for UASC and Care Leavers can be found in the funding instructions here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/unaccompanied-asylum-seeking-children-uasc-grant-instructions.</p>
<p>ESOL & Employability</p>	<p>NEMP received a large number of responses to our Survey to collate ‘Current Adaptations to ESOL Provision’ in the area in response to the Covid -19. A breakdown of the key points, such as good practice, barriers and future recommendations has been drawn up and will be shared accordingly. Employment Routeway is now active on the NEMP website. NEMP welcome any feedback on how improvements could be made. If your service would like to be highlighted on this then please do not hesitate to contact us.</p> <p>The long awaited ESOL resources are now available on the Excellence Gateway. NEMP regularly give feedback on resources in development with Learning Unlimited and the Excellence Gateway. Please find below. A reminder that a regularly updated full list of ESOL resources can also be found on our Website.</p> <p>The New to ESOL Phonics for ESOL pack:</p> <p>https://esol.excellencegateway.org.uk/learners-new-esol-phonics-pack</p> <p>The New to ESOL Listening resources (these are exemplar video/audio resources that link to the original New to ESOL teaching and learning materials published in 2019. The video/listening resources that complement the existing materials - there is one set of listening resources for five units within the existing teaching materials. These consist of downloadable teaching</p>

	<p>resources/plan, and videos are accessible via EtF YouTube channel. They are all authentic, unscripted recordings designed to be used with learners in 'pre-entry' classes who typically have a broad range of speaking/listening skills).</p> <p>https://esol.excellencegateway.org.uk/new-esol-listening-resources</p>
<p>No Recourse to Public Funds and Modern Slavery</p>	<p>Support available to people with NRPF</p> <p>Please find web link to the NRPF Network factsheet which contains advice about the support available to people with no recourse to public funds during the coronavirus pandemic, including LA response to homeless people, assistance for people who lose employment and free school meals.</p> <p>Voluntary Returns Service</p> <p>COVID-19 has temporarily made it difficult for the VRS to assist applicants applying to return to their home countries, although they are trying to still support people through the process and are utilising existing and new flight routes to support applicants to return home, including repatriation flights where these are available.</p> <p>The VRS International and Reintegration team are in the process of finalising in-country contingency plans to ensure returnees can continue to receive support during the Coronavirus pandemic, and to implement reintegration for those who have already returned.</p> <p>You can find further information regarding the VRS at www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily or if you have any questions please contact VRS#CommunicationsandEngagementteam@homeoffice.gov.uk.</p> <p>Modern Slavery</p> <p>Find national and regional statistics on the modern slavery referrals made to the National Referral Mechanism published by the Home Office for Q1 of 2020 here https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/national-referral-mechanism-statistics-uk-quarter-1-2020-january-to-march.</p>
<p>Mears Welcome Packs</p>	<p>NEMP have been working with key partners in developing Welcome Packs to provide local information to newly arrived asylum seekers. A standardised template for these has been achieved through a great deal of input from refugees and asylum seekers themselves through focus group consultations the feedback and recommendations have been included in the welcome pack. The welcome pack is being produced alongside an orientation process to be followed by Mears Housing Managers for all new arrivals into dispersal accommodation. The next step still to resolve some of the practicalities such as publishing, update and review. NEMP has also made good headway on a New Arrivals welcome pathway, though there are as always some data sharing issues to resolve</p>

	<p>- excellent progress is being made with Mears. We will be contacting organisations for further information for the welcome packs over the next couple of weeks and would really appreciate your assistance in getting these right for each area. Whilst these are a Mears document - NEMP has offered its services to develop and compile them with LAs as we know how much our partners have had aspirations of these improving over the years!!!</p>																																																																	
<p>Home Office Statistics – Asylum Seeker applications and support</p>	<p>At the end of Q1 2020, 44,137 asylum seekers in the UK were in receipt of support under Section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. At the end of Q1 2020, the North East housed 4,171 asylum seekers. Whilst the figures are now more timely they do not include a number of cohorts such as; those in the region on Section 4 support and also those who have newly arrived and are on Section 98 either in hotel accommodation in our region or directly into dispersed accommodation during Covid-19 due to lack of IA places in Wakefield.</p> <p>Below is a regional breakdown with a comparison of Q1 2019 to 2020.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 549 1951 1102"> <thead> <tr> <th>Local Authority</th> <th>Q1 March 2019*</th> <th>Q1 March 2020*</th> <th>% decrease/increase</th> <th>No. decrease/increase</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Stockton-on-Tees</td> <td>916</td> <td>619</td> <td>-32%</td> <td>-297</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Middlesbrough</td> <td>655</td> <td>524</td> <td>-20%</td> <td>-131</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newcastle upon Tyne</td> <td>1151</td> <td>845</td> <td>-27%</td> <td>-306</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gateshead</td> <td>801</td> <td>590</td> <td>-26%</td> <td>-211</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hartlepool</td> <td>303</td> <td>268</td> <td>-12%</td> <td>-35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunderland</td> <td>420</td> <td>348</td> <td>-17%</td> <td>-72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>South Tyneside</td> <td>254</td> <td>241</td> <td>-5%</td> <td>-13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North Tyneside</td> <td>306</td> <td>232</td> <td>-24%</td> <td>-74</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Darlington</td> <td>95</td> <td>191</td> <td>101%</td> <td>96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Redcar and Cleveland</td> <td>70</td> <td>108</td> <td>54%</td> <td>38</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Northumberland</td> <td>98</td> <td>205</td> <td>109%</td> <td>107</td> </tr> <tr> <td>North East Total**</td> <td>5069</td> <td>4171</td> <td>-18%</td> <td>-898</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>For more publically available information, click here.</p>	Local Authority	Q1 March 2019*	Q1 March 2020*	% decrease/increase	No. decrease/increase	Stockton-on-Tees	916	619	-32%	-297	Middlesbrough	655	524	-20%	-131	Newcastle upon Tyne	1151	845	-27%	-306	Gateshead	801	590	-26%	-211	Hartlepool	303	268	-12%	-35	Sunderland	420	348	-17%	-72	South Tyneside	254	241	-5%	-13	North Tyneside	306	232	-24%	-74	Darlington	95	191	101%	96	Redcar and Cleveland	70	108	54%	38	Northumberland	98	205	109%	107	North East Total**	5069	4171	-18%	-898
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<p>NEMP Website</p>	<p>The North East Migration Partnership are pleased to announce the launch of their new website which is accessible at https://www.nemp.org.uk.</p> <p>This has been developed by the team over a period of time to incorporate some exciting new features and information.</p>																																																																	

- **Local Service Directory** - A comprehensive directory of over 290 services available to refugees and asylum seekers across the region, which can be filtered to search by location or by service type including English classes, drop in's or support from my own language community.
- **Employment Routeway** - A tool developed with our Move on and Economic Inclusion Group to assist refugees in the steps needed to gain employment, involving a series of self-assessment questions and links to organisations who can provide support, advice and guidance needed to help in their journey to employment. Look out for the organisations highlighted in the Service Directory as 'Routeway Friends'. NEMP is keen to expand the offers of help to refugees in this part of the website. We know there are many more organisations supporting refugees to help get refugees closer to securing a job. Please get in touch so we can add you in.
- **Learning Courses** - Courses are available to help new refugees and asylum seekers understand the law, expectations and social norms in the UK. They aim to develop knowledge and confidence to access help or advice when required. Courses **include Life and Laws in the UK, Parenting and Looking after Your Health**. NEMP has worked up all these courses with a great deal of input from refugees and asylum seekers themselves and some of our key partners. Please look out for more modules to be added to our learning collection! This builds on pilot work in Middlesbrough with Cleveland Police Life and Laws in the UK and is funded through Controlling Migration funds from Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.
- **Resources, newsletters and helpful links** – Lots of new resources are included such as translated leaflets to download regarding looking after your health, help and advice on parenting and laws and life in the UK to follow shortly. There are also resources to help with online learning of English language and overall self-care and well-being. You will also find links to quarterly immigration data published by the Home Office and Office of National Statistics.

We would like your help to promote the use of the website in particular by refugees and asylum seekers. We would also like to encourage you to get in touch with us at nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk if you know of services that are missing from the directory or who may be interested in being an employment 'Routeway Friend.'

If you have a service listed in the Service Directory we will be in touch with you shortly to issue you with instructions and a password so that you can amend your entry, if you feel there are things missing or you would prefer different wording. We appreciate in these changing times your services may not look the same but we didn't want to hold off providing the directory as it does include key contacts and online services will increasingly become more relevant for people to source those who can help. This will be a useful feature of the site for our key partners to be able to adapt their service descriptions to meet with the changing climate.

	<p>NEMP apologies in advance if you receive reminder emails for you to do this – so the information is as ‘live’ as possible for all those who use it!!!</p> <p>In the meantime if you come across anything within the site not looking or working as expected please do get in touch and let us know so we can put it right! We had a limited amount of time and budget and had to work at breakneck speed to get it all completed so we do expect some teething issues so please let us know where we can improve.</p>
<p>Places of Worship Security Funding Scheme – Application window now open</p>	<p>The Home Office has announced that the fifth round of the Places of Worship (POW) Protective Security Funding Scheme is now open for applications until 23:59 on the 9 August 2020.</p> <p>The Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme is a key commitment of our 2016-2020 Hate Crime Action Plan and more than 180 places of worship have been awarded grants to install measures such as protective alarms, security lighting and access controls.</p> <p>The scheme is open to places of worship and associated faith community centres (they define this as a community centre run by a place of worship or near a place of worship that is faith based, and where regular worship takes place) across England and Wales. Further details of the funding scheme and how to apply are provided via the link https://www.gov.uk/guidance/places-of-worship-security-funding-scheme.</p> <p>You can find today’s announcement at https://www.gov.uk/government/news/places-of-worship-protective-security-fund-open-for-applications and through social media; https://twitter.com/ukhomeoffice/status/1272906779454824449.</p>
<p>Covid-19 Emergency Response Funding</p>	<p>Barrow Cadbury Trust is partnering with the National Lottery Communities Fund (NLCF) to distribute COVID-19 emergency response funding to the migration charity sector in England. They have £5 million to distribute for work that will relieve hardship caused by the pandemic among refugees and asylum-seekers and by migrants experiencing barriers to accessing services.(see further information and eligibility criteria here).</p> <p>This opportunity is available to registered charities or not for profit organisations in England with an income of between £10,000 and £1 million whose main focus is on providing support to refugees, asylum seekers or migrants. The maximum you can apply for is £50,000 or three months’ expenditure, whichever is the smaller. The programme will open for applications from today Monday 13 July and will close on Sunday 2 August. Decisions will be made by mid October and grants must be spent within six months.</p>

	<p>This fund comes from the NLCF's COVID-19 Response Fund and is subject to the same restrictions as the NLCF's own programmes. It can only be spent on needs arising directly or indirectly from the pandemic, such as not on wider issues such as immigration advice. It cannot be spent on campaigning or political activity.</p>
<p>Refugee Week – Middlesbrough Council LAASLO “Imagine” video</p>	<p>For Refugee Week 2020, Middlesbrough Council LAASLO's asked some of the asylum seekers and refugees who have made Middlesbrough their home to tell us how they imagine a perfect world. Please see the video in the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fEce_ifoQ7M&feature=youtu.be</p>
<p>EU Settlement Scheme – One year to go until deadline</p>	<p>Please find an update below on the latest EUSS monthly stats release:</p> <p>More than 3.71 million applications to the EU Settlement Scheme</p> <p>We are pleased to announce that yesterday, 09 July 2020, the latest EUSS monthly statistics were published. They show more than 3.71 million (3,713,200) applications to the scheme and more than 3.4 million (3,459,700) applications concluded, up to the end of June 2020. This means they have secured their rights in UK law ensuring that whether in four or 40 years' time they will have the evidence they need to continue living and working in the UK. Please join us in marking this moment by sharing our new social media asset and raising awareness of how to apply, click here to download the asset.</p> <p>Of the more than 3.4 million applications concluded, 57% were granted settled status and 41% were granted pre-settled status. Of the remaining applications, 32,200 received a withdrawn or void outcome, 23,100 were invalid and 2300 were refused. A small proportion of the more than 3.3 million applications concluded up to the end of June 2020.</p> <p>The majority of applications, 3,384,600, have been received from England with an additional 185,900 from Scotland, 61,200 from Wales and 61,100 from Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Changes to Monthly Statistics</p> <p>From now on, EUSS monthly statistics will be published on GOV.UK, displaying a monthly summary of the latest internal figures. The information published yesterday includes the number of applications received and the number of applications concluded (number granted settled status, pre-settled status, withdrawn or void, invalid and refused respectively), as well as the number of applications by each of the devolved nations (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland).</p> <p>We will also continue to publish comprehensive statistics on a quarterly basis and are working to include paper-based applications in the next quarterly publication, which will provide for a more complete account of all applications. The next EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics release will be published in August 2020 and will cover the period up to 30 June 2020. We</p>

	<p>are working to include paper-based applications in the next quarterly publication, which will provide for a more complete account of all applications.</p> <p>EU Settlement Scheme – One Year To Go Until Deadline</p> <p>Tuesday 30 June, marked one year to go until the deadline for applications to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).</p> <p>There is new social media content for you to share on your own social media channels, and sharing with others in your networks.</p> <p>The social media content includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graphic available here to download • Translated graphic available here to download in a range of EU languages <p>The Home Office announced that there have been more than 3.6 million applications to the EUSS, with more than 3.3 million applications concluded.</p> <p>Your ongoing support has played a fundamental role in this achievement, particularly in reaching and supporting vulnerable and hard-to-reach EEA and Swiss citizens in local communities to make an application.</p> <p>You can also order free printed communications materials by registering for an account on the EUSS portal. Posters, leaflets and translated materials are available to help you inform EU citizens about the scheme and support them in applying. Please note that registration now permits two people per organisation to register for an account.</p>
<p>Action Foundation – Hosting Project temporarily closed</p>	<p>Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, Action Foundation have made the difficult decision to temporarily close their Hosting Project. Action Hosting matches volunteer ‘hosts’ offering a spare room in their home with a destitute asylum seeker (guest) to provide short-term accommodation. The move to put the service on hold was made given the significant number of hosts who are no-longer able to offer their spare room and to ensure the safety of both hosts and guests through the uncertainty of the ongoing pandemic.</p> <p>Action Foundation’s CEO Julian Prior said: “Hosting is a key element to what Action Foundation has offered clients over the years and is a project that is close to people’s hearts, so this is not a decision we have taken lightly or quickly. However in order to protect our hosts, many of whom are elderly or vulnerable, we felt it was a necessary decision.” All hosting guests have been able to successfully move on or into our Housing project, so no current clients will be disadvantaged by this change. In the past year, Action Foundation has supported 11 Hosting guests to move on from our scheme and into longer-term housing solutions.</p>

	<p>Action Hosting Co-ordinator Lesley Dunn said: “Our hosts are absolutely amazing people. I can’t thank all of them enough for the work they have done over the past four years. Special mention has to go to those that were hosting at the beginning of lockdown, who, in effect, isolated with their guest for a number of weeks, going above and beyond what they signed up for. However, as lockdown eases and the future in some ways looks ever more uncertain, it feels the right time to suspend the project. We look forward to welcoming hosts old and new back and being able to continue safely offering hosting to new guests when the timing is right.”</p> <p>Action Foundation will be regularly reviewing the situation over the coming months and will relaunch Action Hosting when they feel it is safe and sustainable to do so. If you have any questions please contact Action Hosting directly on hosting@actionfoundation.org.uk.</p>
<p>Publications</p>	<p>National Audit Office – Asylum accommodation and support</p> <p>The National Audit Office have published a report which assesses the Department’s early progress towards achieving value for money from the new contracts, measured against its key objectives and taking into account lessons learned from the COMPASS contracts. Please find the full report here.</p> <p>Forced Migration, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence and Covid-19</p> <p>This study was conducted by the University of Birmingham, which was initiated in response to conversations with Refugee Women Connect and anecdotal information suggesting that forced migrant survivors’ suffering increased in the Covid-19 crisis. Click here to read the executive summary, or here for the full report.</p> <p>The Texture of Narrative Dilemmas</p> <p>The Helen Bamber Foundation have published a new study evidencing that people claiming asylum do not necessarily relay their story the first time they have opportunity to do so. The key message from the study – for clinicians writing expert reports, for solicitors and barristers involved in asylum cases, for Home Office decision makers and for Immigration Tribunal judges – is that people seeking asylum cannot be expected to tell their full story to the first person they have met in a first or single appointment, in a relationship that has no context or opportunity for trust building. This study suggests that it is difficult for people seeking asylum to disclose traumatic experiences at a first or single meeting with a professional and therefore people seeking asylum may not do so at that stage. Read the full study here.</p>

Like pebbles in a pool: the effect of community sponsorship on knowledge about, and attitudes to, refugees in less-diverse communities

A study undertaken by the University of Birmingham aimed to develop an understanding of the ways in which encounters with community sponsorship groups or refugees had impacted on their knowledge and understanding about refugees, and to examine some of the challenges and opportunities associated with community sponsorship groups for local communities. This report found that there were clear signs that direct contact with refugees and those who work with them has the biggest influence of understanding and attitudes. However, word of mouth sharing of information by those who encounter refugees and CSS volunteers also appeared to be important. Click [here](#) to read more.

If you have received this newsletter 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 nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk.