

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](mailto: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><b>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)</b></p>	<p><b>National Transfer Scheme</b></p> <p>Local Authorities on the South Coast are facing significant pressures from the numbers of unaccompanied children arriving in small boats and some authorities are finding it difficult to cope with the unprecedented number of arrivals. NEMP continue to approach Local authorities in the North East to consider whether they can offer placements for UASC arriving into Kent and Portsmouth. You may have heard in the media that Kent have now ceased to take any new arrivals and children are being held in an intake unit at port. We have had some LAs come forward in this region with offers of placements but still more are needed.</p> <p>The Home Office recently held a local authority consultation exercise regarding the National Transfer Scheme for UASC, the main changes they consulted on is the proposal to introduce a rota system, whereby each region would be allocated a number of UASC over the year and then it would be up to the Migration Partnership to allocate those to the local authorities within the region that choose to participate in the scheme. The Home Office hope to increase the number of LAs participating in the scheme voluntarily, however they have alerted local authorities that if this does not happen they retain the right to mandate LAs to take</p>

	<p>UASC. The consultation closed on 30<sup>th</sup> September and the Home Office are working through the responses, they have indicated they hope to announce the outcome as soon as possible, but have not confirmed the timeline.</p> <p><b>Training</b>  ECPAT are offering to provide free training for foster carers and care home support staff in relation to providing safe accommodation and caring for child victims of trafficking. The course provides an overview of the various different forms of child trafficking, modern slavery and exploitation their indicators and dynamics. They cover best practice in caring for and providing safe accommodation for child victims of trafficking and also look at the issue of child victims of trafficking going missing from care and the best practice in the safeguarding and disruption response.</p> <p>They are looking to deliver the courses between November and June 2021, initially on line ECPAT are offering this on a first-come, first serve basis to organisations who register their interest. For further details or to arrange for the course to be delivered to your organisation contact <a href="mailto:p.spencer@ecpat.org.uk">p.spencer@ecpat.org.uk</a> Direct line: 0203 903 4631 Office line: 0207 607 2136 <a href="http://www.ecpat.org.uk">www.ecpat.org.uk</a></p>
<p><b>ESOL &amp; Employability</b></p>	<p><b>Online ESOL - WEA (Workers Education Authority)</b></p> <p>The WEA are offering free online ESOL provision from initial assessment to access to tailored packages of support for VPRS Cohort. The offer is open to all learners throughout the UK. Please contact Athena Mohammadi on <a href="mailto:amohammadi@wea.org.uk">amohammadi@wea.org.uk</a> &amp; 07770818881. WEA will also look at loaning out digital equipment to assist learners accessing the course.</p> <p>Communication has circulated regarding a potential duplication of funding so it is suggested that if a learner is already enrolled on AEB funded courses they shouldn't apply for another, but in any cases where they are not, this might be a very useful resource.</p> <p><b>Basic Digital Skills Provision – Free Online Courses.</b>  Learn My Way are offering free online training to brush up and build on many aspects of digital skills in a broader context. It does require basic English but has lots of illustrations in a user friendly manner which should help with the learning. Please find the link here <a href="https://www.learnmyway.com/">https://www.learnmyway.com/</a> for basic digital skills provision.</p> <p><b>Bell Foundation – Opportunities for Funding</b></p>

	<p>The Bell Foundation is developing a new ESOL Programme which will include investment in projects and partnerships which improve outcomes for ESOL learners. The Programme will focus on young people aged 16 to 25 and migrant workers, including refugees and asylum seekers.</p> <p>Working in partnership, the Foundation is seeking innovative and different ESOL approaches, potentially working with multiple partners. If you have an idea for delivering ESOL in your area, the Foundation could test and evaluate the approach. If the idea is to improve retention, progression and access to additional training and employment, please send in your application. The Foundation will convene local and national stakeholders in ESOL, provide monitoring and evaluation support.</p> <p>For more information on aims of the programme and criteria for grants, please visit <a href="#">ESOL partnerships page</a> on The Bell Foundation website.</p> <p><b>Doctors Of the World: Mental Health and Well Being Leaflets available online</b></p> <p>Wherever you grew up, I'm sure you'll agree teenage hood is tough. Now imagine trying to navigate adolescence – and the profound biological changes that come with it – as well as a new country and health system without the support of your loved ones. Doctors of the World have been helping a group of young refugees and asylum seekers in London to make this transition. To support other young people in their situation, they have co-produced a series of leaflets with health and wellbeing information, which were launched this week. The leaflets cover healthy living, mental health, the NHS, and sexual health and are available to <a href="#">download for free</a> in 10 languages on our website.</p>
<p><b>No Recourse to Public Funds and Modern Slavery</b></p>	<p><b>NRPF</b></p> <p>The NRPF Network have launched their new website <a href="https://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/">https://www.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/</a>. The new website makes accessing essential advice and information easier and sets-out the range of commission-based services available to assist staff development, including new online training courses.</p> <p>Public Interest Law Centre, along with the University of Wolverhampton, has published a report into local authority support for people with NRPF during the pandemic that may be of interest. The report can be read and downloaded <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Modern Slavery</b></p> <p>NEMP have been contacted by the Modern Slavery and Organised Immigration Crime Unit regarding OP INNERSTE, this is a multi-agency safeguarding process to improve the response for dealing with unaccompanied migrant children, which has been endorsed</p>

	<p>and supported for national roll out by the National Police Chief’s Council, the Association of Directors of Children’s Services and National Directors of Immigration Enforcement. The process focuses on building early rapport with migrant children at the point of first encounter with authorities - most often Police – to build a relationship of trust between professionals and the children, to provide a safe environment for them to express their needs and concerns and the opportunity for authorities to explain the support, services and protection they are entitled to.</p> <p>OP INNERSTE was first rolled out in 2016 and the process is currently operational in 21 Policing areas and they are now looking to roll it out to the remaining force areas and partners nationally. NEMP have contacted Directors of Children’s Services in this region to request that they nominate appropriate leads to support the roll out of the process. Nominations have been received from all authorities in the region and engagement events will be held over three dates in January 2021.</p>
<p><b>Mears Welcome Packs</b></p>	<p>NEMP has completed the development of Local Information Packs (Welcome pack) with the input from RAS’s volunteers facilitated by the Regional Refugee Forum for the content, layout, length and outlook of the pack. These volunteers are also involved in the development of the NEMP Induction programme online and so have a good idea of how all the information comes together with existing Home Office documents to help new arrivals understand key information needed and also on their local area. The Local Information Pack has also had Local Authority leads input to check the relevant details are included and correct for their area. It is currently being consulted on with Mears and the Home Office to see how it can be rolled out and what will be provided directly to asylum seekers in the current context and longer term. Special thank you to Sunderland City Council who provided a lot of the starter text through the work they had done on their local welcome packs.</p>
<p><b>NEMP Website</b></p>	<p>We have recently updated our <a href="#">Website</a> with some new resources for refugees and asylum seekers. These resources have all been developed in partnership with statutory and voluntary services and with a lot of input from refugees and asylum seekers themselves. The following is a summary of what’s available:</p> <p><b>E Learning Courses</b></p> <p>There is a translation tool available on our site to make the courses accessible to people in other languages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Laws and Life in the UK <a href="https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/laws-and-life-in-the-uk/">https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/laws-and-life-in-the-uk/</a></li> <li>• Looking After Your Health <a href="https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/looking-after-your-health/">https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/looking-after-your-health/</a></li> <li>• Parenting in the UK <a href="https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/parenting-in-the-uk/">https://www.nemp.org.uk/elearning/parenting-in-the-uk/</a></li> </ul>

### **Leaflets**

The leaflets available on our website have been translated into the top 10 languages of new arrivals - Albanian, Amharic, Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Kurdish Sorani, Pashto, Punjabi, Tigrinya and Urdu.

- Laws and Life in the UK <https://www.nemp.org.uk/laws-and-life-in-the-uk-leaflets/>
- Looking After Your Health <https://www.nemp.org.uk/looking-after-your-health-leaflets/>
- Parenting in the UK <https://www.nemp.org.uk/parenting-in-the-uk-leaflets/>
- Education in the UK <https://www.nemp.org.uk/education-in-the-uk-leaflets/>

### **Information for new refugees and asylum seekers**

- Laws and Life in the UK <https://www.nemp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Laws-and-Life-in-the-UK.pdf>
- Looking After Your Health <https://www.nemp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Looking-after-your-health.pdf>
- Parenting in the UK <https://www.nemp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Parenting-in-the-UK.pdf>

It was originally intended that these presentations would be used in information sessions delivered to new arrivals by volunteers. We had planned on holding volunteer recruitment campaigns and providing them with training to deliver the sessions. Unfortunately due to Covid we had to put this on the back burner and come up with alternative ways of making the information available. We are working with the Regional Refugee Forum to make videos which will show the PowerPoint presentation accompanied by an audio recording of the script in a number of languages. It is intended that these will also be made available on our website for either direct viewing by refugees and asylum seekers or for use by voluntary services to deliver initially as on line sessions but later hopefully face to face.

### **Your Local Community**

We are in the process of developing presentations and accompanying scripts on “Your Local Community” using the information taken from Local Information Packs. The idea being that this could be presented to new arrivals by a volunteer in their own language helping to reinforce the information and provide the opportunity to ask questions. There is currently only Sunderland’s presentation available, other areas will be added to the site as they are completed.

- Sunderland <https://www.nemp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Your-Local-Community-Sunderland.pdf>

<p><b>Urgent Messages to Pregnant Women</b></p>	<p>Co-produced by the Local Maternity Systems for the North East and the Regional Refugee Forum North East and its members. The aim of these videos is to share urgent messages with pregnant women in the RAS community, in their own languages and via a trusted member of the community, which could protect them and their unborn babies, as research shows BAME women are disproportionately at increased risk of becoming unwell through Covid-19.</p> <p>Link to the information in video format which has been translated into 8 key languages: <a href="https://www.nemp.org.uk/information-for-pregnant-women-in-the-ras-community-during-covid-19/">https://www.nemp.org.uk/information-for-pregnant-women-in-the-ras-community-during-covid-19/</a></p>
<p><b>Migrant Help</b></p>	<p>Migrant Help have published their latest 'AIRE Newsletter' on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 and can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><b>Update to changes on asylum support</b></p>	<p>MP Chris Philip, the Immigration Minister has written to Chief Executives concerning the financial support for people in asylum accommodation. It sets out the findings of the review of support rates and some financial support that will be provided to people in full board accommodation. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary asylum support increase from June 2020 will be made permanent with a small increase - support rate for people in dispersal accommodation will be £39.63 (a 3 pence increase from the June amount). This will require a statutory instrument in parliament.</li> <li>• Those in full board accommodation (e.g. hotels and the MoD sites) supported under section 95 or section 4(2) of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 will, for the first time, receive payments of £8 per week to cover clothing, travel and non-prescription medication</li> <li>• Those who have been in full board accommodation will also get some backdated support: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ £3 per week for clothing needs will be backdated from 30 June to either 27 March or the date on which someone was granted support, whichever date is later</li> <li>○ £4.70 per week for travel needs will be backdated to 1 July or the date on which someone was granted support, whichever date is later</li> <li>○ These backdated payments will be subject to reductions where accommodation providers have provided financial support</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Accommodation Providers have been asked to make provision for 3 separate 5 week payments in the sum of £40 – to meet the weekly £8 provision per individual being accommodated in full board IA (or contingent) accommodation.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st scheduled payment : 30th November – for payments up to 3rd January.</li> <li>• 2nd scheduled payment : 4th January – for payments up to 7th February.</li> <li>• 3rd scheduled payment: 8th February – for payments up to 14th March.</li> </ul> <p>The Home Office will also commence back payments for those who are dispersed on or after 30th November, through the ASPEN card provision. Further work continues on identifying and calculating payments for those already dispersed and eligible for payment.</p>
<p><b>Reporting Arrangements for Service Users in lockdown</b></p>	<p>Immigration Enforcement have provided the below statement regarding Service User reporting arrangements since lockdown has taken affect:</p> <p><i>Since the Prime Minister’s announcement at the weekend, we have reviewed the new restrictions set in place for England, alongside the current proposed measures in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. We have robust procedures in place to review local and national restrictions in line with public health advice to ensure the safety of both individuals required to report and our staff and that any face to face reporting complies with COVID secure arrangements. We are satisfied that it is appropriate to continue at this time with face to face reporting for the priority individuals we have identified.</i></p> <p><i>We have significantly changed how we interact with those who are now reporting. At all of our reporting centres, screening questions are asked at the door and should any person provide a negative response they are not allowed to enter the building. On entry, masks are provided for those that wish to use them or do not have one of their own. Reporting centres are now COVID secure environments with social distancing measures, one-way systems and sanitiser points available throughout our public spaces. Our reporting centres have also changed their opening times to allow for travelling outside peak times.</i></p> <p><i>We have also taken note of the guidance for those individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable and for those individuals we will facilitate alternative arrangements and will not expect them to travel to reporting centres.</i></p> <p><i>Our public messaging via SMS text, email, letter and on our GOV.UK web page gives clear advice on travel; what to do if you are symptomatic, shielding or living with a vulnerable person; and how to get in contact if you are unsure of what is required.</i></p> <p><i>All those reporting currently have been sent an SMS text this week outlining the reporting position following recent government announcements.</i></p> <p><i>SMS Text:</i></p>

	<p>Further to the recent government announcement relating to national restrictions in England, this is to confirm that <b><u>you should continue to report</u></b> as per your reporting bail conditions on the date and time shown. Visit <a href="http://www.gov.uk/immigration-reporting-centres">www.gov.uk/immigration-reporting-centres</a> for more information.</p> <p>When reporting, you must continue to adhere to all social distancing and safety measures in place. Plan your journey, avoiding busy routes or travelling in peak times and walk or cycle if possible.</p> <p>If you or any member of your household are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or you are shielding, you must not report and contact your local reporting centre. For the latest information on COVID <a href="https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus">https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus</a>.</p> <p>Please note the current reporting position is reflected on GOV.UK and the SMS text that are being sent out are regularly updated – the SMS text above is the latest, however, it is likely to be updated in coming days.</p>										
<p><b>Employment Routeway</b></p>	<p>NEMP are pleased to say that the ‘Employment Routeway’ has now gone digital on our website, accessed <a href="#">here</a>. There are many categories of employment related advice such as Enterprise, Applying for jobs, Advising on Workplace Culture etc. to assist Newcomers on their journey. If you would like your organisation to link into one or more of the featured categories and be highlighted as a ‘Routeway Friend’, please email <a href="mailto:Zeban.Faisal@middlesbrough.gov.uk">Zeban Faisal@middlesbrough.gov.uk</a> for further details or a discussion on 01642 729344.</p>										
<p><b>Home Office Statistics – Asylum Seeker applications and support</b></p>	<p>At the end of Q3 2020, 46,379 asylum seekers in the UK were in receipt of support under Section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. At the end of Q3 2020, the North East housed 4382 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 Q3 2019 to 2020.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="488 1059 1671 1286"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="488 1059 810 1249">Local Authority</th> <th data-bbox="810 1059 963 1249">Q2 June 2019*</th> <th data-bbox="963 1059 1128 1249">Q2 June 2020*</th> <th data-bbox="1128 1059 1400 1249">% increase/decrease</th> <th data-bbox="1400 1059 1671 1249">No. Increase/decrease</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="488 1249 810 1286">Stockton-on-Tees</td> <td data-bbox="810 1249 963 1286">828</td> <td data-bbox="963 1249 1128 1286">604</td> <td data-bbox="1128 1249 1400 1286">-27%</td> <td data-bbox="1400 1249 1671 1286">-224</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Local Authority	Q2 June 2019*	Q2 June 2020*	% increase/decrease	No. Increase/decrease	Stockton-on-Tees	828	604	-27%	-224
Local Authority	Q2 June 2019*	Q2 June 2020*	% increase/decrease	No. Increase/decrease							
Stockton-on-Tees	828	604	-27%	-224							

	Middlesbrough	595	564	-5%	-31
	Newcastle upon Tyne	1099	905	-18%	-194
	Gateshead	754	616	-18%	-138
	Hartlepool	302	300	-1%	-2
	Sunderland	398	345	-13%	-53
	South Tyneside	261	315	21%	54
	North Tyneside	297	249	-16%	-48
	Darlington	87	164	89%	77
	Redcar and Cleveland	101	110	9%	9
	Northumberland	136	208	53%	72
	<b>North East Total**</b>	<b>4858</b>	<b>4380</b>	<b>-10%</b>	<b>-478</b>
	For more publically available information, click <a href="#">here</a> .				
<b>EUSS Statistics</b>	<p>Over <b>4.2 million applications</b> have been made to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) according to the latest <a href="#">monthly statistics</a>, with seven months to go before the 30 June 2021 deadline.</p> <p>The figures show that, up to the end of October 2020:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.26 million applications were received</li> <li>• 4.07 million applications were processed</li> <li>• Across the UK, 3,870,600 million applications were received from England, 214,700 applications from Scotland, 70,800 applications from Wales and 69,300 received from Northern Ireland</li> </ul>				
<b>Publications and resources</b>	<p><b>UNHCR’s Report entitled “Safer and Stronger”</b></p> <p>Please find here UNHCR’s Report entitled <i>Safer and Stronger</i> based on the findings of a participatory assessment with refugee women resettled to the UK: <a href="https://www.unhcr.org/uk/protection/basic/5f2d47eb4/safer-and-stronger-experiences-of-refugee-women-resettled-to-the-uk.html">https://www.unhcr.org/uk/protection/basic/5f2d47eb4/safer-and-stronger-experiences-of-refugee-women-resettled-to-the-uk.html</a></p> <p>The research was carried out by UNHCR between July and October 2019. A total of 143 adult refugee women living in the UK and resettled under the VPRS, VCRS and Gateway Protection Programme were interviewed. The overall aim of the participatory</p>				

assessment was to gain a better understanding of the needs of refugee women resettled under the three schemes in the last five years, and to ascertain how resettlement has impacted on their protection situation, served as a tool of protection and provided a durable solution. The report considered women's experiences prior to departure, during the resettlement process and their life in the UK. There are a number of key findings and it makes recommendations to UNHCR, IOM and the UK Government on how to improve the protection and integration situation of resettled refugee women.

**Asylum accommodation and support transformation programme – report by the Public Accounts Committee**

Please find here the Public Accounts Committee 'Asylum accommodation and support transformation programme report'

<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/127/public-accounts-committee/news/132736/elements-of-new-asylum-services-set-up-to-fail/>

**IOM UK Participant Toolkit - Covid-19 and Engaging Migrant Communities**

Please find here IOM UK presentation on Covid-19 and Engaging Migrant Communities [https://iomint-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/mradke\\_iom\\_int/EaBSgmdDimRIotuw1sOXfaUBzMQ6w5pxvD07pDk-n6Cbcw?rttime=6oTsn5SQ2Eg](https://iomint-my.sharepoint.com/:w/g/personal/mradke_iom_int/EaBSgmdDimRIotuw1sOXfaUBzMQ6w5pxvD07pDk-n6Cbcw?rttime=6oTsn5SQ2Eg)

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