

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>ESOL &amp; Employability</b></p>	<p>An updated ESOL Resources list, January 2020 is now on our NEMP website to reflect the current situation. These include changes to subscription costs, updated links to pages and new additional services like Twinkl Go.</p> <p> NEMP Updated ESOL Online Resources Jan</p> <p><b>The Jewish Council for Racial Equality have produced a Zoom Guide in various languages</b> <u>English</u>, <u>Albanian</u>, <u>Amharic</u>, <u>Arabic</u>, <u>French</u>, <u>Farsi</u>, <u>Kurdish Kurmanci</u>, <u>Kurdish Sorani</u>, <u>Lugandan</u>, <u>Polish</u>, <u>Somali</u>, <u>Spanish</u>, <u>Tigrinya</u>, <u>Turkish</u>, <u>Vietnamese</u>. The link is also on this list. NEMP are also working with Refugee Employment Network to run a series of Sector Based work Academies in partnership with the DWP targeting refugees who would like to gain a foothold in the construction industry or build on existing skills. A pilot project is currently being evaluated in Middlesbrough and a similar one is being set up in Newcastle. If you would like further information on this and current</p>

	<p>qualifying criteria then please do not hesitate to contact <a href="mailto:zeban_faisal@middlesbrough.gov.uk">zeban_faisal@middlesbrough.gov.uk</a>. NEMP have currently established a ESOL Local Partnership for the Tees Valley. NEMP should be sending out invites for the next one for the North of the region so please look out for that.</p>
<p><b>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)</b></p>	<p><b>UASC Resources</b></p> <p>Please find a link to a number of leaflets produced by Fosterline (funded by DfE) <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>They have available to download a range of leaflets including the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Caring for Muslim Children – Basic Requirements (attached)</li> <li>2. Facilitating Prayer</li> <li>3. Fasting</li> <li>4. Ramadan</li> </ol> <p><b>UASC Training – Ongoing Courses</b></p> <p><b><a href="#">ECPAT online training</a></b></p> <p><b>Outline:</b> ECPAT UK has now moved all training sessions in to an online format. Most courses now consist of half-day two modules which are completed over Zoom. Previous courses are sometimes made available to watch for free as webinars including Focusing practice on children's best interests and Child victims of trafficking in the UK immigration system</p> <p><b>Suitability:</b> Professionals supporting and working with children who have been trafficked.</p> <p><b>Organisation:</b> ECPAT UK</p> <p><b>Cost:</b> Free / charges for some courses</p> <p><b><a href="#">SAFE training</a></b></p> <p><b>Outline:</b> This course is designed for learners to gain a good understanding of the situation of unaccompanied and separated children and an overview of their specific needs and knowledge on how to address them.</p> <p><b>Suitability:</b> Care professionals: those who work with unaccompanied and separated children, such as social workers, childcare/youth workers, psychologists, law practitioners, non-profit organisation professionals/volunteers etc. Family-based carers: foster carers and supported lodgings providers, those who look after unaccompanied and separated children as their primary carers.</p> <p><b>Organisation:</b> British Red Cross</p>

	<p><b>Cost:</b> Free</p> <p><b><u><a href="#">Torture and the asylum and immigration system</a></u></b></p> <p><b>Outline:</b> The aim is to raise awareness about torture in the international human rights framework, and how this is relevant to migrants and asylum seekers in the UK. The course is split in to three online modules, and includes practical advice on how to seek accountability for torture.</p> <p><b>Suitability:</b> Community organisations and similar organisations without specialist legal knowledge</p> <p><b>Organisation</b> REDRESS</p> <p><b>Cost:</b> Free</p> <p><b>UASC Service Mapping</b></p> <p>You will be aware that the <a href="#">NEMP website</a> includes a <a href="#">Service Directory</a> of around 300 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 ins or support from my own language community.</p> <p>We would like to include services available for <b>UASC</b> within the Service Directory, so that it can be used by social workers and other professionals working with children and young people to identify appropriate services. It would be appreciated if you could forward details of any services that you are aware of that are provided specifically for UASC or BAME children and young people to <a href="mailto:nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk">nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk</a> by <b>12<sup>th</sup> March</b>, a web link or short description and contact details will suffice and we will ensure they are followed up and included within the Service Directory on the NEMP Website.</p> <p>As well as providing a useful resource for professionals working with UASC, the mapping of services across the region will also help us to identify where there are gaps in provision. We will then look to highlight these gaps with the voluntary and community sector and provide support with funding bids to develop services.</p>
<p><b>No Recourse to Public Funds and Modern Slavery</b></p>	<p><b>EEA Nationals post 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020</b></p> <p>You may be aware that the Home Office produce <a href="#">quarterly statistics</a> on the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS), the detailed quarterly statistics report complements the high-level <a href="#">monthly statistical updates</a>. The most recent monthly update covers the progress of the scheme up to 31 October 2020. With six months to go before the 30 June 2021 deadline, we thought it might be useful to</p>

extract the data for the North East. The table below shows the total EU Settlement Scheme Applications per local authority area and the attached spreadsheet shows the applications broken down by nationality, age and concluded applications.



NE euss stats.xlsx

Also attached for information is some guidance produced by the Home Office aimed at supporting individuals experiencing homelessness to access the EU Settlement Scheme.



EUSS and Rough  
Sleeping Guidance.do

Local authority	Total EUSS Applications 31.10.20
County Durham	5270
Darlington	2770
Gateshead	4320
Hartlepool	710
Middlesbrough	4740
Newcastle upon Tyne	13780
North Tyneside	2570
Northumberland	2170
Redcar and Cleveland	670
South Tyneside	1380

Stockton-On-Tees	1900
Sunderland	3080
Total	43360

Also find a link to the [NRP Network Bulletin](#) which brings you information about the changes that will apply to the residence rights and entitlements of European Economic Area (EEA) nationals following the end of free movement on 31 December 2020. Highlights from the NRP Network bulletin include: **Councils likely to incur costs providing safety-net support to EEA nationals after free movement ends** - We consider the implications of changes to benefit eligibility, housing entitlement, and the exclusion to social services' support after the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020. [Read more](#)

### **Changes to Voluntary Returns eligibility – update from the Home Office**

From 1 January 2021, an EEA national who contacts the Voluntary Returns Service for assistance in returning to their country of origin and who is without status or leave in the UK will be deemed eligible for the service. Depending on their circumstances and immigration history, the VRS may be able to arrange and pay for their flight home and they may be eligible for financial support in their home country.

VRS can provide practical support – from providing access to a passport or emergency travel document, purchasing flight tickets or help arrange a complex return with financial support for those who are eligible.

Applicants can apply online or over the phone: Online: [www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily](http://www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily) Telephone: 0300 004 0202 (Monday – Friday between 09.00 and 17.00) EU, EEA or Swiss citizens and their families can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme [here](#) to continue living in the UK. The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021. Applicants must have started living in the UK by 31 December 2020. If you require further information or training on the Voluntary Returns Service email: [VRSPartnershipsandCommunicationsTeam@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:VRSPartnershipsandCommunicationsTeam@homeoffice.gov.uk)

### **Home Office Statistics – Asylum Seeker applications and support**

At the end of Q4 2020, 45,510 asylum seekers in the UK were in receipt of support under Section 95 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. At the end of Q4 2020, the North East housed 4468 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.

Below is a regional breakdown with a comparison of Q4 2019 to 2020.

<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Q4 December 2019*</b>	<b>Q4 December 2020*</b>	<b>Cluster limit</b>	<b>% of cluster limit 2019</b>	<b>% of cluster limit 2020</b>	<b>% of north east total 2019</b>	<b>% of north east total 2020</b>
Middlesbrough	544	554	692	79%	80%	12%	12%
Hartlepool	283	318	460	62%	69%	6%	7%
Newcastle upon Tyne	970	920	1401	69%	66%	22%	21%
Stockton-on-Tees	732	624	958	76%	65%	16%	14%
Gateshead	705	615	1001	70%	61%	16%	14%
South Tyneside	241	327	741	33%	44%	5%	7%
Darlington	86	151	528	16%	29%	2%	3%
Sunderland	372	360	1378	27%	26%	8%	8%
North Tyneside	259	257	1004	26%	26%	6%	6%
Redcar and Cleveland	113	111	676	17%	16%	3%	2%
Northumberland	164	231	1580	10%	15%	4%	5%

**North East Total\*\***                      **4469**                      **4468**                      **10418**                      **43%**                      **43%**

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

**New Arrival Pathway  
Pilot**

NEMP is conducting a six month pilot in three local authority areas the purpose is to provide a consistent and formalised New Arrival Pathway Referral that moves from signposting to one that actively refers new arrivals into a local lead organisations. This will better link new arrivals with services who would help navigate them into the local area and access essential items and services as early as possible. New arrivals are linked with local lead organisations within the first week of arrival in the dispersal area so that

	<p>they access support. Local lead organisation will make contact with new arrivals who will be able to gain awareness of local support services as early as possible this will help prevent isolation and crisis situations from occurring or escalating.</p> <p>Working closely with Mears this is a major development that takes Mears beyond their current AASC responsibilities with the Home Office to an advanced level of partnership working.</p> <p>It will be piloted in Stockton, South Tyneside and Sunderland, starting 1 April 2021. Evaluation of the pilot will be key and will take place at three and six months and if successful for all parties it is hoped inform a regional roll out and perhaps beyond!</p>
<p><b>Mears Staffing Structure Update</b></p>	<p>Mears now have <b>four North East Operation Leads</b> – who manage approximately 6-8 housing managers each and the region has been divided up into the following areas to be covered by each lead:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Newcastle</li> <li>- Northumberland, North Tyneside and South Tyneside</li> <li>- Gateshead, Sunderland and Hartlepool</li> <li>- Stockton, Middlesbrough, Redcar and Cleveland and Darlington</li> </ul> <p>Three are now in place and a new one is about to start in a couple of weeks.</p> <p><b>Two Welfare Operational Leads</b> will start February 2021 – North and South of the region (Tyne and Wear and Tees Valley) – to manage welfare staff. The two Welfare Operational Leads will also have cash cards and will be able to process emergency cash payments and payments for medicines for example where Aspen and HC2 cards are not in operation (these have previously been completed by Housing Operations Leads). The latter will not more generally pick up housing related issues. It is hoped this will not only increase capacity but will help improve the operating model with more defined roles and encourage greater efficiencies. Nina McWhinney who is Head of Operations is further developing the welfare work stream across the whole North East and Yorkshire and Humber area to ensure it is fully embedded; working closely with Welfare Operation Leads across the contract area.</p> <p><b>Senior Management changes.</b> Amarjit Bains, Director of Operations has left Mears and Mears are looking at how they will deliver their operations and business/commercial interests at Director level.</p>
<p><b>Collated Health Resources</b></p>	<p>Please find below a collated document of Health Resources. We would also navigate you to the Migration info hub (Migration Yorkshire) which is regularly updated <a href="#">here</a> with many health related resources that are compatible with our region.</p>

	 <p>NEMP Collated Health Resources (up</p>
<p><b>Jobcentre guidance on new national Covid-19 restrictions</b></p>	<p>After the national lockdown announcement, DWP published guidance on the new restrictions. This means from 5 January 2021 until further notice, the following updated jobcentre guidance will apply to customers in England, and will ensure essential support is provided whilst keeping colleagues and customers safe. Click <a href="#">here</a> to access.</p>
<p><b>Reporting and Offender Management (ROM) update</b></p>	<p>ROMs are operating nationally and continue to monitor closely the developing situation relating to Covid, ensuring the interim reporting guidance is assessed against any new government or devolved administration changes to 'Tiers'. As part of established protocols, they work closely with colleagues across the Home Office who also have customer-facing operations to ensure they are aligned.</p> <p>ROMs continue to be Covid secure and have robust 'Safe Systems of Work' and reporting processes in place. They have recently review their list of 'priority cases' for face to face reporting set out in the Reporting Interim Guidance and as a result have temporarily removed from face to face reporting those listed in B) those where we know of a risk of causing harm to themselves or others and C): Those who have / previously presented with vulnerabilities and may require additional support or guidance. During this period, those identified in this group have been moved to our programme of telephone contact. Updated Interim Reporting Guidance has now been published <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p><b>Biometrics for Asylum Applicants</b></p>	<p>There have been some recent developments with access to biometrics, the Home Office are committed to using SSC (Service and Support Centres) for biometric capture. The HO has recently extended the Post Office contract in a few locations to help make that journey easier. This is primarily for asylum applicants at interview stage who would have to travel to an SSC to get their biometrics done, the closest SSC for the NE is Sheffield. <i>NEMP have queried with the Home Office if using the post office provision can be rolled out to other groups and those who would use a UKVCAS centre (including refugees and those applying for ILR).</i></p> <p>You can go to the Post Office website and find a post office using their search engine for the "Home Office Biometric Enrolment" service. Link here - <a href="#">Branch Finder   Post Office</a></p> <p><b>There are three of these services in the North East</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Durham</b> - 22-23 Market Place, Durham, County Durham, DH1 3NJ</li> <li>• <b>Sunderland</b> - 45-47 Fawcett Street, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR1 1RR</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>South Shields</b> - 8 King Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear, NE33 1HT</li> </ul>
<p><b>Knowing your data: GDPR and compliance</b></p>	<p>Please see the below training for managing data – this might be useful moving forward with more partnership working.</p> <p><a href="#">Managing your data in a pandemic — Beyond (joinbeyond.org)</a></p> <p><b>This course is free to join if you work for a non-profit registered in England or supporting people living in England.</b></p> <p><b>Knowing your data: GDPR and compliance</b></p> <p>A half day workshop covering data and GDPR. We'll help you work through how to approach making data work in a successful collaboration between multiple organisations and include a short primer on GDPR principles and data sharing agreements and techniques.</p> <p><b>You'll learn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ways we collaborate with data</li> <li>• Principles of GDPR</li> <li>• How your own organisation matches up to its compliance requirements</li> <li>• Next steps for you to take and support available</li> </ul> <p><b>Your trainers</b></p> <p>Martin Howitt and Lucy Knight at <a href="#">The Data Place.</a></p> <p><b>When and where</b></p> <p>Thu 18 Mar, 2 - 5.30pm via Zoom</p> <p><a href="#">Sign up for this module</a></p>

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](mailto:nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk).