

REPORT TO: Cabinet

MEETING DATE: 10 March 2020

BY: Head of Development

SUBJECT: Global UK Resettlement Scheme/Asylum Seekers

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To obtain approval in principle to participate in the new global UK Resettlement Scheme that will commence in April 2020, which will subsume the current Syrian Resettlement Programme and to subsequently advise COSLA of this in principle commitment.
- 1.2 To note the Council's position in respect of the National Transfer Scheme and asylum seekers generally.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That Cabinet agrees to participate in the new global resettlement scheme in principle.
- 2.2 That Cabinet notes the Council's position in respect of asylum seekers generally.

3 BACKGROUND

Global UK Resettlement Scheme

- 3.1 In October 2015, East Lothian Council responded to an urgent request from the UK Government and COSLA's Strategic Migration Partnership to assist those refugees displaced from Syria. As a result the Council committed to resettle up to seven families per year (equating to an estimate of 30 refugees per year) over a five year period under the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (SVPRS).
- 3.2 A separate report has been lodged in the Members Library Service detailing progress against this commitment.
- 3.3 The current scheme concludes in March 2020 and will be replaced by a new UK national global scheme that will broaden the geographical focus

of current schemes beyond the Middle East and North Africa with continued funding in place.

- 3.4 The new scheme will aim to resettle approximately 5,000 people in the UK in its first year 2020/21, which local authorities can sign up to voluntarily.
- 3.5 COSLA along with the other Local Government associations have been lobbying to secure a realistic funding package to ensure participation in the future scheme, which has recently been confirmed by the Minister of State for Immigration.
- 3.6 It is expected that Scotland will be asked to resettle ten per cent of those being resettled in the UK.
- 3.7 COSLA is seeking to understand local authorities' abilities to participate in the new scheme over the coming months, which will in turn inform the overall Scottish commitment as well as reaffirm the broad commitment from Scottish Local Government to support the UK's role in this endeavour.
- 3.8 The detail of individual local authorities' actual commitment is still to be agreed but it is envisaged that East Lothian Council subject to Cabinet approval will commit to its pro-rata amount against Scotland's share.

Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS)

- 3.9 This scheme was introduced by the Home Office in spring 2016 following a ministerial visit to refugee camps in the Middle East. The basis of this scheme is very similar to the SVRPS scheme above with families being resettled but where the vulnerability within a family is due to the needs of the children.
- 3.10 This programme though has separate funding mechanisms that would involve the Council in establishing new arrangements to receiving funding for what is in essence the same client group.
- 3.11 Given the above and East Lothian Council's existing commitment under the SVRPS arrangements, the Council has not committed to taking on any families through this route. The VCRS scheme will be incorporated into the new Global Resettlement Scheme from April 2020.

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC)

- 3.12 The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) protocol for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) has been created to enable the safe transfer of unaccompanied children from the entry local authority to another local authority to help ensure a more even distribution of unaccompanied children across local authorities.
- 3.13 The NTS has been open to Scottish local authorities since 2018. Despite an openness to involvement by Scottish local authorities, there has been

no successful transfers in Scotland to date.

- 3.14 This has had a knock-on effect of increasing numbers of spontaneous arrivals resulting in increasing pressures for local authorities, including East Lothian (see para 3.20 onwards).
- 3.15 The Home Office-chaired UASC Governance Board, of which COSLA is a member, is now exploring the redesign of the National Transfer Scheme to facilitate the involvement of more local authorities across the UK, with COSLA lobbying for full-cost recovery for local authorities involved in the scheme.

Asylum Seekers Dispersal Scheme

- 3.16 The current asylum dispersal scheme was established in 1999 supported by around 12 local authorities, of which the only Scottish one is Glasgow City Council.
- 3.17 COSLA is working with the Home Office and other Local Government Associations to ensure that dispersal is managed in a more sustainable manner going forward with adequate funding for any local authority that wishes to participate.
- 3.18 At the time of writing this report, it is understood that no Scottish Council has as yet confirmed any formal interest in assisting with the roll-out of the current scheme, the main elements of which are:
- With the agreement of the local authority concerned, the asylum contractor would secure housing in an area for use (temporary accommodation) by clients during their asylum application.
 - Currently just under 50% of asylum applications are successful, taking around six months per application. 80% of the asylum seekers are younger single people (mainly male).
 - When an asylum application is successful, the applicant concerned has 28 days to secure housing, arrange benefits etc. and to vacate the temporary accommodation.
- 3.19 Although East Lothian Council staff met with Home Office officials in February 2017 to explore ELC's interest in being involved, it was not progressed for a variety of reasons including:
- The Council's current difficulty in meeting homeless obligations to single people, with this client group facing extensive waiting times for re-housing.
 - Any such commitment would place greater strain on temporary accommodation use and increase demand for permanent accommodation in an already extremely pressured housing market.
 - Challenges continue with the delivery of the Universal Credit process and delays in payment.

- There are a number of support and advice agencies for this client group in the west of Scotland but significantly less so in the east.
- Issues with the dispersal scheme itself, which are now being reviewed to ensure local authorities are equal partners in the process and are appropriately funded and supported.

Asylum Seekers Arriving in Scotland Out with Formal Resettlement Schemes

- 3.20 Not all asylum seekers arrive in a location through one of the above schemes. Some arrive completely independently and often after harrowing international journeys e.g. human trafficking, stowaways, smuggled etc.
- 3.21 Between August 2017 and December 2019, five young people presented as “spontaneous arrivals” in East Lothian. To date, these arrivals have been under-18 and as such are classified as looked after, with the Council obligated under the Children and Young Persons (Scotland) Act 2014 and associated Corporate Parenting responsibilities to provide appropriate accommodation, financial support and practical support to these young people.
- 3.22 This group has faced significant trauma however are different within their presentation and needs to the care leavers population within East Lothian. These young people are destitute, have no recourse to public funds whilst their asylum is being dealt with and have limited English. This results in a high level of both financial and practical support needs, which can involve extensive use of translating services. As their status is encompassed under the Children’s legislation, the Independent Care Review reference this group within their report.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The re-housing of refugees on a proportionate basis can be established under existing allocations policy and homelessness legislation.
- 4.2 Unaccompanied asylum seekers are housed through Children’s Services on an emergency basis, this has included the use of Lothian Villa residential children’s house, supported accommodation at North High Street Blue Triangle Housing Association Project or Bed and Breakfast accommodation. By the unplanned nature of their arrival, this cannot be planned for and has a considerable impact upon resources.

5 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 An integrated impact assessment (IIA) was undertaken at the commencement of the scheme and also incorporated as part of the IIA for the new Allocations Policy approved by Cabinet in March 2019.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Financial – The agreement with the Home Office under the current SVRPS process includes agreed costs for resettling refugee families, which have sufficed for the delivery of services to this group. These arrangements will continue for the new global UK Resettlement Scheme.

Responsibilities associated with supporting young asylum seekers who present spontaneously lie with the Council in which the asylum seeker is found. Two rates of funding are paid by the Home Office. For young people looked after, £114 per day is provided. For young people who are over 18 years placed in Bed and Breakfast or supported accommodation, £28.57 is the daily rate payable. These costs are currently met by the Children's Services budget and so far total around £355,000 to accommodate and meet the needs of five unaccompanied asylum seeking children and young people in East Lothian. To date £30,000 has been received through Home Office funding.

- 6.2 Personnel – Given the relatively small numbers of families concerned all activities associated with the resettlement of refugees under current arrangements and the proposed new global UK Resettlement Scheme can be managed within existing resources as long as East Lothian commits to a pro-rata share.

For unaccompanied asylum seeking young people, the current funding from the Home Office does not cover staffing requirements for this small group of young people who have intensive needs.

- 6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 East Lothian Council Report, 27 October 2015 – Syrian Refugees https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/5691/east_lothian_council
- 7.2 Members Library Report, March 2020 – Syrian Resettlement Programme Update
- 7.3 Appendix 1 – COSLA report dated June 2019
- 7.3 Appendix 2 – Letter from Home Office June 2019
- 7.4 Appendix 3 – LA Resettlement Scheme Briefing Note

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Refugee Resettlement

Summary and Recommendations

Scottish Councils have played a pivotal role in the resettlement of refugees through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme, and associated schemes for unaccompanied young people. UK Government has recently announced the extension of their commitment to resettlement beyond the end of current schemes in 2020 and will be seeking support from Local Authorities across the UK in order to fulfil their commitment. In addition, work is ongoing to improve the National Transfer Scheme for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children and COSLA is seeking to provide input from Scottish Councils in order that the scheme is fit for purpose going forward.

Leaders are invited to:

- i. Reaffirm Scottish Councils' commitment to supporting the resettlement of refugees to the UK; and
- ii. Agree that COSLA continues to engage with the Home Office in order that the National Transfer Scheme for unaccompanied asylum-seeking children meets the needs of both the children and young people concerned, and the Local Authorities that support them.

References

- January 2018, Leaders, Item 3 – Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children – National Transfer Scheme
- September 2017, Community Wellbeing Board, Item 9 - Refugee Resettlement
- February 2017, Leaders, Item 12 – Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children Update
- November 2016, Leaders, Item 13 – Calais Crisis Update and Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children
- August 2016, Leaders, Item 5 – Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking and Refugee Children
- May 2016, Leaders, Item 1a – Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking and Refugee Children
- May 2016, Leaders, Item 2 - Accommodating Refugees and Asylum Seekers - Update
- November 2015, Leaders, Item 14 - The Refugee Crisis and Resettlement Programme
- September 2015, Leaders, item 3b - The Refugee Crisis and Resettlement Programme

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June 2019

Refugee Resettlement

Purpose

1. This paper seeks agreement from Leaders that Scottish Councils will continue to support the resettlement of refugees to the UK through the recently announced scheme that will replace current schemes in 2020. The paper also provides an update on associated work by Local Authorities to support unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) and asks for Leaders' endorsement of work to seek improvements to the current National Transfer Scheme for UASC.

Current COSLA Position

2. Since 2015, Scottish Councils have played a leading role in the resettlement of refugees to the UK. All 32 councils in Scotland are actively participating and, to date, over 3,000 refugees have been resettled under the Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) and the associated Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS). This has greatly exceeded the initial commitment that was made by Scottish Councils to resettle 2,000 of the 20,000 people being resettled in the UK between 2015 and 2020.
3. The VPRS and VCRS are due to conclude in March 2020. Over the past 12 months COSLA, Scottish Government and our local and devolved government colleagues across the UK have been pressing UK Government to announce plans for resettlement post 2020. We were becoming increasingly concerned that the lack of clarity regarding the UK's position on resettlement beyond 2020 was having a detrimental impact on the ability of councils to plan their long-term approach to resettlement. There was also a real danger that the removal of funding at the end of current programmes would have resulted in the loss of invaluable experience and expertise that has built up within councils over the last four years.
4. The announcement from the Home Secretary in the UK Parliament on 17 June has provided much needed clarity in this regard and will enable councils to make informed decisions regarding their role in resettlement going forward.
5. In addition to supporting resettled refugees, a number of councils in Scotland support UASC who have either been placed with them through UK Government schemes, or who have arrived by other routes (so-called spontaneous arrivals). Leaders will recall that in, February 2018, the National Transfer Scheme, legislated for in the Immigration Act 2016 to enable the dispersal of UASC across the UK, was extended to cover Scotland.
6. However, while COSLA was part of successful lobbying which recently achieved an uplift in the daily rate paid to Local Authorities that support UASC, the National Transfer Scheme remains fraught with difficulties and no Local Authorities in Scotland have been able to participate to date, though a number are supporting young people who have come to the UK under s.67 of the Immigration Act (the 'Dubs Amendment').

What is Changing?

Refugee Resettlement

7. Leaders will have received a letter from the UK Immigration Minister on 17 June, outlining details of the UK's ongoing commitment to the resettlement of refugees. The letter is attached to this paper at Appendix A.
8. While the detail of the scheme is to be worked through over the coming months, the information that is currently available regarding it is that:
 - i. All current resettlement schemes will be replaced by one broad global scheme. This will bring consistency of provision for all refugees who are resettled in the UK and will broaden the geographical focus of current schemes beyond the Middle East and North Africa;
 - ii. The 5-year funding tariff that is currently in place for both the VPRS and VCRS schemes will continue, along with the provision of additional funding for exceptional cases;
 - iii. Current levels of resettlement will be sustained, with the aim of resettling approximately 5000 people across the UK in the first year of the new scheme in 2020/21;
 - iv. The scheme will continue to allow Local Authorities to sign up on a voluntary basis;
 - v. The scheme will continue to be based on UNHCR vulnerability criteria. However, it will not just be focused on Syrian refugees but on those that are in the greatest need across the world, to enable the UK to respond to immediate crises where appropriate;
 - vi. An additional emergency resettlement route is to be developed to allow the UK to respond quickly to instances when there is a heightened need for protection and to provide a faster route to resettlement where lives are at risk; and
 - vii. Community Sponsorship will continue and refugees who enter the UK through this scheme will be in addition to those who arrive through resettlement.
9. With regard to funding, Local Government associations across the UK have been lobbying on behalf of Local Authorities to secure a realistic funding package to ensure participation in any scheme post 2020 remains feasible. It is positive that UK Government has taken our feedback into account and is continuing to provide the same level of funding that has enabled the current schemes to run successfully.
10. It is anticipated that the 'ask' from UK Government will be that Scotland resettles approximately ten per cent of all those being resettled in the UK. While Scottish Councils have, in many ways, led the way on resettlement over the past four years (well over ten per cent of the 20,000 refugees the UK is committed to resettle by 2020 have already been resettled in Scotland), participation rightly continues to be a decision for individual Local Authorities to take.

Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children

11. The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) has been running in England since 2016 and has been open to Scottish Local Authority involvement since February 2018. While the prioritisation of unaccompanied children being transferred from Europe under s.67 of the Immigration Act (the 'Dubs Amendment'), and through the VCRS, has impacted upon the number of children being transferred through the NTS, it is apparent that the NTS itself is not fit for purpose. There have been decreasing numbers of Local Authorities across the UK participating and, despite an openness to participate from a number of councils in Scotland, there have been no successful transfers to Scotland at all. This is resulting in increasing pressures on those Local Authorities that experience high numbers of spontaneous arrivals.

12. In light of this, the Home Office-chaired UASC Governance Board, of which COSLA is a member, is exploring the redesign of the National Transfer Scheme to facilitate the involvement of more Local Authorities across the UK. It is important that the views of Scottish Local Authorities are fed into these discussions in order that the Scheme provides the best possible solution for the young people themselves, and for the Local Authorities that are involved.
13. More broadly, COSLA continues to lobby UK Government for full cost recovery for supporting UASC, including through the current review of funding provided by the Home Office for former UASC leaving care.

Proposed COSLA Position

14. With respect to resettlement, Leaders are asked to agree that COSLA engages with individual Local Authorities over the coming months in order that a picture can be built of Councils' ability to participate in the new scheme. This will enable COSLA to provide feedback to the Home Office regarding the scale of the commitment that can be expected from Scottish Local Authorities going forward.
15. Notwithstanding the number or proportion of refugees that are ultimately resettled in Scotland, Leaders are also asked to reaffirm the broad commitment from Scottish Local Government to support the UK's role in resettling those who have to flee from persecution in their country of origin.
16. In addition, it is proposed that COSLA continues to work with the Home Office and Local Authorities to ensure any redesign of the National Transfer Scheme for UASC is fit for purpose. A central element of this engagement will be to continue lobbying UK Government for full cost recovery to support the role that Local Government plays in this regard.

Next Steps

17. Subject to agreement from Leaders, COSLA will engage with Councils regarding their involvement in resettlement going forward, and their views on the best means of supporting UASC. These perspectives will inform our ongoing discussions with the Home Office.

June 2019



Appendix 2

2 Marsham Street
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Local Authority Leaders
Local Authorities in Scotland and Wales

Sent via email

17 JUN 2019

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that the Government has today reaffirmed our commitment to the resettlement of refugees in anticipation of the conclusion of our three largest resettlement schemes in 2020. I hope this is welcome news to you and your communities. The success of resettlement in the UK to date has been achieved by working in partnership with over 300 local authorities. Many of you are participating in delivering the current schemes and your work to support and integrate these vulnerable refugees is greatly appreciated.

In the statement the Home Secretary has made to Parliament, he set out the Government's ongoing commitment to resettlement. We will consolidate our biggest schemes into a new global resettlement scheme. Our priority will be to continue to resettle the most vulnerable refugees, identified and referred by UNHCR. Under the global resettlement scheme, we will broaden our geographical focus beyond the Middle East and North Africa region and will also be better placed to swiftly respond to international crises in coordination with global partners.

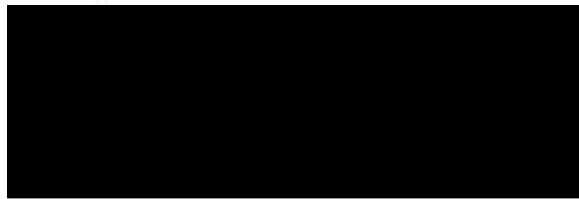
In the first year of operation, the UK will aim to resettle in the region of 5,000 of the world's most vulnerable refugees. Ensuring local authorities can provide resettled refugees with the help and support they need to successfully integrate in their new communities remains central to our approach. Hence, I am happy to confirm that we have retained current funding rates for those arriving in the first year of the scheme, meaning a local authority will continue to receive the five-year tariff of £20,520 for each refugee with a top-up (for year 1) for children aged 3-18 years.

A new process for emergency resettlement will also be developed, allowing the UK to respond quickly to instances of heightened protection need, providing a faster route to protection where lives are at risk. We will work closely with local authorities, regional Strategic Migration Partnerships and other partners over the coming months as we develop the new arrangements.

The Community Sponsorship scheme, which enables community groups to directly welcome and support refugees in the UK, will continue. Building on the experience of delivering the current schemes and the significant contribution of our community sponsors, a key part of our resettlement offer will be that those resettled through our community sponsorship and Mandate routes will be in addition to our yearly, global commitment.

I would like to take the opportunity to acknowledge the invaluable contribution that many of you have made in delivering the current commitments. I hope you will continue to support refugees under the new scheme. In addition, I would welcome pledges of support from authorities yet to engage in resettlement. My officials will be in touch soon to provide more detailed information on how you can support us. In the meantime, if you would like to discuss any aspect of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Over the last few years, we have together made significant progress in our contribution to global resettlement efforts. We recognise the positive difference that local authorities, regional Strategic Migration Partnerships, communities, and community sponsors have made to the lives of refugees resettled in the UK. It is right that we today reaffirm our ongoing commitment to supporting refugees, and to working with partners to find a longer-term approach to refugee protection – an approach that restores dignity and offers refugees a viable future.



Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP
Minister of State for Immigration



Home Office

Appendix 3

UK Resettlement Scheme

Note for Local Authorities

August 2019

Introduction

Resettlement continues to be a critical protection tool, providing a pathway to safety for refugees who can no longer remain in their host-countries. With the support of local government, the UK's existing schemes have provided safe and legal routes for tens of thousands of people to start new lives. However, the global need for resettlement continues to grow; the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) estimate that in 2020 more than 1.4 million refugees will need to be resettled.

The UK Government confirmed on 17 June 2019 its ongoing commitment to resettlement, announcing plans for a new UK Resettlement Scheme which will see thousands more refugees provided with a route to protection when it begins in 2020. This briefing note sets out further information for local authorities about the new scheme.

Overview

The UK Resettlement Scheme will consolidate the existing Vulnerable Persons' Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS) and Gateway Protection Programme which will all naturally come to an end in 2020. This new scheme will be open to refugees identified by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement to the UK because of their vulnerability and does not have a specific geographical focus. Those resettled through our Community Sponsorship and Mandate routes will be in addition to our yearly, global commitment.¹

We are looking for the ongoing support and participation of local government across the UK and encourage local authorities to submit their offer of places for the new scheme as soon as possible. We continue to warmly welcome interest from those authorities who have yet to take part in resettlement.

We are planning a smooth transition, with arrivals under the new scheme expected to start once arrivals under the VPRS are completed; this is estimated to be in Spring 2020. We expect there to be a seamless continuation of arrivals between the current and the new scheme. This is in line with feedback from regional Strategic Migration Partnerships (SMPs) on what LAs would find most helpful in transition.

We would also welcome conversations with local authorities who are able to offer additional places under the current schemes. This would enable authorities to maintain momentum with their arrivals and ensure consistency in provision of services as we move towards the start of the new scheme.

Eligibility

The new UK Resettlement Scheme will continue to be based on vulnerability, with refugees assessed for resettlement by UNHCR against their [resettlement submission categories](#). We

¹ More information on all current resettlement schemes can be found [here](#)

will work closely with UNHCR to identify vulnerable refugees from around the world where resettlement to the UK offers the best durable solution.

Who we will resettle

In the first year of the new scheme it is anticipated that the caseloads of refugees we resettle will continue to look broadly similar to those we see under our existing schemes, with the majority coming from the MENA region. We already operate in line with UNHCR's global priorities and will continue to do so, however over time the nationalities of refugees resettled may change in response to world events and the global context.

As the profiles of those we resettle change, the Home Office will continue to work closely with SMPs and local authorities to match refugees to housing availability in areas that can provide appropriate support to those we resettle.

Numbers

In the first year of operation of the new scheme, the UK will aim to resettle in the region of 5000 refugees with those arriving through our Mandate and Community Sponsorship routes additional to this number. The Government remains committed to resettlement, and decisions on the number of refugees to be resettled in subsequent years will be determined through future spending rounds.

Year on year, resettlement volumes are likely to fluctuate according to the flow of referrals from overseas and the availability of suitable accommodation and support in the UK.

Role of Local Authorities

Local authority participation in the new scheme will continue to be voluntary, with refugees allocated in the same way as currently under VPRS and VCRS. We will continue to work closely with local authorities across the UK to ensure they are able to support those who are allocated to them for resettlement under the new scheme.

Local authorities will retain the same role in the community sponsorship process and we would ask they continue to engage positively with groups that come forward to participate in community sponsorship.

Role of Regional Strategic Migration Partnerships

SMPs will continue to provide support to local authorities to help deliver resettlement, including coordinating offers of places and planning for the arrival of refugees, together with sharing of expertise and knowledge to enable councils to resettle successfully.

Funding Package

The funding package available under the new scheme will mirror that currently paid under VPRS and VCRS; a local authority will receive a five-year tariff of £20,520² for each refugee with an additional education tariff (for year one) for children aged 3-18 years. Additional

² £20,000 in Northern Ireland as social care element paid directly to Department of Health

funding will continue to be made available, on a case by case basis, for exceptional costs incurred by local authorities, including; property adaptations, void costs for larger (4 bed) properties, special educational needs, and adult social care.

The post-arrival resettlement support requirements of local authorities will mirror those issued under the VPRS and VCRS.

Health Care

All refugees referred for potential resettlement undergo a health assessment through International Organization for Migration as part of the resettlement process. The findings of these assessments will continue to be passed to local authorities considering resettlement of that individual to ensure suitable treatment/support can be provided upon arrival.

As with existing schemes, resettled refugees under the new scheme will be able to access healthcare via the NHS free of charge. The £2600 per refugee for health costs made available to healthcare providers under the VPRS and VCRS will continue to be available under the new scheme.

Access to Benefits and Work

Refugees resettled under the new scheme will have access to mainstream benefits and services to enable their integration; work continues across Government to ensure services meet the needs of refugees. They will also have immediate and unrestricted access to the labour market.

English Language

Refugees will continue to be able to access English language tuition that is fully funded through the Adult Education Budget (AEB) if they are unemployed and in receipt of certain benefits; or if they are in an area that is part of the AEB low wage trial and they earn less than £16,009.50. Children in full time education will receive English language support in schools.

Additional language funding of £850pp will continue to be available in year one. This is intended to boost local capacity and supplement mainstream AEB provision. As with the current scheme, Home Office will include outcomes associated with this additional funding in the annual funding instruction. Local authorities will also continue to be able to use the tariff to further top up costs of language provision. Funding will also be available to help with child care costs in relation to attendance at ESOL classes.

Community Sponsorship

The community sponsorship scheme has been a real success and is established now, with a broad range of experience, training and support available to community groups, through Reset, the organisation established to build capacity amongst potential community sponsors. Reset currently provides services including in-person training, a range of online material to support groups in preparing their application and supporting a family <https://training-resetuk.org/> an application checking service and a post-arrival advice

line. Reset are also developing resources for local authorities about the process of providing consent.

Please get in touch with your Resettlement Contact Officer and regional SMP lead if you require further information, and to discuss your offer of new resettlement places under the current or future scheme.