

**Asylum Seekers and Refugees**

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The Newsflash is a weekly round up of publications, information, events, funding and jobs relating to asylum seekers, refugees and migrant workers for anyone who wants to keep up to date with the latest developments.

The newsflash is produced in partnership with the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) Strategic Migration Partnership, the East of England Development Agency (EEDA) and the Partnership Development Project (MENTER).

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## Asylum Seekers and Refugees

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### **Insufficient Support For London's Disabled Asylum Seekers**

Research released on 14 November by the Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees (ICAR) at City University London and Refugee Support/Metropolitan Support Trust (MST) has found that disabled refugees and asylum seekers in London are not receiving enough support from mainstream disability organisations, a number of whom are unclear about the rights and entitlements of these groups.

Press release: <http://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/129453.php>

### **"Freedom, Security and Justice: What will be the future?" – European Commission consultation on priorities for the next five years (2010-2014)**

The survey, targeting citizens, organisations and public authorities, includes the further development of a Common European Asylum System.

Online survey: <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=JLSFuture&lang=en>

pdf version: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/news/consulting\\_public/0001/consultation\\_questionnaire\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/0001/consultation_questionnaire_en.pdf)

### **Scottish Refugee Council Newsletter – Autumn 2008**

Main stories: Life After Iraq; New Refugee Employment Service; Independent Asylum Commission; Refugee Week Scotland Highlights

[http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/FA\\_08](http://www.scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk/FA_08)

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## Migration

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### **200,000 fewer jobs available for migrant workers under new rules**

The number of jobs available to foreign workers through the shortage occupation route will be reduced, the Government announced on 11 November.

The shortage occupation list sets out those jobs for which there are not enough resident workers, and will be used as part of the skilled worker tier (Tier 2) of the Australian-style points system, which will be launched on 27 November.

Press release: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/migrantworkers>

Shortage occupation lists:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/workingintheuk/shortageoccupationlist>

### **Closure of the retired persons of independent means route of entry**

The retired persons of independent means route will be closed from 27 November 2008. This change was announced on 14 July 2008 following public consultation. A formal statement announcing these changes was made by Phil Woolas, Minister of State for Borders and Immigration on 4 November.

Press release: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/retiredpersonsroute>

Q&A document:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/britishcitizenship/retiredpersonsqanda>

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## Events

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**Refugee Council event list** for the next six months is available on:

<http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/eventsandtraining/events>

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## Funding

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### **Funding - Parenting Fund Round 3**

The third round of the Parenting Fund from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (formerly the DfES) of will have £16 million over two years for projects starting in April 2009.

The application period is 15 October 2008 to 12 December 2008. The grants are open to charities and not for profit organisations doing parenting support work where parents, families and children face significant challenges.

The key features of this round of the Parenting Fund are:

Promoting social inclusion and improving access to services and support for less well-served communities. In Round 3 there are no separate criteria for working with Teenage Parents. Working with this group of parents is implicit across the criteria.

The grant will be focused on 23 localities (including Peterborough and Norfolk). Funded projects are expected to deliver learning and outcomes that can be picked up nationally. Also, organisations will be able to apply to work in and across a number of localities

Completed applications must be submitted by noon on Friday 12 December 2008.

For further information go to: <http://www.familyandparenting.org/ParentingFund3>

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## Jobs

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**The Development Trusts Association (DTA) is currently recruiting for a Regional Development Officer for the East of England.**

**An exciting new opportunity to join our growing movement, supporting local communities.**

We are currently recruiting a Regional Development Officer to help grow membership of the Development Trusts movement across the East of England. If you are interested in helping local communities and ordinary people shape their own futures with their own assets then look no further!

### **Regional Development Officer - East of England**

An excellent communicator, you will be enthusiastic about the work of the DTA and have an understanding of the issues faced by communities. You will have knowledge and practical experience of the community based regeneration sector. You will work across the whole of the East of England region in both rural and urban communities.

**Salary:** £26,095 to £29,454

**Location:** flexible - within the region

**Closing date:** 10am, 18 November 2008.

**Interviews:** 3 December 2008

Further information: <http://www.dta.org.uk/aboutus/recruitment/recruitment.htm>

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