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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 Local Government Association - Strategic Migration Partnership and the Partnership Development Project (MENTER).

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## Asylum Seekers and Refugees

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### **East of England Strategic Migration Partnership & East of England NHS launch new document – Commissioning Framework for Language Support**

The regional health group identified a need for specific guidance for health commissioners to overcome language barriers to care. The guidelines aim to support commissioners in the provision of timely and appropriate language support to achieve equity and excellence in health and social care services. The health group is indebted to agencies across the region that gave their expertise and supplied case studies which underpin the document. The framework finds that while people achieve a command of English which equips them well enough to cope in familiar settings, in the stress of a medical setting, this level of language is inadequate and can lead to substantially poorer outcomes.

Please follow this link to read the electronic version of the document

<http://www.eelga.gov.uk/documents/Policy%20and%20Priorities/Strategic%20Migration%20Partnership/Health%20and%20Housing/Commissioning%20framework%20for%20language%20support%20final%20print%20version.pdf>

A paper version of the document is available free of charge if you contact either [louise.gooch@eelga.gov.uk](mailto:louise.gooch@eelga.gov.uk) or [Malgorzata.strona@eelga.gov.uk](mailto:Malgorzata.strona@eelga.gov.uk)

### **UK Border Agency (UKBA) closes the case resolution directorate (CRD) hub from 1 April 2011**

The CRD hub will be closed from 1 April and prior to its closure, a number of operational functions will be transferred to other areas of the UKBA for delivery, such as the receipt and documentation of section 4 applications. Until **31 March 2011**, if the asylum claim was made before 5 March 2007, the applicant should continue to return the completed section 4 application form and related documentation to:

CRD Distribution Hub, UKBA, PO Box 1885

Croydon CR90 9AG

Tel: 0845 602 1739 Fax: 020 8760 1473/1474

For applicants whose asylum claims were made on or after 5 March 2007, their completed section 4 application forms and related documentation should be returned to the relevant regional asylum support team – which for the East (and Midlands) is:

Asylum Support Team, UKBA, Asylum Team Midlands

P O Box 13718, Solihull, B91 9GQ

Fax: 0121 345 8094

UKBA will provide email contacts for each regional asylum support team and CRD residual team for general section 4 support and accommodation queries shortly. In the meantime, any further queries should be sent via email to the [NAMAsylumSuppo@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:NAMAsylumSuppo@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) inbox.

### **Refugee Council notified of funding cuts by UKBA**

From April, funding for advice services for newly arrived asylum seekers will be cut by 62%, funding for initial accommodation services will be halved, and contracts for the Refugee Integration and Employment Services (RIES) will end completely from September. The existing Ipswich office of the Refugee Council is likely to close, leaving staffing levels of about three front line staff operating from small offices, possibly in Luton and Ipswich, plus working in partnership with other organisations elsewhere in the region.

Follow this link to read the press release from Refugee Council:

[http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/news/archive/press/310111\\_press\\_UKBA\\_cut\\_funds\\_refugee\\_services](http://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/news/archive/press/310111_press_UKBA_cut_funds_refugee_services)

**Supreme Court judgement: children of asylum seeker and British parents have unqualified right of abode in UK – allowing asylum seeker right to remain for children to have continued access to both parents**

In a case brought by a Tanzanian woman whose asylum claims had failed, the court ruled that her two British children, aged 9 and 12, were entitled to remain in the UK and have relationships with both their parents. They upheld her appeal and allowed her to stay in the country. The woman had previously failed to argue she should be allowed to remain in the UK after she made fraudulent asylum claims, posing as a Somali on two occasions. Despite describing her immigration history as appalling the court said the children – whose father was British – should not be held responsible for their parents' shortcomings.

The children were British citizens but would have had to leave the UK to continue living with their mother, or face separation from her to remain in the country with their British father, who has HIV and alcohol problems. The case expands the law on the human rights of British children whose parents face removal also delivered a warning to immigration authorities to change their approach to dealing with young people. The government contested the case to avoid setting a precedent that would make it easier for asylum applicants to remain in the UK if they had children with British parents. Please follow this link to the Children's Rights information network (CRIN) to read the case in full: <http://www.crin.org/resources/infodetail.asp?ID=24020>

**UKBA publishes revised guidelines Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)**

UKBA's internal guidance document has been changed to reflect revised guidance for calculating continuous period in UK for ILR. The guidance can be found in the 'Modernised guidance – other cross-cutting information section. Please follow this link to read the story in full:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/february/13-revised-ilr>

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## Migration

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**Migration Policy Institute (MPI) announce new joint project between European Union Institute and US**

The project EU and US immigration systems will focus on cover eight areas - employment, economic growth, human rights, security, immigrant integration, demographics, development, and cooperation with immigrant-sending countries. A series of US and European papers will examine how policymakers on both sides of the Atlantic can respond to global immigration trends and challenges in times of current economic hardship and beyond.

The first report in the series, 'The evolution of border controls as a mechanism to prevent illegal immigration, considers the challenge of effective border control in the United States and analyzes the innovations in border systems and technologies designed to screen passengers more effectively at official entry points while preventing people from illegally crossing the border.

To find out more about the joint project, please follow this link: <http://www.migrationpolicy.org/immigrationsystems>

To read the first paper on the evolution of border controls, please follow this link:

<http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/bordercontrols-koslowski.pdf>

**Strategic Threat Assessment: Child Trafficking in the UK 2010 – Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre (CEOP)**

This report examines the latest picture of child trafficking in the UK, providing a more detailed analysis of the findings published in the 2009-10 CEOP strategic overview, released November 2010. It assesses strategic national trends by gathering tactical information from frontline agencies across the UK. In the period March 2009 to February 2010, 287 children from 47 countries were identified as potential victims of trafficking. Most were from Vietnam and in 35% of cases, children were sexually exploited. The report assesses cases from those 47 countries, highlighting specific trends. Across all cases the number of potential victims of trafficking who go missing from local authority care continues to be a major theme.

To read the report in full, please follow this link:

[http://www.ceop.police.uk/Documents/ceopdocs/Child\\_Trafficking\\_Strategic\\_Threat\\_Assessment\\_2010\\_NPM\\_Final.pdf](http://www.ceop.police.uk/Documents/ceopdocs/Child_Trafficking_Strategic_Threat_Assessment_2010_NPM_Final.pdf)

To read an article on the report from 'The Independent', please follow this link:

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/hundreds-of-children-at-risk-as-police-fail-to-track-and-prosecute-traffickers-2173990.html>

**Health Protection Agency (HPA) launches Migrant Health website**

The website aims to assist primary health care practitioners to look after people who have come to live in the UK from abroad. It is organised on a country-specific basis and outlines a range of health issues that might affect someone coming from each country, making their health care needs different to that of the UK born population. It also provides practical guidance and resources to assess and manage a wide range of health needs. It has been endorsed by both the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Royal College of Nursing.

There is a link on these pages to a resource from NHS Norfolk, open to all, which gives access to a range of documents, in multiple community languages. This would be a useful page to start for anyone looking for a health guide in a specific language, albeit that local contacts tend to be Norfolk or Waveney:

<http://www.heron.nhs.uk/pidsearch.asp>

Please follow this link to access the website: <http://www.hpa.org.uk/migranthealthguide>

**Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) publishes list of graduate level occupations for Tier 2**

In November, the government announced that it intends to raise the minimum skill level for jobs under Tier 2 from National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 3 to graduate level. In December the government asked the MAC to advise on the following two questions:

1. What standard occupational classification (SOC) codes should be considered as graduate level occupations for the purposes of Tier 2 of the points-based system?
2. How should the current shortage occupation lists for the UK and Scotland be revised to remove jobs below graduate level?

The Committee was asked to use NVQ level 4 as the benchmark for graduate level for this commission.

The Committee's report detailing recommended graduate level occupations for the purposes of Tier 2 is available to view by accessing the link on the front page of the website

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/aboutus/workingwithus/indbodies/mac/> (from late morning on 7 February).

The report addressing job titles on the shortage occupation list in occupations below graduate level (question 2) will be published shortly.

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## Events

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**ESOL for young people, enrolments 14 and 17 February, CSV Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 1RS**

Young people wanting to enrol for classes in Ipswich are invited to attend for enrolment at either 10.00am 14 February or 6pm 17 February, at CSV, Princes Street, Ipswich. They plan to start courses at the beginning of March for the following groups:

- **Asylum Seekers** - 12 weeks, 30 hour course for pre-entry/entry 1 learners, 2.5 hours a week. Learners who successfully complete the course will have the opportunity to gain a national ESOL qualification in Speaking and Listening, Entry 1. They will be encouraged to get involved in media related activities at CSV through the FIND OUT project which will give them an opportunity to mix with other young people and practice their speaking skills.
- **EU learners and those with Indefinite Leave to Remain/Refugees** - 20 weeks, 100 hour course for higher level learners. 5 hours a week. Learners will be given the opportunity to gain a full national ESOL qualification. This course may act as a bridging course to CSV's Foundation Learning programme. Learners' progress will be reviewed after 10 weeks and if they are capable of starting on Foundation Learning at that point they will transfer them onto the programme, if not they will continue on the ESOL course until they have sufficient English skills.

Please contact Kate Mumford for more information: T: 01473 418024 F: 01473 287138 E: [kmumford@csv.org.uk](mailto:kmumford@csv.org.uk)

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## Funding

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**Funding round for Norfolk communities open – Broadland area**

The Broadland Community Partnership (BCP) spring 2011 commissioning round has reopened. The funding will support a small number of projects which enhance the lives of Broadland residents.

Five priorities have been identified:

- Biodiversity and green infrastructure.
- Community:
  - Capacity. Citizenship. Cohesion. Development. Safety.
- Jobs, skills and raising aspirations.

- Mental and physical wellbeing.

- Rural issues and access to services.

A total of £12000 is available per priority area. Interested applicants are required to submit an expression of interest form. If successful at this stage they will then receive a full brief and application form for their stipulated priority area.

Please follow this link for more information: [http://www.broadland.gov.uk/community\\_and\\_living/4233.asp](http://www.broadland.gov.uk/community_and_living/4233.asp)

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## Jobs

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There are no job updates in this edition

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