

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Migration

Events

Funding

Jobs

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).

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Fair Decisions; Faster Justice

The Home Office has published a consultation paper on the future of the immigration appeals system.

<http://ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/immigrationappeals/immigrationappealsconsultation?view=Binary>

Yarl's Wood IRC

HM Chief Inspector of Prisons has published its Report on an announced inspection of Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre carried out in February 2008.

Press release: http://www.inspectorates.justice.gov.uk/hmiprison/latest-press-releases/502625/Yarl's_Wood_PN.pdf

Report: http://inspectorates.homeoffice.gov.uk/hmiprison/inspect_reports/irc-inspections.html/544687/Yarls_Wood_2008.pdf?view=Binary

'Promoting the emotional well-being and mental health of unaccompanied young people seeking asylum in the UK'

A report from the University of London Institute of Education.

<http://eprints.ioe.ac.uk/62/>

New updates from the Children's Legal Centre's Refugee and Asylum Seeking Children's Project

Are families being considered for indefinite leave to remain under the current UKBA backlog clearance exercise? <http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com:81/Refugee+and+Asylum+Seeking+Children/Advising/Advising/FAQ/BIAandgovernmentpolicy/Question11.htm>

Case note on R (on the application of) Liverpool City Council v London Borough of Hillingdon and AK on the extent of the duty under the Children Act 1989 towards an unaccompanied asylum seeker child where s/he is moved between two local authorities

<http://www.familylawweek.co.uk/site.aspx?i=ed25018>

Home Office and Department of Children, Schools and Families statistics on refugee and asylum seeking children

<http://www.childrenslegalcentre.com:81/Refugee+and+Asylum+Seeking+Children/Resources/Statistics.htm>

Latest asylum statistics published by Home Office

Asylum statistics United Kingdom 2007 - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1108.pdf>

Quarterly statistics (2nd quarter 2008) - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs08/hosb1108.pdf>

New IOM Return and Rebuild programme.

This programme provides extra support for people returning to Afghanistan and Iraq under our Voluntary Return and Reintegration Programme (VARRP). Asylum seekers can now receive up to £ 2 000-worth of support for

building materials to assist in the reconstruction or repair of their family home. This is in addition to the reintegration assistance that they would normally receive under VARRP.

<http://www.iomlondon.org/doc/publications/Return%20and%20Rebuild%20Press%20Release%201.9.08.doc>

IOM Birmingham is planning to organise a conference on October 29th to provide further information regarding the IOM assistance available for returnees to Afghanistan and Iraq. If you would like to receive an invitation to this event please contact imellanen@iom.int or phone 0121 633 5074.

Empty Promises: holding the UK government accountable for its commitments on HIV, Human Rights and Vulnerable people

UK AIDS and Human Rights Project have released a new report focussing on the effects of relevant policy and legislation on asylum seeking adults and children, amongst other vulnerable groups.

<http://www.aidsrightsproject.org.uk/uploads/662D4A88-C679-A5F5-61FDD9929C75D72B/UKAIDSRIGHTSPROJECT%20REPORT%20JULY%202008%20FINAL.pdf>

Grief Matters for young asylum seekers and refugees

A report produced by the National Children's Bureau and the Childhood Bereavement Network based on a seminar in October 2007 attended by academics, practitioners, policy makers and others working in the fields of childhood bereavement and young refugees.

<http://www.childhoodbereavementnetwork.org.uk/documents/Finalseminarreport.pdf>

Disabled refugees and asylum seekers in London

Refugee Support, the refugee arm of the Metropolitan Support Trust has recently commissioned research in to how refugee community and mainstream organisations assist and support disabled refugees and asylum seekers in London. The objectives of the research are to: map existing work; assess unmet need; identify barriers to accessing services, explore the concepts of disability and address the shortfalls in service provision. Research findings will be available in November and released at a dissemination event at City Hall in London. For more information about this research contact Charlotte Keeble, Research and Consultancy Manager on 020 7501 2214.

Migration

Migration from Eastern Europe falls to new low

The number of Eastern European migrants coming to work in the UK has fallen to its lowest level since accession, according to statistics published by the Home Office.

<http://www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/migrationfromeasterneuropefalls>

'Your Place or Mine: The local economics of migration'

This paper from ippr makes clear the variety of ways in which migration may have affected local firms and economies, and underlines the importance of looking at the longer term impacts of migration in local areas, as well as the short term effects.

<http://www.ippr.org/publicationsandreports/publication.asp?id=627>

CDF Research on Migration and Community Development

A request for contributions to research being conducted by Resources for Change and MAC associates on behalf of the Community Development Foundation. The project is focusing on 'new European' migration and is asking the following questions:

What can community development offer to communities experiencing high levels of in-migration and/or migrant communities?

What difference does community development make to these communities?

What is your own experience of working with these communities? What works? What difficulties have you had?

What sorts of support would help you to be more effective in your work with these communities?

The research phase will run from September to early October 2008. For further information on how to get involved you can contact the research team: Irene Evison, Research project manager, Email: irene@r4c.org.uk, Tel: 01938 555759, Resources for Change, 1 New Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7SF

UKBA information about employers' responsibilities under the new Points Based System (PBS)

Information on sponsorship can be found at: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points/>

For information on preventing illegal working see:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/preventingillegalworking/>

Information on the assessment criteria (HR systems & Compliance) that Sponsors will be judged against under the new Points Based System can be found at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/employers/points/sponsorduties/assessment/>

For information on how people can apply to come to the UK to work:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/workingintheuk/> Or contact the Employers' Helpline on 0845 010 6677

Immigration and social cohesion in the UK: the rhythms and realities of everyday life

A wide-ranging new study by Mary Hickman, Helen Crowley and Nick Mai, published by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

<https://www.jrf.org.uk/bookshop/eBooks/2230-deprivation-cohesion-immigration.pdf>

Events

NRPF Network and British Red Cross conference on the topic of Domestic Violence and No Recourse to Public Funds

Tuesday 7th October 2008 – 1.00-5.00 p.m.

Leeds, West Yorkshire

Purpose of this event

This event aims to:

- explore issues and solutions to the problems of victims of domestic violence who have no recourse to public funds (NRPF)
- discuss good practice in assessing and supporting victims of domestic violence who have NRPF
- promote cooperation and understanding between local authorities, the voluntary sector and central government

For more information please call Jonathan Price on 0207 527 7121.

Europe's new face: Minority Ethnic and Migrant Elders across Europe from Challenges to Opportunities", 30th September - 2nd October '08

Bonn, Germany. The Conference is run by the project AAMEE (Active Ageing of Migrant Elders across Europe) gives a broad overview of the social situations of migrant elders in nine workshops. Two of them focus on the main topics housing quality and culturally sensitive health and care.

<http://www.aamee.eu/conference/index.php>

Human rights - tackling inequality and social exclusion

Awareness raising/consultation events on human rights for the Third Sector

What are human rights - what do they mean for the Third Sector?

How can human rights be used as a tool by the Third Sector to tackle inequality and social exclusion in society?

How can the Third Sector be skilled up to be able to use human rights in their work?

A free one day event that is designed to give the Third Sector the opportunity to explore the relevance of human rights to their work. The day will include a short human rights awareness-raising session by the British Institute of Human Rights (BIHR) and a number of consultative discussions aimed at identifying the human rights capacity building needs of the sector. Information will also be provided on the BIHR Principles to Practice Project and the work of the National Equality Partnership.

Dates and venues (wheelchair accessible):

- Midlands, 2nd October, Leicestershire Centre for Integrated Living
- South West, 21st October, Somerset College of Arts and Technology, Taunton
- North East and Yorkshire and Humberside, 24th October, One North East, Newcastle
- London and South East, 27th October, Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, London
- North West, 17th November, Lesbian and Gay Foundation, Manchester

Participants: Support and umbrella bodies that work with equality groups and organisations interested in helping the third sector use human rights.

Organisers: BIHR, NEP and regional equality organisations/networks

For further information visit www.bihar.org.uk

Funding

Awards for Bridging Cultures

The ABCs will reward grass roots, community and voluntary organisations for local schemes and projects that promote intercultural dialogue and understanding. It will also reward public and private sector organisations for initiating and supporting such schemes.

The deadline is **Wednesday 1st October 2008**. If you would like to discuss eligibility of your project or scheme or need advice on completing the application form, please contact the ABCs team, tel. 024 7679 5768, email awards@bridgingcultures.org.uk.

For further information visit www.bridgingcultures.org.uk

Jobs

There are no job updates in this edition

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