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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).

Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Young Lives in Limbo – Welsh Refugee Council Report on age disputed young people in Wales

'Young Lives in Limbo', the first report to focus specifically on age assessments and age disputes in the Welsh context, brings new evidence that at every stage of the process, children are not receiving adequate protection. It finds that separated children in Wales have been wrongly assessed as adults and denied the safeguarding and welfare protections to which they are legally entitled. It concludes that current age assessment policy and practice is inadequate and inconsistent: it has resulted in children being accommodated with much older adults, detained in immigration removal centres, and subjected to forced removal to countries such as Afghanistan. Children and young people have neither been given sufficient information concerning the age assessment process, nor the opportunity to have their views taken into consideration. Many have missed out on the education to which they are entitled while others have experienced serious mental health issues as a result of the process. Please follow this link to read the report in full: <http://www.welshrefugeecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/WRC-Young-Lives-in-Limbo-WEB4.pdf>

Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (ILPA) – Immigration update 41

In ILPA's newest update, they highlight their new website plus bail guidance for immigration judges and the latest from the asylum support appeals project (ASAP). Please follow this link to access the update: <http://www.ilpa.org.uk/resources.php/13581/immigration-update-41>

Migration

Enhanced communication via an interpreter – awareness raising film from Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Working with local and national public sector agencies and national interpreters' professional bodies the constabulary has produced a 45 minute awareness film demonstrating how to use and communicate effectively via an interpreter, funded by the Migrant Impact Fund.

The film highlights the importance of using a trained, professional interpreter who is qualified, experienced, security-vetted and registered with their professional body. It explains the importance of briefing both client and interpreter correctly and provides guidance on how to do this properly. By following the correct protocols this will ensure three outcomes:

- Fair treatment for the client
- Professional respect for the interpreter; and
- A satisfactory outcome for all parties

Please follow this link to access the film via the Constabulary's website: <http://www.cambs-police.co.uk/help/professionallinterpreter>

Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) research regarding UK employer trends in recruiting migrant labour

Research from the CIPD this week finds recruitment demand for school leavers has fallen since last year, while employer appetite for migrant workers has reached a record high. The CIPD's latest study on skills and migration in the Labour Market Outlook, based on a survey of more than 1,000 employers, shows that a quarter of employers now planning to hire migrant workers in the third quarter of 2011. In response to the annual cap on non-EU migrants, more employers say they will hire EU migrant workers (34%) than up-skill existing workers (23%) or recruit more graduates (18%). Please follow this link to access the press release, and follow this link from there to read the research in full: http://www.cipd.co.uk/pressoffice/_articles/schoolleavers230811.htm

Office of National Statistics on-line analysis of Polish people in the UK

Since Poland and seven other central and Eastern European countries (collectively known as the A8) joined the EU in May 2004 around 66 per cent of all A8 citizens migrating to the UK have been Polish citizens. Between the year ending December 2003 and the year ending December 2010 the Polish-born population of the UK increased from 75,000 to 532,000. The article looks at how Polish immigration has declined since its peak in 2007.

To read the article in full, please follow this link: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/cci/nugget.asp?id=2369>

Migrants and Housing in the UK: Experiences and Impacts – briefing paper from Oxford University's Migration Observatory

This briefing reviews the statistical and research evidence on migrants' experiences in and impacts on the UK housing system. The determinants of migrants' experiences in and impacts on the UK housing system include many factors such as migrants' characteristics (e.g. age, income level, type of visa, time in the UK), preferences (e.g. household size, renting versus owning, minimum acceptable level of quality of accommodation) and restrictions of access to social housing. Therefore, different types of migrants, with different rights, opportunities and resources are likely to have very different experiences in and impacts on the UK housing system.

Please follow this link to read the briefing paper in full:

<http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/migobs/Briefing%20-%20Migrants%20and%20Housing%20in%20the%20UK.pdf>

Colleges to challenge student visa clampdown – report in the Guardian

At a hearing on 15 August in the Administrative Court of the Royal Courts of Justice, the Guardian reports that judge Charles George QC gave the Association of UK Private Schools and Colleges permission to ask the high court to review the government's plans to cut student visas.

Please follow this link to read the article in full: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/education/2011/aug/15/colleges-challenge-student-visa-clampdown> and follow this link to find out about the Association of UK Private Schools and Colleges: <http://www.aukisc.co.uk/home>

Policy Primer from the Migration Observatory – How EU membership shapes UK migration policy

The primer looks at four aspects of EU law and policy – the reciprocal commitments that flow from membership of the common market; the UK's distinctive position on borders within the EU which means that it has opted out of the Schengen arrangements; binding EU law on asylum with the aim of establishing a Common European Asylum System (CEAS); the EU's measures on immigration of third country nationals which the UK has an opt-in arrangement on. Please follow this link to understand more about EU law and freedom of movement:

<http://www.migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/policy-primers/uk-migration-policy-and-eu-law>

Joint submission by UK non-Governmental organisations (NGOs) against racism to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) with regard to the UK Government's 18th and 19th Periodic reports – published by Runnymede

A group of charities, including Cambridge Racial Incident Support Project have issued a critique of the UK government's action on race inequality, which will be presented to the United Nations next week. The group outline their concerns in a report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. The UK NGOs against Racism is calling on the government to:

- Urgently develop a race equality strategy outlining what it intends to do to promote equal opportunities between people of different ethnic backgrounds;
- Show commitment to tackling ethnic inequalities in outcomes in education, health, housing and employment and to tackling disproportionalities in the criminal justice system;
- Look at ways to ensure its austerity measures do not disproportionately impact on those from minority ethnic communities.

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

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/pdfs/UK%20NGOs%20Against%20Racism%20CERD%20Report.pdf>

Events

Ipswich and Suffolk Council for Racial Equality (ISCRE) AGM, 15 September, Ipswich Town Hall

ISCRE's AGM is being held at 7pm the Council Chamber in the Town Hall, Cornhill, Ipswich IP1 1DH. As well as the formal business of the AGM, the evening's keynote speaker is the Executive Director of Eastside Young Leaders' Academy, London, Ray Lewis; the award-winning author and ISCRE's patron Roma Tearne is launching ISCRE's 'One Country, Many Voices' literary prize, sponsored by JIMAS, and awards will be given to honour Suffolk's black and minority ethnic Community Champions. There will also be live music from Ipswich-based Portuguese classical guitarist Fred Costa and food from across Suffolk's many communities. To confirm your attendance, please contact ISCRE e: office@iscre.org.uk or t: 01473 408111.

Home Sweet Home – photographic exhibition by Women for Refugee Women, 12 September, House of Commons, London

In the Home Sweet Home project women refugees use photographic images to explore what home means to them. They are photographing the streets where they walk, the hostel rooms and friends' floors where they sleep, the belongings they take from place to place. These images shine a direct light on to what it means to be a refugee in this country.

Follow this link to see how the exhibition was reviewed in the Observer:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/aug/14/asylum-seekers-home-photography>

To learn more about the project and the exhibition, please follow this link:

<http://www.refugeewomen.co.uk/homesweethome.html>

Integration Support Services (ISS) AGM 30 September, Harlow Leisurezone

ISS are holding their AGM in the Conference Room of Harlow Health Resource Centre in Harlow Leisurezone, Harlow CM20 3DT, between 2pm and 3pm. ISS advise that there is parking available on site which is payable using a token on exit, with tokens available from the desk on arrival as well as nearby multi-storey parking. There is also a "drop off" and "pick up" area for those coming by taxi.

Anyone able to attend this event, please confirm attendance. For more details, please follow this link:

<http://www.iss.org.uk/events/163/iss-annual-general-meeting> or contact Marlene on 0127 963 9442.

Funding

The Volant Charitable Trust – projects which focus on the social deprivation of women and children

This Trust was set up by the author J K Rowling to support charitable causes. Trustees advise that the following outline criteria will be applied to those making applications for funding:

- The Trustees principal objective is to support charitable organisations whose purpose is to alleviate poverty and social deprivation with particular emphasis on children's and women's issues. All charities should be registered with the relevant national charity commission or equivalent body.
- The Trustees are prepared to support a charity by way of regular annual payments but only in exceptional circumstances would grants exceed three years. In addition, even if the activities of a charity appear to fall within the guidelines this does not automatically mean that it will receive a grant. All grants are at the discretion of the Trustees.

Please follow this link for more information and to download an application: <http://www.volanttrust.com/index.html>

The next deadline for the receipt of completed application forms is **27 January**, with funding decisions made at the trustees' meeting in March.

Jobs

Community Engagement Coordinator, full time, £22,755 - £34,164 pa, up to one year maternity cover post, Broadland District Council, Norwich

Working as part of a newly formed community engagement team, this role will take an active part key in building knowledge and skills within Broadland's communities to help them respond to local needs. This will include providing advice and support to community groups and organisations including training, working with partner organisations which involve and engage Broadland residents, and keeping up to date with current policy on housing, planning, environmental and economic issues.

Candidates should be educated to degree level or equivalent and experience of community engagement work within local government is essential. Effective partnership working is key to the success of this post as is a creative approach to work and effective communication and negotiation skills. This role would suit a secondment arrangement from another forward thinking organisation.

To find out more about this post and to apply, please follow this link:

http://www.broadland.gov.uk/jobs_and_careers/view_vacancies.aspx?id=17176. The closing date for applications is **2 September**.

Internship – Legal Caseworker, AIRE Centre, Holborn, London. 3 months, starting October 2011

The intern will assist the Director, Assistant Director and ECHR Litigation Officer with all aspects of preparatory work for the AIRE centre's legal advice service and cases pending before the ECtHR, including:

- Legal research in support of cases;
- Corresponding with the client, the Court, or other legal professionals;
- Accompanying the legal team in Strasbourg during hearings;
- Keeping effective files

In addition to the above, interns may be requested to assist with:

- Undertaking research for articles, both for publications of The AIRE Centre, and for outside journals/publications;
- Undertaking projects in which The AIRE Centre is asked to take part;
- Legal research for the advice service;
- Attending meetings/conferences/seminars on behalf of The AIRE Centre.

All legal work is supervised. As the AIRE Centre has only one support staff member, both interns and staff are required to assist with administrative tasks as they arise.

To be eligible candidates must:

- Have a completed law degree
- Have a good understanding of the areas of law in which The AIRE Centre works
- Be able to work full-time for a minimum of three months
- Have a good standard of written and spoken English

All internships are unpaid, although travel and lunch expenses will be covered for the days worked.

To apply, please send a recent CV in addition to a covering letter to Rebecca Collins at admin@airecentre.org by midnight **4 September**.

External Projects Co-ordinator, Migrants Resource Centre, London. 18 month post, 28 hours per week £27500 pro rata.

The Migrants Resource Centre (MRC) is a partner in four new projects aimed at improving the integration and participation of migrants in EU states and the UK. Three of the projects will focus on testing different ways of providing information to migrants and the host community by involving MRC users and the fourth project will be considering the skills and qualifications of third country nationals.

To take these developments forward, MRC wishes to appoint a Projects Co-ordinator to engage with users and other stakeholders and to liaise with our project partners. The successful candidate will have an understanding of the issues facing migrants in the UK, be a good networker in the refugee and migrant sector, have excellent project management skills and be able to engage with users.

For an application pack, please follow this link:

http://www.migrantsresourcecentre.org.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=47&Itemid=59

The closing date for completed applications is **14 September**.

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