

**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 Local Government Association - 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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### Transfer of Refugee & Migrant Justice cases

Following Refugee and Migrant Justice (RMJ) being placed into administration, the Legal Services Commission has written to its DCS taskforce members specifically about unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). Working with UKBA, they estimate that RMJ had about 300 'live' on-going cases involving children.

The LSC have compiled a list of other organisations who work in the same area as RMJ in order to help people arrange new representation. Please follow the link below for the list. Alternatively, using the Community Legal Advice telephone 0845 345 4345 or internet service, you may find representation more local to the client.

The LSC have also reached an agreement with the tribunal service that they will adjourn hearings for those RMJ clients who have a listing date already arranged. UKBA have also agreed to postpone all interviews for all RMJ UASC clients for up to 3 weeks. Both measures are designed to allow clients a reasonable period of time to seek and obtain alternative representation. Please direct any queries to the LSC.

LSC's list of providers:

<http://www.legalservices.gov.uk/civil/immigration/5527.asp>

Community Legal Advice internet address:

[www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk](http://www.communitylegaladvice.org.uk)

Email address for queries to the LSC

[immigration-services@legalservices.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:immigration-services@legalservices.gsi.gov.uk)

### University Scholarship for Refugee Student – APPLY NOW

Hult International Business School have a FULL scholarship for a refugee to study on a 4-year undergraduate programme in London.

Applicants must be:

- a refugee originating from a war-torn country
- already in the UK (to start their undergraduate programme in September 2010)
- proficient in English (an English proficiency test to be carried out free of charge for the suitable candidate(s))

Learn more about undergraduate programmes at HULT programs at: <http://hult.edu/undergraduate/index>

**To apply** – Applicants should contact Jennifer Gracie receive an application form:

[jennifer.gracie@hult.edu](mailto:jennifer.gracie@hult.edu) or call 0207 341 8544

**Applicants should apply by the end of July to start the course in September.**

### Maternity rights & benefits for pregnant women according to their immigration status

Maternity Action has prepared a series of information sheets outlining what rights and benefits are available to pregnant women and new mothers, according to their immigration status.

Please follow the links below to access the ones you need:

Asylum seekers: <http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/asyluminfo.pdf>

EU, EEA & Swiss nationals (including A8 & A2):

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/eueeainfo.pdf>

Indefinite leave to remain, right of abode and British citizen:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/indefiniteleaveinfo.pdf>

Refugees:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/refugeeinfo.pdf>

Refused asylum seekers:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/refusedasyluminfo.pdf>

Undocumented migrants:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/undocumentedinfo.pdf>

Women with no recourse to public funds:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/norecourseinfo.pdf>

Entitlement to free NHS maternity care for women from abroad:

<http://www.maternityaction.org.uk/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/entitlementtonhscareinfo.pdf>

For more information, contact Maternity Action Unit F5, 89-93 Fonthill Road, London N4 3JH

T: 0207 281 7816

E: [info@maternityaction.org.uk](mailto:info@maternityaction.org.uk)

## **Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees (ICAR) saved from closure**

ICAR, previously based at London City University, was to become a casualty of higher education sector cuts when the university announced its inability to house the centre in April 2010. Without this base, ICAR was certain to close by the end of June 2010.

The centre provides a source of unbiased information about asylum and refugees and managed to find a new home at the eleventh hour courtesy of race equality think-tank the Runnymede Trust. However, once Runnymede had stepped up in May 2010, the two organisations then had six weeks to raise £25,000 to cover costs of moving.

Thanks to donations from individuals who gave via a dedicated web page and contributions from ICAR's existing funders, the centre will now be able to continue its work, based at the Runnymede offices in central London.

Complete press release:

<http://www.runnymedetrust.org/uploads/PressReleases/ICARPressReleaseJune2010.pdf>

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## **Migration**

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### **Longitudinal study of migrant workers in the East of England interim report 2**

The Longitudinal Study of Migrant Workers 2008-2011 is the second in a series of three research reports commissioned by EEDA with ESF funding, on migrant workers in the East of England carried out by Dr. Claudia Schneider and Dr. Deborah Holman from Anglia Ruskin University.

It finds that non-recognition of skills is a key barrier and that working below full economic potential is an ongoing issue, despite high levels of aspirations among the research participants, and the additional qualifications that many had gained.

The research highlights the complexity of factors which impact on decisions regarding length of stay. It draws on quantitative and qualitative data, stakeholder interviews and review of Polish internet blog sites to explore attitudes to the economic situation here and in country of origin, issues around housing, health, personal goals, aspirations and transnationalism.

To read the report, please follow the link: <http://www.eeda.org.uk/5339.asp>

### **Limits on non-EU migration**

From April 2011, the government will introduce an annual limit on applications for Tier 1 (general) and Tier 2 (general) of the points-based system. An interim limit will be introduced from 19 July 2010 until the long term limit comes into force in April 2011. The interim limit will apply to the number of certificates of sponsorship that an employer can issue for tier 2 applicants. For Tier 1 applicants, there will be a limit on the number of applications that UKBA will consider in any one month & there will also be an increase the pass mark for Tier 1 (General), from 95 points to 100 points.

For tier 2, intra-company transfers, ministers of religion and sportspeople will not be included in the interim limit. UKBA will issue updated sponsor guidance on 19 July, but they have said that they will give priority to certificates of sponsorship required for extension applications and shortage occupations.

Details of how the final limit will be delivered will be agreed following a 12-week government consultation with businesses. Additionally, the Home Secretary has also asked the Migration Advisory Committee, the

government's independent adviser on migration issues, to launch a separate consultation into what level the limit should be set at, taking into account social and economic impacts.

Press release:

[UK Border Agency | Coalition commits to impose migration limit](#)

Consultation papers:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/workingwithus/mac/mac-consultation-annual-limit/> (Migration Advisory Committee)

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/aboutus/consultations/limits-on-non-eu-migration/> (UKBA)

For details of most up to date guidance on new limits, please follow the links below:

Tier 1: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/27-intro-limit-for-t1-pbs>

Tier 2: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/28-intro-limit-for-t2-pbs>

## **Migrant Capital: a perspective on contemporary migration in London**

A report released on 21 June 2010 by the Migrants Rights Network shows that with 33% of its population is born overseas, immigration has been a big contributor to London's cultural and economic vitality.

This report highlights London's role as a hub of migration to the UK. The presence of a large, diverse migrant population in London presents challenges to the national government's aim of simplifying and 'toughening up' immigration management.

Text of full report:

[http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/publications/MRN\\_Migrant\\_Capital\\_June\\_2010.pdf](http://www.migrantsrights.org.uk/files/publications/MRN_Migrant_Capital_June_2010.pdf)

## **Call for experts to improve employment market for BME & migrant youth**

The "Fulfilling promise" LEED project is analysing strategic approaches to improving employment outcomes for ethnic minority and immigrant youth.

OECD LEED will be holding a seminar on this topic in collaboration with the European Commission and the OECD LEED Forum for Partnerships and Local Governance on 22 October 2010. The seminar will be used to develop a manual to provide policy advice to local practitioners.

In order to feed into this process, OECD LEED is seeking experts in the field to contribute local case studies. Each case study should focus on a locality which has experienced labour market exclusion amongst ethnic minority youth and established a locally based approach to tackling this problem.

**Deadline: 20 July 2010**

For more details: [http://www.oecd.org/document/0/0,3343,en\\_2649\\_34417\\_45539712\\_1\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/0/0,3343,en_2649_34417_45539712_1_1_1_1,00.html)

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## **Events**

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There are no events updates in this edition

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## **Funding**

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### **Rayne Fellowship for refugees**

Each year, five people will be selected for a Fellowship offered to refugees living in the UK, who have an idea which, with the right support, could come to life. They will be able to draw upon a resource fund of up to £15,000 to be spent on personal development, further training or education, resources, expert advice, one-to-one mentoring or attending networking events.

Applicants of all ages are invited to apply, but those aged 18-25 are particularly encouraged. Interested applicants should submit an application outlining their Big Idea and giving information about how the idea could work, what support and resources would be needed and what the impact would be on the wider community. Decisions on funding successful projects will be based on the quality of the idea and on how committed the applicant is to building bridges between refugee communities and the wider society.

Each applicant will be given online and telephone support to help complete their application. Finally, shortlisted applicants will be invited to make a presentation to an independent panel. Then the five successful Fellows will be chosen and begin developing their Big Idea.

Applications are now open, and the deadline for submitting an application is **3 September 2010 at 5pm**. If the applicant needs advice or feedback on their application before the deadline, then it must be submitted at least **3 weeks before this date**.

For full details, plus application form, manual for guidance and equal opportunity form, please follow this link: [http://www.praxis.org.uk/index.php?page=2\\_28](http://www.praxis.org.uk/index.php?page=2_28)

## Woodward Charitable Trust

The Woodward Charitable Trust, one of the Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts, is inviting applications for grants. The fund offers grants of up to £5,000 through their small grants scheme and grants of over £5,000 through their large grants scheme. Applications can be made by UK registered charities working with or in the following areas:

- Social and ethnic minority groups
- Prisoners and ex-offenders
- Homelessness
- Violence and abuse
- Arts outreach
- Disability
- Environment
- Addiction.

The next application deadline for small and large grants is **30 November 2010**. For more details, please follow this link: <http://www.woodwardcharitabletrust.org.uk/index.html>

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## Jobs

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### Postgraduate diploma/MA in intercultural therapy - London

For people who would like to become a trained counsellor or psychotherapist, a new Postgraduate Diploma / MA programme at the Refugee Therapy Centre, London N4 3RQ for people who want to qualify to work therapeutically with refugees with a flexible speciality in working with refugees. The full MA programme leads to registration with the United Kingdom Council for Psychotherapy (UKCP). Please contact the Refugee Therapy Centre for more information and an application pack.

The course starts September 2010, and while course fees apply, no details are available yet.

### Introductory course on counselling refugees - London

A learning opportunity for refugees and asylum-seekers from diverse backgrounds as well as those who are working with refugees and asylum seekers to share their experiences and learn from each other.

This is a 1 year course held on **Friday afternoons** at the Refugee Therapy Centre, London N4 3RQ. Candidates who successfully complete this course may be accepted onto the Diploma/MA qualifying course in Intercultural Psychodynamic Counselling.

The course starts September 2010, and will cost £840, although some fee remission may be available for asylum seekers. The deadline for applications is **3 August 2010**.

Please follow the links below if either course is of interest.

[miriam@refugeetherapy.org.uk](mailto:miriam@refugeetherapy.org.uk) [www.refugeetherapy.org.uk](http://www.refugeetherapy.org.uk)

If you have had this passed on to you and you want to receive e-mail updates yourself, you can subscribe by emailing [louise.gooch@eelga.gov.uk](mailto:louise.gooch@eelga.gov.uk)

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