



South East
Strategic Partnership
for Migration

SEEC-SESPM WORKSHOP

Friday, 23 June 2017

BREXIT, MIGRATION & SKILLS IN THE SOUTH EAST ECONOMY



Session 2: Migration impacts on council services - funding, opportunities & challenges

The local government perspective

1. How councils are stepping up to the mark

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LGA Asylum, Refugee and Migration Task Group

The local government perspective

How councils are stepping up to the mark: opportunities & funding challenges

Current context

- Range of programmes to support refugees and asylum seekers
 - Most local authorities involved in some way
 - The role of the LGA: Asylum, Migration and Refugee Task Group
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How we support children

- **In country arrivals via National Transfer Scheme (NTS)**

Nearly 4,000 in over 80% of authorities,

Over 100 transfers so far in SE

- **S67 Immigration Act**

480 children from Europe

- **The Dublin III Treaty**

Ongoing obligation, councils undertake assessment

How we support families & adults

Syrian resettlement

- Confident 20,000 pledge levels will be met
- Since Sept 2015, 5,453 people were resettled under the Syrian VPRS across 235 different local authorities. Half under 18 years old
- **There has been 3,200 South East pledges to accept refugees. Over 700 refugees resettled so far.**

Asylum

- 39,365 asylum applications for support in over 121 authorities
- 3391 NRPF households in 2012/13, no funding
- **3 dispersal areas in SE, a further 8 have agreed in principle**

Other means

- Family reunion, Gateway one year HO & EU funding

Key 'wins'

- Local leadership
 - Long term resettlement funding including ESOL
 - Flexibility – funding and design
 - Regional coordination
 - Enhanced UASC rates with a review
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Key challenges: children

- Cost
 - Social work capacity & expertise
 - Affordable foster care
 - Keeping the momentum up for Kent & others
 - Next steps
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Key challenges - families

- Suitable, affordable housing
 - Co-ordinating offers of support
 - Self-sufficiency
 - Managing expectations
 - The future for dispersal
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Key challenges: general

- Links across programmes
 - Access to services
 - Public perception
 - Sharing learning & practice
 - What do refugees think...
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Horizon scanning

- Family reunification – capacity?
 - Families arriving from the ‘MENA’ region
 - Increasing dispersal
 - ‘Dubs Amendment’
 - Links with other agendas: missing people, trafficking and modern slavery
 - Casey review – what next for integration?
 - Immigration Act?
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More information

Resources

- Syrian refugee resettlement: a guide for local authorities:
- www.local.gov.uk/topics/communities/refugees-and-asylum-seekers
- Knowledge Hub

Key contacts

- LGA Boards and Task Group
 - Regional Strategic Migration Partnership (RSMPs)
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