## Leeds Migration

# Partnership

**LMP Operations Group – 17th September 2018 action notes**

1. Welcome, Introductions and apologies

Ali Mahgoub welcomed everyone and explained the format for the meeting.

Agenda was agreed

Notes taken by Daniel Mundet (PATH Yorkshire).

1. Matters arising from previous minutes

No matters arising

1. Adult safeguarding consultation - David Rickus

David Rickus presented the “Citizen-Led Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults”. Safeguarding adults refers to the multi-agency procedure used to protect adults from abuse or neglect. The procedures help people aged 18 years of age or over, with care and support needs.

The Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board is a statutory body, made up of organisations that work together to safeguard adults from abuse and neglect. The achievements of the Board are set out in its Annual Reports (<https://leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk/>).

More additional information and resources can be found at the following web-site:

<https://leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk/safeguarding-adults>

David Rickus also offered to give training and awareness raising sessions to LMP organisations and its service users about safeguarding adults. These courses are provided by Adult Social Care. For dates of courses or for more information, contact their Business Support Centre on 0113 3785274.

1. LMP Strategic Group, updates – Daniel Mundet

Daniel Mundet reminded that the Strategy Group have identified three key areas to work on 2018-2019:

* Safety and inclusion
* Housing and homelessness
* Health

In the last strategy meeting there was a discussion around a domestic violence case study and a presentation about the Domestic Violence training available. Ali Mahgoub will be offering training for refugee leaders and also key stakeholders on this issue. Anyone interested please contact Ali Mahgoub.

The LMP Strategy group action plan has been uploaded to the Migration Partnership blog. All partners are encouraged to contribute to taking the action plan forward.

1. Regional updates – Migration Yorkshire

Liz Maddocks presented the September Regional Report on Migration Issues. Amongst other aspects the report highlights that several policies associated with the ‘hostile environment’ have been suspended or reversed, including immigration checks on bank accounts, as well as the memorandum of understanding under which the NHS was required to share patients’ details with the Home Office. The Department for Education (DfE) will no longer ask schools to gather personal student data.

Full report was uploaded on the blog: <https://migrationpartnership.org.uk/migration-yorkshire-report-on-migration-issues-leeds-sept-2018/>

1. Refugee Week – Ali Mahgoub

Ali Mahgoub gave a review of the 2018 Refugee Week. In this year’s edition there was a good range of events across the city. Most activities were well attended and the overall impression is that this was a really successful week.

1. Updates from members

Digital Leeds. This is a city wide project about promoting digital inclusion. They want to build community capacity to tackle digital exclusion. They are looking for Digital Champions to support the delivery of the project. There is a tablet lending scheme for any organisation interested in the being part of the project. RETAS took part in this scheme and it proved to be really useful for the people it supports.

Gipsy Roma Traveller Outreach and Inclusion Team. There is a Fresh Start group at the Compton Centre (Wednesday 2:30-4:30 pm) for children 9+ while they wait to be allocated a school place. They have been quite busy. There is a Welcome Group at the Reginald Centre (Tuesday 9:00-12:00 am), where support on a wide range of issues is offered.

Voluntary Action Leeds. The BME Hub works to raise the voice of BME communities in Leeds. They work around three themes. They would like to raise the profile of their activities and the involvement of newly arrived communities in Leeds. They can be contacted through VAL and the [www.doinggoodleeds.org.uk](http://www.doinggoodleeds.org.uk).

PAFRAS. They support Wednesday drop-ins (10:00-13:00) at Saint Aidan Church. People attending the drop-ins are mostly from Eritrea and Pakistan. They are struggling to engage with young people. They could also support people seeking asylum.

G4S. They reported that at the end of August there were 825 asylum seekers hosted in 253 properties, mainly in LS 8, 9 and 11. Iran, China and Afghanistan are the predominant nationalities. They are working with State Agents to provide character references for tenants. G4S took note of a number of property issues raised by some of the organisations present at the meeting.

Leeds Domestic violence Service. They are a consortium of agencies that support victims of domestic violence. They are involved in the “Front Door Safeguarding Hub”. They are currently dealing with quite a number of force marriage cases. They are open to work with LMP organisations.

PAFRAS. They are conducting mental health assessments and developing a well-being offer. The aim is to work towards enabling and empowering the groups they support.

Saint Vincent. They are enrolling for English classes and also on a wide range of issues. The classes are open to adults 18+ (no particular status). All information will be uploaded to the migration blog.

Opera North. They want to reach to all communities in Leeds and ensure that their work is available to all communities. They do this by offering free tickets and workshops.

Women Health Matters. Their goal is to reduce health inequalities experienced by women from communities across Leeds. They work with women who have unequal access to health and support services due to poverty, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation or traumatic personal experience. They currently have two groups and they would like organisations to refer women to these groups.

Homeless Charter. NACCOM will be attending the 2nd of October meeting to discuss destitutions. They would like organisations to send them information about any food poverty issues and cases.

Leeds Playhouse. They are organising a project aimed at engaging with older men that live alone, members of the LGBT community and asylum seekers. They will develop a wide cultural experience that may encourage participants to become volunteers. They would like to link with relevant organisations.

West Yorkshire Destitution Asylum Network (WYDAN). They are currently looking for new trustees. WYDAN is responsible for the winter night shelter. The shelter will re-open on the 29th of October. Referrals come from the Red Cross, PAFRAS and Migrant Help from Wakefield. They are currently working at extending the shelter to cover 52 weeks. They ask for suggestions for churches that would also like to be part of the shelter.

Clarity. They are a small social enterprise to provide interpreting opportunities for people from refugee background. They ask for referrals of people that would like to work as interpreters. Clarity is a refugee led organisation.

Migrant Help. They talked about the RefAid mobile app. This app shows migrants, refugees and those who help them where services are near them – on a map with a very simple interface. A web based content management and communication system allows trusted aid organizations to manage and update their services and to get their critical aid to where it is most urgently needed. Organisations can sign up to this app and upload info about the activities and support they offer.

The Children Society. They provide advocacy support for accompanied and unaccompanied children and young people. They run a youth group on a weekly basis with a good level of support and also peer to peer support.

Refugee Council. Their children team offers therapeutic support on resettlement. They also run a homework club on a Monday and its open for new referrals. They will be starting a project called New Roots. This project will be supporting refugees on a number of key aspects of settling in Leeds.

PATH Yorkshire. There are currently three projects relevant to the group:

* STEP project. To support the long term unemployed (more than 12 months) into a 6 months paid work placement in Third Sector Organisations. Referrals and also TSO organisations interested in offering a placement should contact PATH. All expenses will be covered and PATH will be providing 1-2-1 support to individuals throughout the placement.
* ESOL Classes. Talk English Project. Ongoing basic level ESOL classes across Leeds.
* Connecting Opportunities. Project to support refugees and new migrants to develop their skills and opportunities to find work and be part of the local community. There is support available for improving English, developing the skills needed to gain employment in the UK, feeling part of the community and increasing confidence and well-being.

**Next meeting: Monday 26th November at 10.00. One Community Centre.**