



An overview of the latest statistics, policy and research on migration issues affecting partner organisations in Yorkshire and Humber.

Summary

- UK net migration is stable at 258,000 with continued falls in EU migration for work, offset by increases in non-EU migration for work and students (paras.1-2)
- Post-Brexit immigration system proposals are being consulted upon. (para.21)
- When Theresa May resigned as Conservative party leader she quoted Sir Nicholas Winton, who brought children to the UK on the Kindertransport. (para.24)
- Yorkshire and Humber's new 6 MEPs are: 3 for the Brexit Party (36% of the vote), 1 each for Labour (16%), the Liberal Democrats (16%) and the Green Party (13%). (para.25)
- It is a year since the Windrush scandal broke. The Compensation Scheme has opened. The Home Secretary has given formal apologies by to 67 individuals. (paras. 35-37)
- The EU Settlement Scheme was rolled out nationally on 30 March. There have been 800,000 applications, around 20% of the eligible population. (paras.39-40)
- Government will increase funding for unaccompanied children cared for by councils, benefiting those looking after older children (aged 16-17). (para.53)
- Government announced resettlement plans post 2020. Existing schemes will be merged and 5,000 refugees will be resettled in the first year. (para.57)
- The Home Office published a new Indicators of Integration framework. It offers a common way for practitioners and policy makers to understand, plan, monitor and measure the integration of any group of people into society. (para.65)
- During Refugee Week, events were held across the region. The official theme of Refugee Week 2019 was 'You, me and those who came before'. (para.77)
- Globally, more than 70 million people are displaced, double the level of 20 years ago. (para.78)
- EU countries - including the UK - are beginning to resettle refugees rescued from detention in Libya and temporarily housed in Niger. (para.80)

UK migration trends (for the year ending December 2018, published May 2019)

1. Net migration figures are as follows:

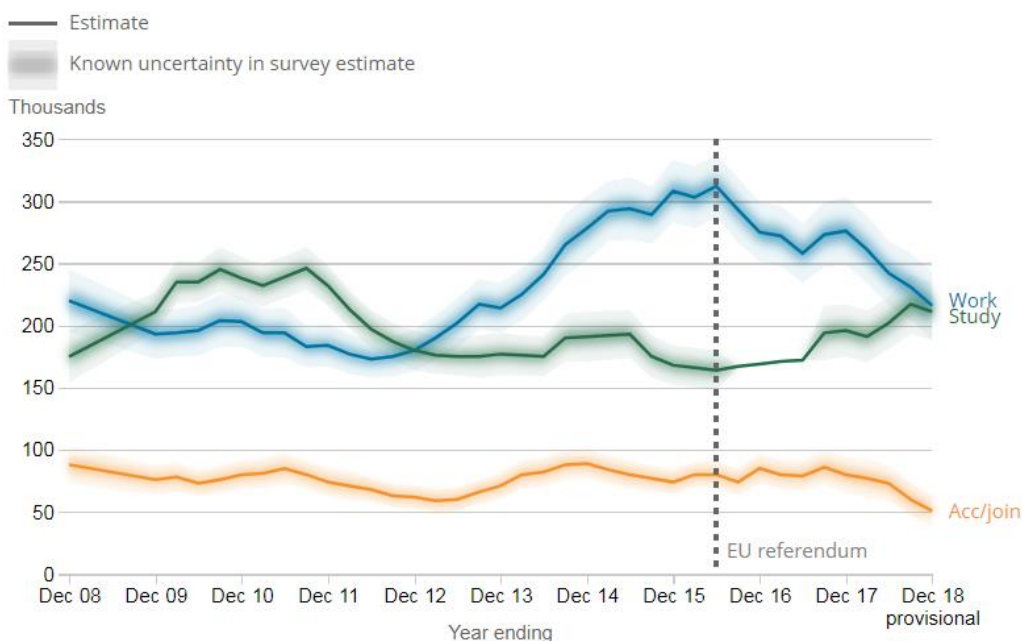
- 602,000 Immigration
(fell 28K from this time last year; fell 25K from last quarter)
- 343,000 Emigration
(fell 17K from this time last year; fell 2K from last quarter)

258,000 Net migration

(fell 7K from this time last year; fell 2K from last quarter)

- Official commentary from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) describes unchanging levels of net migration, immigration and emigration, but with changes related to reasons for migration, as shown in *Figure 1*:
 - net migration has been relatively stable since the end of 2016
 - immigration for work has fallen as fewer EU nationals come to look for work yet visas issued for non-EU skilled work have increased
 - immigration for study increased as non-EU university applications reached their highest level ever. (Source: [ONS](#))
- A prominent commentator (Portes) says that the changes to EU and non-EU migration levels since the referendum (falling and rising respectively) means we are in a [post-Brexit migration era](#) already. (Source: New Statesman.)

Figure 1: Reasons for migration: long-term immigration trends



Source: Office for National Statistics - Long-Term International Migration

- Further highlights from the published data include:
 - Poland and India are the top countries of origin for all non-UK born residents.
 - Asylum applications are up by 18% (year ending March 2019) with pronounced increases in applicants from Iran, Albania and Eritrea. Top nationalities applying for asylum in the last quarter include Iraq, Iran, Pakistan, Albania and Sudan.
 - Almost 16,000 people have been resettled under the VPRS in total, and almost 700 under the VCRS.
 - Applications from EU nationals for citizenship continue to be extremely high.
 - Leeds and York are in the [top 20 places visited](#) by overseas visitors in 2018.
 - New [maps showing change](#) among the non-UK born and non-British populations in local authority areas between 2008-2018. (Sources: [ONS](#), [Home Office](#))

UK migration policy

Arrivals to the UK

5. Relatively small numbers of people continue to arrive in small boats across the Channel. [42 migrants were rescued from 3 small boats](#) one weekend in May. [Migrants arriving in small boats](#) to the UK numbered 138 in December, 47 in January, and 79 in February. Home Office data on [migrant boat arrivals](#) recorded 739 individuals over the past 14 months (to Feb 2019). There's a new Home Office [fact sheet on small boats](#), and the parliamentary Home Affairs Committee has been taking evidence in a new inquiry on [English Channel Crossings](#). (Sources: Home Office, Parliament, Home Affairs Committee)
6. Some action has been taken against people who have facilitated crossings by sea and overland to the UK. For example, two people have been tried in France for enabling [migrants to cross the Channel](#), 11 people (mostly Romanian) were arrested for [smuggling migrants to the UK](#) in trucks across Europe, while four people were imprisoned for [smuggling people without documents into the UK from France](#) in lorries, after being caught in Staffordshire. (Sources: BBC, Wiredgov)

The 'hostile'/'compliant' environment

7. Included in the recent official honours awarded were one of the [Home Office civil servants](#) behind the 'hostile environment' policy, the new [anti-slavery commissioner](#) and anti-FGM campaigners. (Sources: the Guardian, the Mirror)
8. Aspects of the immigration system recently subject to official scrutiny include
 - the Home Office approach to tackling [illegal working](#)
 - police [data-sharing on victims and witnesses of crime with immigration enforcement](#).
 - the EU Settlement Scheme (report awaiting publication)
 - [charging and fees](#) in the immigration system, with hundreds of people submitting evidence about the impact on applicants, their family and friends
 - Calls for evidence recently closed for inspections concerning [the Home Office's use of interpreters](#) in the asylum process and [family reunion](#).
9. [Potential topics for inspection](#) during the forthcoming year include: the integration of resettled Syrian refugees, regional airports, modern slavery, hostile environment measures, and asylum accommodation contracts once new providers are in place. (Sources: Home Office/ICIBI, the Guardian)
10. Ongoing court proceedings are considering how the Home Office has treated highly skilled migrants after hundreds of people who amended their tax records were refused settlement and asked to leave the UK because their tax discrepancies were interpreted as a sign of dishonesty. There are parallels to the Windrush scandal as this affects people who have lived in the UK for a long time and have British-born children. The court of appeal looked at four cases and said the Home Office's use of the Immigration Rules is 'legally flawed'. (Sources: [the Guardian](#), [Free movement](#))
11. The [Migration Advisory Committee](#) (MAC) called on government to simplify the Immigration Rules, citing difficulties employer face when recruiting skilled migrants. Indeed, [overseas doctors](#) from outside the EU are reportedly becoming disillusioned about working in the NHS because of the high costs associated with being able to work in the UK. The MAC's subsequent [review of the Shortage Occupation List](#) (this

identifies skills shortages and so makes it easier for employers to recruit from overseas) proposed extending the list to cover more jobs, particularly in health and IT. The new list would cover 9% of employment (the last review in 2013 covered <1%) although the quantity of work visas available won't necessarily change, at least until post-Brexit policy is in place. (Sources: MAC, Home Office/the Guardian [article](#) and [letter](#))

12. [The Home Office](#) is appealing the court decision that the 'Right to Rent' scheme is causing racial discrimination. [EU nationals may face problems renting](#) in the UK due to confusion over Brexit and the EUSS, according to the Residential Landlords Association who want clear 'right to rent' guidelines for landlords that include the rights of EU nationals with settled / pre-settled status. The Home Office has published guidance about a different group: long-term UK residents who are non-EEA nationals and members of the Windrush generation who have the right to reside here but have no documentation, in new guides to [right to work checks](#) and [right to rent checks](#) for landlords and employers. (Sources: Home Office, the Independent, the Guardian)
13. Healthcare leaders blamed ministers for failing to release three reports on the impact of upfront [charging for health services](#) on migrants, as the Department of Health and Social Care released only a summary of the findings. (Source: the Guardian)
14. Concerns have been raised about [racial profiling by immigration enforcement officers](#) who stop British citizens more than any other nationality. Officers can stop people in public they suspect of immigration offences, but can't stop people on the basis of their (assumed) ethnicity. While an overall increase in proportion of stopped Britons was reported, the figures for Leeds and Sheffield declined. (Source: the Guardian)
15. ['Access Denied: The Cost of the NRPF Policy'](#) looks at the day-to-day implications for migrants who have 'protected characteristics' under Equality law and have temporary permission to be in the UK (on a 10 year route to settlement/ILR) with NRPF conditions.¹ In considering the impact on families – and since families with NRPF may have British children – the report argues that the policy discriminates on grounds of race as it's more likely to affect BME British children than white British children. (Source: [RightsInfo](#)/The Unity Project)
16. Government recently opened [Service and Support Centres](#) (SSC) to provide face-to-face support for vulnerable applicants and those with complex cases making immigration applications; in Yorkshire and Humber there is one centre located in Sheffield. (Source: UKVI)
17. A new helpline is available for [people who were required to undertake DNA tests](#) as part of an immigration application despite it not being a legal requirement. (Source: Home Office)
18. Policy is changing about people known as ['Zambrano carers'](#) – someone with a right to live here because they're the primary carer of a British citizen (such as their child). Someone in this situation applying for legal residence now must apply to stay under human rights law first (under UK immigration rules) before they use the Zambrano

¹ People subject to immigration control can be given temporary leave to enter in the UK only on condition that they accommodate and support themselves (and any dependent family members) 'without recourse to public funds' which means no entitlement to mainstream benefits, public housing or asylum support.

route (under EU law) or they will be refused. Also in effect they won't be able to apply to the EUSS as a route to settlement. Applications under UK immigration rules are far more expensive than Zambrano: £2000+ vs £65. (Source: Free Movement)

19. For the first time in over a decade at least half of [immigration appeals](#) to the courts (challenging Home Office rejections) are now successful. Human rights cases are most likely to succeed, while asylum appeals are the least likely but are still rising. It takes an average 40 weeks for an appeal to be concluded. (Source: Freemovement)

Future migration policy

20. [Amendments to the Immigration Bill](#) have been proposed by many MPs, including on removal and detention of EEA nationals, physical proof of status under the EUSS, and [international students](#). You can [read transcripts](#) of the discussion at the Public Bill Committee and the written evidence submitted by various organisations (such as 3million and British in Europe). Next will be the [report stage](#) when MPs debate the Bill and amendments (date to be announced). (Sources: Parliament, Home Office)
21. The Home Office has been engaging with business sectors as part of its consultation programme on the future immigration system, including the [tech industry](#) and [businesses in the NW](#). Further, [5 advisory groups](#) include a Vulnerability Advisory Group whose [membership](#) is made up of 20 organisations representing vulnerable individuals, including British Future, British Red Cross, Migrant Help, ILPA and Citizens' Advice. (Sources: Home Office, DCMS)
22. Elsewhere, [business leaders](#) are concerned about recruiting overseas workers after Brexit because planned immigration rules will prevent migrants in lower skilled work from bringing family members with them. Even before then, there could be [shortages of seasonal migrant workers](#) this summer because of increased competition across Europe, better economic conditions in source countries, and Brexit fallout. Perhaps in anticipation of these shortages, workers from Ukraine and Moldova will be recruited as part of the 2 year [seasonal worker pilot](#) in 2019-2020 to bring in up to 2,500 temporary workers from outside the EEA for 6 months at a time to fill shortages in 'edible horticulture' (e.g. fruit, veg, hops, mushrooms). The preferred organisations selected to recruit workers and match them with farms are Concordia and [Pro-Force](#) - whose website discusses their ethical credentials and where they'll be recruiting. (Sources: Financial Times, the Observer, Defra/Home Office, Pro-Force)

Brexit

23. Despite the UK being granted [a further extension of Article 50 to 31 October](#), some people have already been issued UK [passports without the words 'European Union'](#) on the cover. Some passport centres ran out of existing designs, and after 30 March the Home Office began issuing versions without the EU reference. This is the first stage in the transition to dark blue UK passports promised as a consequence of Brexit, which are expected from the end of 2019. (Source: the Guardian)
24. Theresa May [angered some pro-migrant commentators](#) in her [resignation speech](#) when she quoted Sir Nicholas Winton, who was instrumental in bringing hundreds of children including Lord Dubs on the Kindertransport, given May's many 'tough' immigration policies. (Sources: the Independent, New York Times, [Time](#) Magazine)
25. [Yorkshire and Humber's new 6 MEPs](#) are: 3 for the Brexit Party (they had 36% of the vote), 1 each for Labour (16%), the Liberal Democrats (16%) and the Green Party

(13%). Turnout was almost the same as the last EU elections in 2014 at 34%. York was the only part of our region where the Brexit Party was not top - the Lib Dems were. The biggest change for our region was that UKIP lost all 3 of its MEPs while the Brexit Party gained 3 (Labour and the Conservatives both lost 1 MEP, and Green and the Lib Dems gained 1 each). The new [Green MEP Magid Magid](#) is the former lord mayor of Sheffield who said he wants to be a [voice for young people and refugees](#). (Sources: Yorkshire Post, Metro, the Guardian)

26. [UK nationals won't need visas for short stays in the EU Schengen area](#) after Brexit, after the UK said EU citizens won't need visas for short stays in the UK either. Further, [UK nationals will be able to work in Switzerland](#) and vice versa until December 2020 in a no deal Brexit scenario, as part of a UK-Swiss agreement. (Sources: EC, Wired-gov)
27. A '[Stay in Scotland](#)' campaign by the Scottish government celebrates EU nationals living in Scotland. (Source: Scottish government)

Safeguarding

28. [79 potential victims of trafficking from our region](#) were referred to the National Referral Mechanism in Jan-March 2019: by 8 councils (Bradford, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds, North Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire, Rotherham and York) and all four police forces. The same patterns continue across the UK, with a continued increase in referrals (2,156 referrals) up 10% since last quarter and no change in top nationalities (Albania, UK and Vietnam) or the main type of exploitation (labour exploitation). The [Modern Slavery Helpline](#) reported a substantial increase in reporting of slavery cases involving car washes last year. West Yorkshire stands out in their overview of caller locations reporting all types of slavery (see the infographic summary for a UK map). (Sources: National Crime Agency, Unseen)
29. An [independent review of the Modern Slavery Act](#) led by Frank Field MP recommended that the Independent Child Trafficking Advocate (ICTA) scheme for trafficked children (mainly children from overseas) be rolled out nationally ASAP. Meanwhile the Home Office issued a statement on its [efforts to tackle modern slavery](#), reaffirming its commitment to rolling out those independent advocates and highlighted progress in areas such as an increase in modern slavery police operations. In a [parliamentary debate](#) on the review, Barnsley East MP Stephanie Peacock highlighted Northern College in Barnsley for providing educational opportunities for survivors and suggested this be rolled out across the country. A Leeds anti-trafficking project, a partnership between LCC and Palm Cove Society, featured on BBC News as one of 6 pilot schemes tackling the impacts of modern slavery funded through the Controlling Migration Fund (CMF). (Sources: Home Office, TheyWorkForYou, BBC - no longer available to watch)
30. New, independent [Multi-Agency Assurance Panels](#) will review negative NRM decisions i.e. when the Home Office decides someone wasn't trafficked. Panels will refer any decisions thought to be incorrect back to the Home Office for reconsideration. Other developments include: the launch of the UK Government's [Modern Slavery Assessment Tool](#), an online survey to help public sector look at their supply chains; the continued passage of the [Modern Slavery \(Victim Support\) Bill](#) through the House of Commons, which aims to extend the length of support time for victims of trafficking; and the publication of a handbook on [modern slavery and](#)

[homelessness](#) produced by the Passage, intended for staff working in the homelessness sector (Sources: Home Office; TheyWorkForYou; The Passage).

31. 2018 [statistics about forced marriages](#) show that 10% of (or 103) cases dealt with by the government's Forced Marriage Unit were from Y&H. (Source: FMU [guidance](#))

End of process: detention and deportation

32. [People who are vulnerable and 'at risk'](#) are held in immigration detention, despite the Home Office agreeing this shouldn't happen. FOI data shows only 6% of detainees assessed as 'vulnerable and at risk' have then been released. [Individuals in immigration removal centres were hospitalized at the rate of almost 1 person a day](#) during 2017, despite a Home Office 'adults at risk' policy intended to ensure vulnerable people are not detained. The courts have ruled that government investigation of abuses by G4S officers in immigration detention should be a public inquiry; this is unprecedented. The Home Office has published a factsheet detailing its approach to [immigration detention](#), including a reiteration of its commitment to reforms. (Sources: the Guardian, [Rights Info](#), [Garden Court Chambers](#), Home Office)
33. More reports on migrant detention in immigration detention centres examine the case specifically for a 28-day limit. [Torture in the UK](#) looks at the UK's progress in relation to the UN Convention Against Torture and calls for a 28-day time limit on immigration detention. [Economic Impacts of Immigration Detention Reform](#) calculates that a 28-day time limit with alternatives to detention would save up to £35m/year. The latest [Immigration Bill includes a proposed amendment](#) to introduce the 28-day limit – among other amendments. (Sources: [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#), [the Guardian](#), Parliament)
34. More than [half of deportations are called off](#). Of the 24,674 removal directions issued last year, 15,200 were cancelled, two-thirds within a week of the scheduled removal and 45% within just one day. Post-deportation risks can be severe: at least five people were murdered following [deportations to Jamaica](#) in the last year, while some [young people deported to Afghanistan](#) are stigmatised by their families and are at risk of being killed by Isis or the Taliban, as they are perceived as Western. (Sources: the Guardian, the Independent)

Specific migrant groups

The Windrush generation

35. It is a year since the Windrush scandal broke and [recent stories from some of the Windrush generation](#) suggest little has changed for them. A further group of [people from the Windrush generation](#) detained/deported because they could not prove their residence in the UK received personal apologies from the Home Secretary, bringing the total to 67 individuals. The Home Office also apologised to [240 EU nationals](#) (applying for the EUSS) and [500 Windrush migrants](#) (who wanted updates on the compensation scheme) after sharing their personal email addresses. (Sources: the Guardian, Wired-gov, BBC)
36. [The Home Secretary's regular update on Windrush](#) shows at the end of April, 6,470 people had been provided with some form of documentation by the Home Office. No new contacts have been made with the Windrush Taskforce this year, but there have been 91 requests for urgent support. Some policy rules will be relaxed for: those

returning to the UK and eligible for citizenship, and orphans born outside the UK who came here to be cared for by close relatives who were of the Windrush generation. (Source: Home Office)

37. The [Windrush Compensation Scheme](#) opened for members of the Windrush generation who suffered adverse effects as a result of being unable to prove their right to live in the UK. There will be an event in Bradford (among others around the country) to raise awareness of the scheme (date tbc). Criticism of the compensation scheme has focused on [the level of compensation payments](#) and [other problems identified with the design of the scheme](#). The [government response](#) to the preceding consultation and impact assessment also are now available. (Sources: [Home Office](#), the Guardian, Freemovement)
38. Over 130 MPs are lobbying for [Commonwealth soldiers](#) who served in the armed forces to have the high ILR fees waived. (Source: the Guardian)

EU nationals

39. The EU Settlement Scheme was rolled out nationally on 30 March, and a nationwide advertising campaign encouraged [EU citizens](#) to apply (Source: Home Office).
40. There have been 800,000 [applications](#) in total including the pilot phases, around [20% of the eligible population](#). Applications have fallen from 390,000 in April to 167,000 in May. Poland remains the top nationality of applicants followed by Romania and Italy, but [Bulgaria and Austria](#) are top of EUSS applications if you take into account their population size in the UK, according to an alternate analysis. The grant rate remains similar with 2/3 receiving settled status, and no refusals yet. (Sources: Home Office, Free Movement)
41. Procedurally, [official guidance](#) is available in 2 languages and [ID checking facilities](#) are now available in 50 locations. [Processing times for EUSS applications](#) are slipping; it now takes 10-14 days to decide a straightforward application. There is [no right of appeal](#) yet for people who are refused, only judicial review. People who applied during the pilots are starting to be refunded the application fee, and some have donated them to [Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants](#). There's new [information on the rights of EU nationals](#) with pre-settled or settled status and their access to benefits, and updated [right to rent guidance for landlords](#) with information related to checks on EU nationals between now and January 2021. (Sources: Home Office, the Guardian, TheyWorkForYou, The London Economic, NRPF Network)
42. Eight organisations in our region were awarded [funding to support vulnerable EU nationals apply to the EUSS](#) in Bradford, Kirklees, Leeds, Rotherham, Sheffield and Wakefield. There's official [guidance for voluntary organisations](#) about providing support to EU nationals applying to the EUSS. The guidance includes how to register with OISC, information about the process and DBS checks, and model documents. (Sources: Home Office, OISC)
43. Critique of the scheme continues, including a [report on the EUSS](#) by the Home Affairs Committee for not learning from Windrush or safeguarding EU nationals' rights. [EU community leaders](#) assert that as long term UK residents, EU nationals should not have to apply to stay. There's a petition to change the wording of the process from 'application' to 'registration.' There are warnings [an estimated 200,000 children are at risk of becoming undocumented after Brexit](#) as they have to be

registered by an adult with the EUSS. Children in care, one 'vulnerable' group, should have applications made on their behalf by the Department for Education, according to the Home Office. (Sources: Home Affairs Committee, the Guardian, Home Office, Metro News)

44. Campaign group the3million have established a new organisation '[Settled](#)' to support EU nationals make applications (website under construction). There have also been reports of [scammers targeting EU citizens](#) and demanding hundreds of pounds from them to apply for EUSS. (Sources: the3million, Chronicle Live)
45. The rights of [EU spouses of British citizens](#) and the benefits of applying for the EUSS are explained in this article. (Source: Free Movement)
46. An [evaluation of the last EU Settlement Scheme pilot](#) (that ran from 21 Jan-29 March) said none of the 200,000 applications were refused, 94% were decided by mid-April, with average decision-making 1-4 days. Top nationalities were Romanian, Italian, Polish and Bulgarian. 6,000+ (nearly 3%) applications were by EU family members. The [Chief Inspector's evaluation](#) of the pilot found Home Office preparations, resources and approach were positively different to usual, but the pilot may not have prepared it for dealing with 3 million+ applications. The recommendations were [accepted by the Home Office](#). (Sources: Home Office, ICIBI)
47. Some years ago, the Worker Registration Scheme (WRS) was in place, whereby people from EU accession 'A8' countries had to register on the scheme to be allowed to work here between 2004-2011. The UK courts have just ruled that [the WRS was imposed unlawfully](#) between 2009-2011 because it extended the initial scheme without justification, knowing it had imposed a disproportionate burden on individuals and employers for little reason. Now EU nationals could be affected if they had benefits, permanent residence or British citizenship applications refused on the grounds that they hadn't complied with the WRS - they may be entitled to refunds of the £90 registration fee per job and have refused applications reconsidered. (Source: Free Movement)

Migrant Roma

48. There's a new national strategy on [Gypsy, Roma and Traveller inequalities](#). Some of the work undertaken in our region with Roma communities is highlighted in the Women and Equalities Committee inquiry final report [Tackling inequalities faced by Gypsy, Roma and Traveller communities](#). Three politicians from this region sit on this committee: Rotherham MP Sarah Champion, Sheffield Hallam MP Jared O'Mara and Shipley MP Philip Davies. (Sources: MHCLG, Women and Equalities Committee)

Asylum seekers

49. The Home Affairs Committee's report on asylum accommodation was summarised in the previous policy update; key proposals from [the government's response](#) are:
 - A joint partnership for national oversight of asylum dispersal involving chief executives and the Local Government Association (LGA)
 - Working towards 'a more fair and equitable system' of distribution (but the 1:200 cluster limit remains unchanged and no ward limit)

- Strengthening the role of local and regional partnerships including through sharing data and information
 - A combined local authority/Home Office review of the costs, pressures and social impact of asylum dispersal in the UK. (Source: UK Parliament)
50. [Asylum seekers in Glasgow](#) are facing homelessness again as Serco (the accommodation provider) intends to restart its policy to evict people refused asylum by changing their locks. This has been ongoing since last summer, but in April the Scottish courts decided that lock-changes are not illegal. Glasgow council and local charities are worried about the impact of mass homelessness. [People living in asylum housing in Glasgow](#) are reported to feel unsafe because employees from Serco regularly enter their homes using spare keys and without prior warning. Charity ASH will shortly publish its research on this. (Sources: the Guardian, the Ferret)
51. The Home Office [scrapped 6-month targets for processing straightforward asylum applications](#) to focus on 'cases with acute vulnerability and those in receipt of the greatest level of support, including unaccompanied asylum-seeking children' as well as cases that require reconsideration. (Source: the Guardian) This suggests a focus on cases with higher (support) costs to the public purse, rather than to simply close a greater number/proportion of cases overall, and thus could lead to a shift in the number and profile of asylum seekers housed in our region and their support needs.
52. ['From Pillar to Post'](#) is report about the destitution of refused asylum seekers in Scotland. The research describes the well-known challenges facing people in this situation to meet basic needs and access services. Scottish Refugee Council called on the Scottish government to develop a destitution strategy linked to homelessness policy. (Source: Destitute Asylum Seeker Service partnership)

Children

53. Government will increase funding for unaccompanied children cared for by councils benefiting those with older children (aged 16-17). This is the result of a long awaited review. [Councils will now receive the same amount for each child in their care](#) (£114/day) rather than funding being tapered depending on a child's age or when they arrived here. The Local Government Association (LGA) asserts that the social care costs of looking after [unaccompanied asylum seeking children](#) have doubled for councils over the last four years (excluding placement costs). However, this policy review doesn't look at young people who have reached 18 and are ['leaving care'](#) – this is being reviewed separately (Sources: Home Office, LGA, ADCS)
54. Charities and campaigners warn [the Dubs Scheme](#) may end quietly soon, with only nine more children due to come from France. The Home Office has not confirmed this and claims [progress on transferring 480 children](#). There are reports of young people making journeys to the UK from France amid rumours that the scheme has closed. Several hundred [child refugees are sleeping rough in the Calais area](#) - their numbers have almost doubled over three months. These children are sleeping in less conspicuous areas because of increased security measures following the channel crossings by boat. [Five young refugees](#) were given Your UK Parliament community campaigner awards for raising awareness about the treatment of children seeking asylum; each had spent time in refugee camps in Calais. The ill-effects of lengthy delays upon [refugee children in Calais](#) who applied to reunite with family in the UK (under Dublin III) have been revealed during a legal challenge over delays in

reunification. Some children went on hunger strike and at least one attempted suicide. (Sources: the Guardian, Parliament, the Independent)

55. There's continuing criticism of [high fees charged for immigration applications for children](#), many of whom were born or raised in the UK. Nearly 900 stateless children paid fees when applying for British citizenship in the past year (over £1,000). If all [children resettled through the VPRS and VCRS](#) apply to become British, it has been calculated that the Home Office will potentially profit on citizenship fees by £5 million. (Sources: the Guardian, International Observatory for Human Rights/Rights Info)
56. A [Practical guide on the best interests of the child in asylum procedures](#) supports practitioners to consider child's best interests throughout the asylum process. It includes a practical checklist to think through when children's best interests could be put first in any part of an asylum process - see [Annex 1 p.37-38](#) (Source: EASO)

Refugees

57. [Government announced resettlement plans](#) post 2020. Existing resettlement schemes VPRS, VCRS and the Gateway Protection Programme will be merged and 5,000 refugees will be resettled in the first year. Any community sponsorship will be in addition and there will also be a mechanism to resettle people in emergency situations. The [Local Government Association](#) (LGA) said the one year funding commitment should be made into a longer-term commitment in the 2019 Spending Review. On the back of the announcement, campaigners called for more [unaccompanied children](#) to be accepted. (Sources: Home Office, LGA, the Guardian)
58. The latest [UK refugee resettlement data](#) covers data up to the end of Q1 (end March) 2019. In the last quarter 1,457 refugees were resettled in the UK. As usual, most people (1,032) came through the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), but there were arrivals under the VCRS (152), the Gateway Protection Programme (269), and the Mandate scheme (4). *Figure 2* breaks the data down by each region and nation, and provides a relative figure in respect of the local population size. (Source: Home Office).

Figure 2: Resettlement of refugees under the VPRS by region/nation of the UK (end March 2019)

Region/nation	Total resettled	% of national total	Resettled refugees per 10,000 population
East Midlands	727	5	2
East of England	731	5	1
London	797	5	1
North East	1,192	7	5
North West	1,336	8	2
Northern Ireland	1,328	8	7
Scotland	2,787	17	5
South East	1,523	10	2
South West	1,154	7	2
Wales	1,072	7	3
West Midlands	1,562	10	3
Yorkshire and Humber	1,768	11	3
Other and unknown	0	0	
*Total	15,977	100	2

59. 219 refugees have been resettled through the [community sponsorship scheme](#) with more to follow as 100+ groups are in the application process. An [evaluation](#) will be published this summer. (Sources: TheyWorkForYou, Birmingham University)
60. New visualisations showing numbers of [resettled refugees](#) are quite striking, showing few VPRS places in the East of England and relatively more VCRS placements in the north. (Source: Andy Hewett.com)
61. The number of [refugee households accepted as homeless](#) in England more than doubled from 2013-2017, reaching 1,350 households in 2017. Data on [refugees in social housing](#) shows that refugees moving from asylum housing accounted for 0.2% of *new* local authority lettings in 2017/18 (less than 200 households), while the total number of households with a refugee lead tenant comprised 0.8% of local authority lettings (less than 700 households). (Sources: MHCLG, UK Parliament).
62. [A long-term commitment](#) is a research report on the long-term integration of people resettled under the Gateway Protection Programme, which included some refugees in Sheffield. The overall message is that refugees who resettle in Britain face huge long-term inequalities. It contains practical recommendations about supporting resettled refugees, and concludes there's a need for holistic programmes, collaborative models and promoting autonomy. (Source: University of Sussex)
63. [Refugee experiences of the labour market](#) is a study showing that refugees coming through the asylum route are less likely to be employed, work fewer hours, earn less, are more likely to be self-employed and more likely to use jobcentres than the UK-born or other migrant groups. David Miliband, chief executive of the International Rescue Committee, has been promoting [ways to support refugee employment](#) such as supporting home-based businesses and training young entrepreneurs. He cited research by economist Philippe Legrain that 1€ invested in welcoming refugees can yield nearly 2€ in economic benefits in five years. (Sources: COMPAS, City AM)
64. The Department for Health and Social Care was asked what they're doing to ensure [refugees have access to interpreters](#) in statutory settings. The official response pointed to [2018 NHS guidance](#) for commissioners on interpreting and translation in

primary care, the imminent national ESOL strategy, and claimed that ‘Public Health England is working to improve healthcare professionals’ awareness of the needs of refugees’. (Sources: Parliament, NHS England)

Cohesion and integration

65. The Home Office published a new [Indicators of Integration framework](#). It is intended to offer a common way for practitioners and policy makers to understand, plan, monitor and measure the integration of any group of people into society. The framework recognises the complexity of settling into a new country, and discusses integration as multi-dimensional, multi-directional, a shared responsibility and context specific. (Source: Home Office)
66. [British attitudes to migration are softening](#) and more supportive of migrants compared to other European countries. A YouGov poll shows support for certain migrant groups (those migrating for work and already having a job) rather than those in search for a job, refugees or family joiners. (Source: the Guardian)
67. Telling everyday stories about migrants is a tool used by people promoting migration – [this research blog](#) explores ideas behind this approach (from a study on migration governance around the world). The author advises avoiding depicting migrants as either good/bad or as victims/heroes. (Source: European University Institute)
68. Former PM Tony Blair courted controversy in April saying there is a [duty on migrants to integrate](#), after his Institute for Global Change released [The Glue That Binds: Integration in a Time of Populism](#). This report calls for a government department or minister with responsibility for integration, the right to work for asylum seekers after six months here, and stopping employment practices such as segregated shift patterns. (Sources: Huffington Post, Tony Blair Institute for Global Change)
69. The [Refugees in Towns](#) research project produces case studies on migrant and refugee integration in towns and cities round the world (see this [overview article](#) and [case studies](#)). The project is developing a global theory of integration, and involves refugees and local hosts in the production of the work. (Source: Refugees in Towns)
70. A proposed definition of Islamophobia from the [APPG on British Muslims](#) (*‘Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness’*, taken from [Islamophobia defined](#)) is being discussed in the Home Affairs Committee [inquiry into Islamophobia](#), where [West Yorkshire Police](#) submitted evidence on anti-Islamic hate crimes locally. The Communities Secretary said [government won’t adopt their proposed wording](#) and set out an alternative process. (Sources: APPG on British Muslims, Parliament, MHCLG)
71. [Calling out hatred and prejudice](#) is guidance on producing messages to combat prejudice and hate crime, aimed at councils, campaigners, teachers and others. Suggestions for successful messages include using accessible language, human stories, and acknowledging rather than dismissing concerns. (Source: British Future)
72. [Schools have a key role](#) in the integration of children and their families, according to new research that also notes that their role is challenged due to cuts to English as an Additional Language (EAL) provision. Another report on [international migration and education](#) covers school places, pupil attainment, and staff, with some local area statistics. It shows pupils with EAL have slightly lower attainment levels at age 7, but

have the same level by age 16. There is no effect of the proportion of EAL pupils on the level of attainment for all pupils in a local area. (Sources: NIESR, ONS)

73. On language learning:

- The [English language projects](#) to be funded under the Integrated Communities English Language Programme were announced, and eight councils won funding under the associated English Language Coordination Fund. (Source: MHCLG)
- [Turning Words into Action](#) is a report about ESOL provision for refugees. It notes a contradiction between what government says about the importance of learning English for integration purposes, and the funding cuts to ESOL provision over the past decade. Their research found nearly two thirds of refugees surveyed aren't getting enough ESOL and 75+% said childcare was a barrier to accessing classes. (Source: Refugee Action)

74. On employment:

- [Tapping Potential](#) is a set of guidelines for British businesses to increase [refugee participation in the labour market](#) from UNHCR, our government and others. [Waitrose and Ikea](#) are some of the employers with refugee programmes. (Sources: [UNHCR UK](#), the Guardian)
- [Measuring the benefits of integration: The value of tackling skills underutilisation](#) is a report that argues employing migrants in jobs that better match their qualifications would boost UK productivity. Suggested measures include ambitious ESOL funding, improved ways of recognising qualifications (pointing to Scotland's record) and flexible funding for integration devolved to local authorities. (Source: IPPR)
- What helps getting refugees into employment? A study of [refugee integration in Nordic countries](#) found education and subsidised employment clearly make a difference, while differences in the refugee population account for only 5% of integration outcomes. The study also found men living in capital cities had better employment rates. (Source: Nordic Council of Ministers)

75. Sabir Zazai, the [chief exec of the Scottish Refugee Council](#) received an honorary doctorate from Glasgow University for his service to civil society. (Source: Guardian)

76. A 'long read' article describes [how food plays a crucial role for people who have experienced displacement](#) by a US-based Sarajevo-born author. (Source: Guardian)

77. Locally in our region:

- In Refugee Week many refugee-related events were held including [How to be Lucky](#) and other [Yorkshire and Humber events](#). The official theme of Refugee Week 2019 was 'You, me and those who came before'. [Portraits of people with refugee backgrounds](#) were also displayed in the V&A museum. (Sources: Migration Yorkshire, RefugeeWeek, the Guardian)
- In the lead up to [Windrush Day](#) on 22 June, 50 organisations ran events with government funding, [including events in Bradford, Huddersfield and Leeds](#). (Sources: UNHCR UK, MHCLG)
- 'Stronger Communities Together', the [integration strategy for Bradford](#) was published, alongside those from other 'Integration Areas'. [A new integration project in Bradford](#) funded through the Integrated Communities Innovation Fund will address 'community segregation through art'. (Source: MHCLG)

- [A fisherman in Scarborough met Razan Alsous](#), the Syrian woman who founded Dama Cheese in Huddersfield, as part of an exchange called '[Britain Talks](#)' - this brings together people with different views on the third anniversary of the EU referendum, in partnership with the Jo Cox Foundation. (Source: the Mirror)
- Rotherham United and Leeds United Ladies supported Amnesty's '[Football Welcomes](#)' weekend in April. (Source: the Guardian)

International news

Outside the EU

78. [Global Trends](#) is the annual UNHCR report. It tells us trends for 2018 including:
- 70 million+ people are displaced globally (including asylum seekers, refugees and internally displaced people), the highest figure since records began over 70 years ago
 - the numbers of displaced people have doubled from 20 years ago
 - 2/3 refugees came from Syria, Afghanistan, S Sudan, Myanmar and Somalia.
 - 92,400 refugees were resettled, but this is <7% of those awaiting resettlement.
 - Ethiopians are the largest newly displaced population (internally displaced).
(Sources: UNHCR, [BBC](#))
79. Domestic economic and political problems in Venezuela continue to lead to significant displacement of the population. UNHCR has said that [most Venezuelans leaving their country need refugee protection](#), although only 10% of those who have fled have formally applied for asylum. [Most asylum applications](#) in 2018 were made in Latin America, but there are significant numbers in [Spain](#). [Applications by Venezuelans in the EU+](#) are at their highest levels ever - it was the second country of origin for applicants (after Syria) in February and March. They are part of an increase in applications in the EU from people who don't need visas to enter the Schengen area e.g. from Colombia, Albania and Georgia, a trend from 2018. (Sources: UNHCR, [BBC](#), [the Guardian](#), UNHCR, masquecifras, EASO)
80. Amid continued violence and insecurity in Libya, UNHCR has been rescuing some of the several thousand [endangered refugees and migrants in detention](#) near front lines in Tripoli. Several hundred [refugees have been evacuated](#) to temporary settlements in Niger, with UNHCR urging countries to resettle them in order to make room for further evacuees. [Italy accepted a group of refugees evacuated from Libya](#), the first country to do so, and our government said [92 refugees will be brought to the UK](#) from Nigerien camps; 'many' are already here but the precise number was not confirmed. (Sources: Aljazeera, UNHCR, France 24, Parliament)

European Union

81. [Over 30,000 migrants and refugees have reached Europe so far this year](#) mostly by sea, and most arrived in Greece – although migrants continue to cross the western Mediterranean route in high numbers; [Spain rescued over 400 refugees](#) and migrants from 10 boats in one weekend in May. Afghanis, Syrians and Moroccans are the most common nationalities arriving in Europe. Over 500 deaths have been recorded. (Sources: UNHCR, Associated Press)

82. [Precarious migrant routes have developed across the Alps](#) from Italy to France, following increasingly hardline measures by the Italian authorities and France's refusal to permit entry to migrants at their shared border. (Source: the Guardian)
83. The EU and member states' position to stop search and rescue in the Mediterranean continues to be at odds with NGOs. The [EU will no longer deploy naval ships in the Mediterranean](#) because member states cannot agree on disembarkation arrangements. Operation 'Sophia' will instead now focus on strengthening air surveillance and continue to train Libyan coastguards. Further, the [EU Border and Coast Guard Agency \(Frontex\)](#) plans to introduce a 'standing corps' of 10,000 staff by 2027 to carry out border control and return tasks for member states. (Sources: Deutsche Welle, European Parliament)
84. [NGOs and others have raised concerns](#) that further reduction of search and rescue capacity in the Mediterranean will increase the number of deaths at sea and facilitate further returns to Libya where many migrants face abuse, while international human rights lawyers are arguing to the International Criminal Court that [the EU and member states](#) should be prosecuted for the deaths of thousands of migrants who fled Libya and have drowned or been returned to unsafe conditions there. (Sources: Amnesty International, the Guardian).
85. Rescue ships continue to be prevented from docking in southern EU countries so that rescued migrants cannot disembark at least until other member states agree to relocate them. For example, this happened with the [Sea-Eye](#) in Malta, while the [Mare Jonio](#) in Italy was impounded and the crew questioned. [Malta charged 3 West African teenagers](#) with committing terrorism by hijacking, as they reportedly changed the course of their rescue ship when they realised it was heading back to Libya. Italian Interior Minister Salvini is pursuing a policy whereby [NGO rescue boats could be fined up to €5,500 per migrant](#) they disembark in Italy. Medecins Sans Frontieres in Italy (who undertake sea rescues) said 'It is like fining ambulances for carrying patients to the hospital.' Across Europe, [people supporting migrants](#) are increasingly being criminalised, such as [those involved in NGO search and rescue](#) operations as well as religious leaders providing shelter to undocumented migrants. (Sources: Deutsche Welle, Reuters, Aljazeera, the Guardian, Open Democracy, El Pais)
86. Prior to the EU elections, [immigration was the top voter concern](#) according to a YouGov poll in eight EU states, even though asylum applications in Europe decreased in the past few years. In the [EU election results](#), Italian minister Matteo Salvini's (who stopped search and rescue boats landing in Italy) far-right party in Italy did well, as did Viktor Orbán's ruling Fidesz party in Hungary (declaring 'we will work together with everyone who wants to stop migration') and the National Front in France. Less well-covered news was that [2 Kurdish women were elected as MEPs](#) in Germany and Sweden. (Sources: Reuters, Politico, Basnews)
87. [Seebrücke](#) is a movement of European cities and NGOs focused on offering places of refuge to migrants, countering rising hostility and restrictive policies. (Source: Open Democracy)
88. Developments in individual states are summarised in *Figure 3*.

Figure 3: Recent migration developments in individual EU member states

[Countries across south eastern Europe like Serbia, Greece and Bosnia](#) used to be described as 'transit' countries along the 'Balkan route' to the EU, but are now struggling to support migrants who are effectively stuck there, following changes in EU border controls that have limited movement across Europe. (Source: LSE European Institute)

There's increasing pressure in Greece due to increasing migrant arrivals from Turkey across land and sea. In [Samos](#), one of five Greek islands with reception centres and only a mile from Turkey, the reception centre has six times more people than its capacity plus temporary shelters outside. [Refugees in Greece](#) are at risk of becoming destitute following a policy change which requires people granted asylum to leave their UNHCR-funded accommodation to make space for new arrivals. Nearly 6,800 people could be affected. (Sources: the Guardian, France 24)

Now [Portugal will relocate 1,000 people from Greece](#), prioritising those in camps, is offering to relocate refugees from Italy and Germany, and [continues to resettle refugees from Turkey and Egypt](#). (Sources: Arab News, AlJazeera)

[Denmark](#) passed more restrictive immigration legislation. It emphasises the temporary nature of refugee residence permits, says refugees should be returned to their country of origin wherever possible, limits family reunification and increases penalties for breaching an entry ban. (Source: Euronews)

[France has been admonished by the UN](#) housing envoy over its treatment of migrants and refugees sleeping rough in Calais. She also highlighted urgent concerns for people living in harsh conditions and informal settlements across the country, including other refugees, migrants, Roma people and traveller communities. (Source: the Guardian)

[An integration success story?](#) Several years after Germany welcomed refugees following the 'migrant crisis' of 2014/5, many of those same refugees now are helping address skills shortages and the ageing demographic profile. Many refugees are enrolled in apprenticeship schemes, encouraged because of a lack of vocational skills in the general population. Further, the German '3+2' policy enables refused asylum seekers to stay in the country legally to complete their training and work for at least five years without fear of deportation. (Source: the Independent)

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For an explanation of terms used in this report, see our 'Who are migrants?' document on our website at: www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/whoaremigrants