

## Leeds Homeless Charter – Migrant SubGroup

**Leeds Migration Partnership** recently set their priorities for the next 2 years.

- The [detailed priorities can be found here](#). Housing priorities can be found on pp4-5
- A [simpler version can be found here](#).

Jon from LASSN is now leading on issues of Housing for Leeds Migration Partnership and can be contacted on [jon@lassn.org.uk](mailto:jon@lassn.org.uk).

### Transition from G4S to Mears

- On the ground, most of the Asylum Support Staff are the same as they were under G4S.
- All repairs and issues relating to Asylum Accommodation are now being dealt with through Migrant Help telephone line. There are significant problems and the helpline is often very busy. [Mary from Asylum Matters is coordinating the collection of evidence and problems.](#)

### EU Citizens with No recourse to Public Funds

Simon on the Streets have recently opened a new property for EU men with NRPF, in association with [LATCH](#)

### Domestic Violence

Jon met with Sunita Jhamat from Leeds City Council – trying to increase availability of DV refuge spaces for women with NRPF. Emergency Applications for funding are taking about 3 weeks to process, meaning women often cannot access Refuge spaces. LASSN and Women's Aid are looking to fundraise to try and meet this gap.

### WYDAN Nightshelter

Is open again and already at full occupancy, 10 men.

### LASSN Grace Hosting July – September

- On average we provide 520 nights of accommodation a month: 100 nights a month of emergency accommodation, 425 nights of planned stays
- On average we provide emergency accommodation to 12 men and 2 women each month; we provide longer stay accommodation to 13 men and 2 women a month
- The number of men is rising – the number of women remains about the same

LASSN continue to develop Grace House – 4 bedrooms of accommodation for asylum seeking men, run on similar model to St Monica's. Should be open Spring 200

### Big Change

have funded 140 weekly bus passes for destitute asylum seekers in in Leeds, to help them find accommodation, and will be available from November from caseworkers at PAFRAS or British Red Cross. Also providing free WiFi to people at WYDAN Nightshelter for the next year.

### Home Office Info to NRPF in Leeds

LASSN/LMP are working with Home Office to improve the quality of info being given out to destitute migrants by Waterside Court staff about available support in Leeds.

### Home Office Guidance on Asylum Accommodation

Home office have produced 2 guides for asylum seekers in Home Office Accommodation.

- The first is a guide to [Living in Asylum Accommodation](#) and provides helpful advice on things like what equipment should be found in the house, how to report problems and long repairs should take to get sorted out. It's available in 11 languages
- The second is a guide to [Rights and Expectations](#) - for asylum seekers staying in temporary accommodation while their claim for asylum is being assessed, explaining UK rights and expectations and contains important information about:
  - UK culture, values and law
  - health and welfare services
  - staying safe and getting support