## Leeds Migration

# Partnership

**LMP Strategy Group – 5th February 2020 action notes:**

* **Matters arising**
* Karen Pearse plans to discuss with the Migrant Health Board the importance of analysing data to enable LMP to identify which Local Care Partnerships they can support.
* Communities Team are creating a Prezi presentation to represent LMP’s influence across services.
* Duncan Wells is the nominated LMP representative at the West Yorkshire Sub Regional Migration Group, the next meeting is on the 12th March 2020.
* **Hotel update and community tension planning**

Bash Uppal (Area Leader) of the Leeds City Council Communities team attended the meeting to update LMP on the following:

* **Hotel update:** Due to an increase in numbers of newly arrived asylum seekers, Mears began using 3 hotels in Leeds as emergency accommodation. Red Cross provided support to those accommodated in hotels and local ward members made site visits. The local authority raised issues and challenges with Mears and the number of hotels has been reduced to 1. Leeds City Council are working with Mears to advise where to procure new properties and expect all living in the hotel to be placed in accommodation by March 2020.
* **Community tension planning:** the local authorityhave set up a community tension management group to mitigate risks and prevent community tensions. A community tension work plan has been created. Hannah Bailey from Voluntary Action Leeds represents the third sector within the community tension working group. The group have agreed to use the police partnership intelligence portal as the mechanism to gather intelligence and are in the process of developing an intelligence product. Local authority managers, along with 90 third sector organisations in Leeds, are signed up to use the police partnership intelligence portal. LMP partners are asked to designate a lead within each organisation to sign up to use the portal.

To request access to use the police portal please follow the link below: <https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/form/intelligence-portal-request-form>

**Action:** Jenny Jennings to share the police partnership intelligence portal script and the local authority staff briefing to LMP partners in attendance.

**National Audit Office study, Asylum Accommodation and support:** The Home Office have requested a national audit of the new asylum accommodation and support contracts (Mears and Migrant Help). The National Audit Office are carrying the audit out and requested written submissions for 14th February. LMP are invited to share case studies with the local authority to raise concerns regarding the contracts. Mary Brandon at Asylum Matters has collated feedback from the third sector**.**

**Action:** Pauline Ellis to connect Mary Brandon with Bash Uppal to share the feedback.

* **Action plan updates**

The framework for reporting on the progress of LMP priorities has been developed and the updates have been uploaded to the blog.

**Health Priority progress - Karen Pearse**

* Ian Cameron (Head of Public Health) is leaving and recruitment for his post is taking place.
* Karen Pearse has been influencing the Mental Health Strategy and has requested asylum seekers and refugees be considered within the strategy.
* Solace are delivering free mental health training during March/April

**Action:** Kathryn Ashworth to share dates of the training on the blog once they are confirmed.

**Housing priority progress - Jon Beech**

* Homeless Charter meetings are taking place quarterly. Dave Paterson represents LMP.
* Simon on the Street have a house they can place people in which has led to positive outcomes for some people.
* Mears are reviewing their ‘Welcome Pack’ and have asked for feedback from LMP partners. Jon has created a pro-forma to gather the feedback.

**Action:** partners to provide feedback into the pro-forma which can be accessed [here.](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1BlYAyJhrfjSV1QkN1UbTeD2I0mUeed95ToAFn-eOklc/edit)

**Action:** Mears to be directed to the websites ‘New to Leeds’ and ‘Transition Guide’.

**Safety and inclusion priority progress - Ali Maghoub**

* Karen Pearse attended 2 domestic violence forum meetings last week considering the needs of women with no recourse to public funds. A gap in support has been identified as it takes 2 weeks for an application for a destitute domestic violence concession to be processed by the Home Office, during that time there is no financial support for the women.

**Action:** Duncan Wells to share the North Yorkshire Health Watch report – accessing interpreting service.

* The group discussed the benefits of reporting low level crime to Stop Hate UK recognising how intelligence helps the police map hotspot areas.

**Action:** LMP to invite Stop Hate UK to the next strategy meeting.

**Employment and education priority progress - Daniel Mundet**

* Chapeltown CAB have a range of resources promoting/explaining Universal Credit
* DWP have done in excess of 100 presentations about Universal Credit to organisations – still significant number of staff who do not know basic information
* LASSN have received Voluntary Action Leeds volunteering quality mark.

**Action:** Jon Beech will upload the Voluntary Action Leeds volunteer handbook to LMP’s blog.

* **Meeting board feedback**

**The Leeds Strategic Migration Board** December 2019 meeting theme was Children and Young People. LMP raised concern for young people accessing health and education.

12th March 2020 meeting theme is Modern Slavery and the ESOL Strategy. Palm Cove and the Salvation Army are contracted to support victims of modern slavery who are referred to the national referral mechanism.

**Action:** LMP to invite Palm Cove and the Salvation Army to link in with LMP. Roger Nyantou to share named contacts with Pauline Ellis.

Daniel Mundet and Karen Pearse met with Shaid Mahmood (Chair of the Leeds Strategic Migration Board) in December 2019. He values the work done by LMP partners and would like LMP to positively challenge the board. Shaid has offered to attend LMP’s strategy meeting.

* **Communications**

Jon shared the February 2020 LMP communication blog summary report which can be accessed [here.](https://migrationpartnership.org.uk/lmp-blog-and-cybersecurity/)

The LMP blog receives over 25,000 cyber-attacks each month. Jon is currently trying to access funding to pay for the work to stop the cyber-attacks because at the moment the work is being done for free.

* **AOB**
* Nick Morgan, from Chapeltown Citizen Advice Bureau, shared help to claim universal credit information cards. People accessing this support will also have access to language line. **Action:** Nick to upload the electronic version of the information card to the blog.
* The Windrush compensation scheme is open to any eligible person who arrived in the UK before 1988. Information on how to apply and eligibility can be found on the government’s website [here.](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/windrush-compensation-scheme) **Action**: Nick will upload this information on the blog.
* Some people who have been detained unlawfully have received compensation but are unable to access the funds if they have no recourse to public funds. This is creating a dilemma for solicitors who are being given the compensation for individuals.
* Migration Yorkshire have published the most up to date statistics which can be accessed [here.](https://migrationpartnership.org.uk/migration-yorkshire-report-on-leeds-jan-march-2020/)
* **Future LMP Strategy Group meeting dates:**

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| **Date** | **Time** | **Venue** |
| Wednesday 13th May 2020 | 10-12pm | [Malmarc House](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Leeds+Asylum+Seekers+Support+Network/@53.7808586,-1.5448145,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xaa25db5e2008738e!8m2!3d53.7808586!4d-1.5448145) |
| Wednesday 9th September 2020 | 10-12pm | [Malmarc House](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Leeds+Asylum+Seekers+Support+Network/@53.7808586,-1.5448145,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xaa25db5e2008738e!8m2!3d53.7808586!4d-1.5448145) |
| Wednesday 25th November 2020 | 10-12pm | [Malmarc House](https://www.google.co.uk/maps/place/Leeds+Asylum+Seekers+Support+Network/@53.7808586,-1.5448145,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0xaa25db5e2008738e!8m2!3d53.7808586!4d-1.5448145) |