

# Leeds Migration Partnership



## DAYS OF FUTURE PAST Event



17th March 2022

**Purpose of the Event:** Since the start of the pandemic many of our organisations and groups have had to change to the way we operate. LMP, like many partnerships and networks, has only been able to meet online. This method of meeting has made working together and collaboration a real challenge. The March event was to bring partners together around our shared focus on how LMP can make your work easier, and more effective.

**The Days of Future Past** event enabled us all to re-connect, re-energise and decide

- How we can learn from the last year (*the past*)
- What are the current priorities for partners and LMP (*the present*)
- How LMP can support over the next year (*the future*)

**Summary of the event:** The event was attended by 20 partners who reflected the event was well pitched and received and that it was great to be back in a physical meeting once again. Broadly, partners reflected LMP plays an invaluable role, which many other cities don't have, and the desire for LMP to return to the original 3 strands as outlined in the terms of reference. There was enthusiasm amongst partners to contribute more toward LMP, although further considerations will be needed to explore how this takes place. Partners overwhelmingly voted for in-person meetings where possible. A more detailed summary of the event discussions is available below in respect of the agenda items of past, present and future. These will be further explored through LMP meetings.

**Next steps:** Following event feedback, LMP will return to the 3 strands to the partnership, the LMP blog where information is shared, the quarterly operations meetings where services share updates about projects/activities, and the quarterly strategy meetings which focus on the LMP priorities.

### Future meeting dates:

Operations Meetings	Strategy Meetings
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 (10am – 12pm)	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2022 (10am-12pm)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 (10am – 12pm)	Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2022 (10am-12pm)
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 (10am – 12pm)	Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> October 2022 (10am-12pm)
	Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 (10am-12pm)

## How we can learn from the last year (the past):

What is good about LMP?	What is missing from LMP/what needs to change?	How can partners contribute?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partners attend strategic meetings/boards such as the Leeds Migrant Health Board (LMHB).</li> <li>• The LMP blog (however it is receiving a lot of spam now).</li> <li>• LMP is essential for networking with other migrant third sector organisations.</li> <li>• Informality of the meetings.</li> <li>• Learnt how to refer to other services.</li> <li>• Sharing successes!</li> <li>• Safety - no one is safe until everyone is safe.</li> <li>• Finding out about other services/projects/plans/ambitions.</li> <li>• Information sharing – especially during heavy crisis periods.</li> <li>• Linking up and collaborative working.</li> <li>• Blog</li> <li>• Operational group great for sharing the now.</li> <li>• LMP values/ethics</li> <li>• LMP support</li> <li>• Voice. Active representation for migrants.</li> <li>• Well established and unique in the region and always great in communications.</li> <li>• Weekly digests make information easily accessible.</li> <li>• Updates about national changes to the sector.</li> <li>• People’s expertise, compassion, and cooperation.</li> <li>• LMP open to all groups working in migration.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An online discussion forum would allow partners to ask questions and answer each other, however the forum would need to be regulated to ensure appropriate content and people receive a response to their questions.</li> <li>• More opportunity for collaborative working in the partnership.</li> <li>• Would like to see more early intervention and pulling resources together.</li> <li>• Change sessions could be more focused, less regular, ground rules developed about who should attend and be shared.</li> <li>• More outreach education.</li> <li>• Funding for training – could council provide the building?</li> <li>• Develop a forum for people working with volunteers in this sector.</li> <li>• Support for wider migrant communities not just refugee and asylum seekers as there are lots of vulnerable migrants who are not RAS.</li> <li>• Involve more community groups to spread the work of LMP.</li> <li>• Create a searchable directory of what is offered by each service.</li> <li>• Return to structured agendas, link with priorities, ensure key stakeholders in sector are invited to attend.</li> <li>• Strategy group to be more thematic and mirrored by the operations group.</li> <li>• Invite key people for focused sessions.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Share areas of interest or expertise</li> <li>• Share information about activities (I.e., what to do in Leeds for those in hotels).</li> <li>• Develop a sector-based volunteer network.</li> <li>• Manuel Bravo – assist with early interventions: practical and educational and to attend strategy meetings while regularly attend the operations meetings. To instil anti racism work.</li> <li>• Micro Rainbow take LGBTIQ referrals for housing, social inclusion and outreach work.</li> <li>• Promote the LMP blog/information platform.</li> <li>• Taking minutes and inviting guest speakers.</li> <li>• LMP to flag trends and concerns and facilitate a collective response.</li> <li>• Fundraise together to recruit for a specific role within LMP.</li> <li>• LMP meetings to move towards a thematic lead schedule for meetings, to take pressure off the leadership and promote collective thinking across the sector.</li> <li>• Volunteer manager network within the sector to enable the partnership to collaborate more and offer volunteers the opportunity to work with other organisations.</li> </ul>

## What are the current priorities for partners and LMP (the present)

Priority	Organisation's activities and reflections
<p><b>Housing:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conditions for migrants disgusting. Campaign required to influence Mears (asylum accommodation contractors).</li> <li>• Provide voice to influence and use enforcement such as selective licensing.</li> <li>• Lots of people residing in hotels and they are unable to access services due to distance from services and lack of money.</li> </ul>	<p>St Vincent's are offering debt advice. RETAS offer support.</p>
<p><b>Safety and Inclusion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fewer incidents of hate crime.</li> <li>• More in-depth anti-racism work needed.</li> <li>• Domestic violence work to focus on victims who have No Recourse to Public Funds (NRPF).</li> </ul>	<p>Leeds Refugee Forum deliver sessions about domestic violence and UK laws. Micro Rainbow</p>
<p><b>Legal advice and representation</b> – need to educate people on rights to empower them to help themselves. In turn they will be able to help others access free legal advice.</p>	<p>Manuel Bravo</p>
<p><b>Financial support/access to benefits</b> -increase in those who are destitute accessing services.</p>	<p>Consider setting up a <b>NRPF clinic</b>.</p>
<p><b>Partnership working</b> to include applying for funding collectively, to ensure adequate funding reaches across the sector and prevent duplicating service provisions.</p>	<p>Partners to consider consortium bids.</p>
<p><b>Health and wellbeing</b> – deliver focus group activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refugee Council New Roots project is starting face to face work.</li> <li>• Conversation Club have re-instated face to face meetings.</li> <li>• Leeds Refugee Council (LRF) are delivering activities.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Access to employment, education, and learning:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RETAS are supporting people to access ESOL and find employment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Awareness raising of global issues and policy issues.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LMP blog</li> <li>• Operations group and feedback from service users – Refugee Community group.</li> </ul>

## How LMP can support over the next year (the future)

Ranking of priorities	What are we most concerned about?	What capacity do LMP partners have to help?
<b>Highest</b>	Lack of affordable housing is a major concern.	RETAS asked what the council can offer.
	<b>Mental health crisis:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Looking after staff and volunteers' wellbeing to prevent burnout.</li> <li>Help those wanting to help by informing them how to help.</li> </ul>	LASSN deliver training to volunteers.
	<b>Understanding how policy is implemented</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I.e., Nationality and Borders Bill creating a 2-tier system for those seeking asylum.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asylum Matters share information via the blog.</li> <li>Refugee Council's policy team deliver workshops on the Nationality and Borders Bill to help partners understand how policy is implemented in practice.</li> </ul>
	<b>Voice and influence:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support refugee and asylum seekers voice to be heard.</li> <li>Influence policy.</li> <li>Educate the public on ways they can help (i.e., appropriate donations) and raise awareness of the needs of asylum seekers and refugees (i.e. help those with lived experience to have a voice).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Those with lived experience to be encouraged to become trustees of charities.</li> <li>Share stories in schools and at board meetings to educate/influence/raise awareness.</li> <li>LRF work with those with lived experience to have a voice and share their experience.</li> </ul>
	<b>Financial support</b> - provide support for people on the ground (including those who are destitute).	RETAS, LASSN, LRF, PAFRAS support people to access phone data, mobile phones, and emergency food provisions.
<b>Intermediate</b>	<b>Information sharing</b>	Partners upload information to the LMP blog, helping create a bank of resources to understand how to respond to crisis.
	<b>Funding</b>	
	<b>ESOL (English for Speaker of Other Languages)</b>	RETAS LASSN
	<b>Promote anti-racism</b>	
<b>Lowest</b>	<b>Volunteer support and training:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LMP to maintain support.</li> <li>LMP to have a position on how to support people on the ground.</li> <li>LMP to develop a bank of information on how to respond to crisis.</li> </ul>	