

**Resources available to refugees, people
seeking asylum, volunteers and support
workers**

December 2021

**Created by Linda Pilling in cooperation with
SIETAR UK RAAS Project**



List of Content

Asylum support	p
. 3	
Afghan Citizen’s Resettlement Scheme ACRS.....	p. 3
Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP).....	p. 3
Operation Warm Welcome.....	p. 3
Council Support for Afghan Resettlement.....	p. 3
Asylum support appeals project.....	p. 3
British Red Cross.....
...p. 4	
UNHCR.....
.....p. 4	
International Organization for Migration (IOM).....	p. 5
LGBT Refugee Project in Scotland.....	p. 5
Refugees with Disabilities.....	p.
5	

National Disability Authority.....p. 5

Refugee Council.....
.....p. 5

Migrant Help.....
.....p. 6

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI).....p. 7

Asylum support

<https://www.gov.uk/asylum-support>

People seeking asylum may be entitled to government support, access to housing, NHS and education.

Asylum Help UK 0808 801 0503, Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm

Get help by phone for advice on the asylum process, English language classes, legal representation, crime, social services

Children’s Panel (England only) for children on their own applying for asylum

Tel: 020 7346 1134

Afghan Citizen’s Resettlement Scheme ACRS

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/afghan-citizens-resettlement-scheme>

This scheme will provide protection for people at risk and identified as in need, including women and girls ethnic and religious minority groups. It is one of the UK’s most ambitious resettlement schemes ever. Note, it is not yet open.

Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy/afghan-relocations-and-assistance-policy-information-and-guidance>

Under the ARAP scheme any current or former Locally Employed Staff in Afghanistan may be offered relocation and assistance regardless of their employment status, rank or role or length of time served.

Welcome Pack for arrivals on the Afghanistan locally employed staff scheme

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004550/Afghanistan_LES_Welcome_Pack.pdf

Operation Warm Welcome

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/operation-warm-welcome>

This scheme will be similar to the commitments in the Syrian Resettlement program including support on health, vaccination assistance, education, employment and access to mental well-being and trauma services.

Council Support for Afghan Resettlement

<https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/communities/refugees-and-asylum-seekers/council-support-afghan-resettlement>

The Local Government Association has pledged that councils will offer appropriate support with the above and social care and children's services to ensure that a full range of support can be available to meet the needs of the new arrivals.

Adults should be able to access English language courses free of charge

Families who need support navigating the system will have access to liaison officers who can work with local authorities.

Check out your own local authority

Asylum support appeals project

<https://www.asaproject.org/>

Advice Line: 020 3716 0283, Mon, Wed and Friday 2-4pm

Provides free legal advice and representation to people seeking asylum at the Asylum Support Tribunal. Runs an advice line for advice agencies.

Web site contains a series of **Factsheets** to help understand the Asylum Support System, such as:

Appealing to the Asylum Support Tribunal.

Proving destitution after a negative appeals decision.

Asylum support for Survivors of domestic abuse.

Provides a **list of resources** that may be able to help,

Such as:

Freedom from Torture in Scotland,

Scottish Refugee Council,

Ethnic Youth Support team in Swansea,

Refugee Women Connect in Liverpool,

Links to lists of legal aid solicitors,

Adviser finder, OISC list of regulated advisers,

Appeals Toolkit for Asylum Support Appeals,

Briefing Notes for Experienced Advisers.

British Red Cross

<https://www.redcross.org.uk/>

The largest provider of services to refugees and people seeking asylum.
On their website there is a special section on Help for Afghan refugees arriving in the UK.
Information for people newly arriving from Afghanistan in Pashto and Dari.
Help line for information and support, including access to a translator/interpreter: 0808 196 3651.
Look for family in Afghanistan-Family Tracing Service.
Support family in Afghanistan.
Help with well being.
Help with health.
Help for young people and adults who are feeling lonely.
Videos about life in the UK.
Victim Support Helpline, available 24/7: 0808 168 9111.
Videos on how to get medical help and register with a doctor in Pashto.

UNHCR

<https://www.unhcr.org/uk/>

Protects and assists refugees around the world. Offers advocacy and information services but in the UK its role appears to be accepting donations and helping organize fundraising events.

Afghanistan

There is an Afghan country page and an Afghan situation portal. UNHCR teams are on the ground in Afghanistan, Pakistan and Iran. UNHCR is advocating for the international community to support both Afghanistan and neighbouring countries hosting over two million Afghan refugees.

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

<https://www.iom.int/>

Plays a vital role in refugee resettlement. Is part of the United Nations System as the leading inter governmental `organization promoting orderly migration for the benefit of all.

Provides pre-departure and travel assistance, including health assessments and cultural orientations.

Provides Refugee Information sessions in the UK to host communities, civil society and **grassroots organisations working with refugees**. Sessions are adapted to the needs of the audience including volunteers.

Sessions on “Engaging Migrant Communities in the Context of Covid 19” have also been developed.

On-line publication on Reintegration which includes useful information on mental health issues.

LGBT Refugee Project in Scotland

<https://www.lgbthealth.org.uk/services-support/lgbt-refugee-project/>

At LGBT Health and Wellbeing, LGBT + refugees and people seeking asylum can access a variety of confidential and free support.

Social support.

Practical support and information sessions.

Digital support.

Asylum Stonewall

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/asylum>

Rainbow migration- legal advice and information including On line guide for LGBTQ+ refugees and those seeking asylum who want to live in the UK with their partners.

Online guide for LGBTQ+ refugees and people seeking asylum on all you need to know about the asylum process.

Refugees with Disabilities

The Oxford Handbook of International Refugee Law.

Statistical data provided by national and United Nations Agencies have traditionally identified only a small number of refugees with disabilities despite the fact that events producing refugees are a major cause of death and disability in vulnerable populations.

Disability Rights UK

<https://www.disabilityrightsuk.org/about-us>

The leading organization led by, run by and working for people with disabilities.

National Disability Authority

<https://nda.ie/about-us/>

The independent statutory body that provides information to the Government on policy relevant to the lives of persons with disabilities.

Refugee Council

<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/>

Infoline:0808 196 7272-short term service during Covid 19 to connect refugees and people seeking asylum with organisations that can help.

Please note the Refugee Council's preferred term in "*People or persons seeking asylum*" as they feel that the term "*asylum seeker*" is dehumanising.

Provides comprehensive information on a wide range of refugee related topics.

Provides a **find a service** information page to find out what is available to in your local area, for example:

STEP in South Yorkshire

Health Access for Refugees in South Yorkshire (HARP)

Birmingham Therapeutic Services

London Therapeutics

Mens' Counselling Service and many, many more..

Provides **Guides for Practitioners and Refugees.**

Guide to accessing a GP in Dari and Farsi.

An introduction card for use when visiting the GP available in Dari.

Which NHS service do I need? Available in Dari.

Communication Card with useful vocabulary and phrases with translations available in Dari and Farsi.

Children's Advice Project. Children receive the help they need in a safe and friendly environment.

Banking Guide for refugees in Pashto and Farsi.

Language Identification Card.

Employment Guide on employing refugees and the rights of refugees in the workplace-put together by the Equality and Human Rights Commission and the Refugee Council.

Making homelessness applications for refugees in England.

Tell it like it is-the truth about refugees and asylum- Separating fact from fiction.
Guide on access to further education in England for refugees and people seeking asylum.
Maternity care in the UK for women on asylum support.
Specialist mental health support to help refugees rebuild their lives including one to one counselling, psycho education health and well -being workshops, psychosocial groups and intensive case work and crisis intervention.

Migrant Help

<https://www.migranthehelpuk.org/>

Help line: 0808 8010 503. Welcome calls from people calling on behalf of refugees and people seeking asylum.

Protects people affected by displacement and exploitation. Supports those most in need and least likely to find support elsewhere.

Primary source of advice for people requiring help with asylum claims and asylum support.

Asylum support for those seeking help with applying for accommodation and financial support.

Post decision support.

Specialist support for victims of human trafficking and modern slavery including the development of support plans and facilitating access to key services.

Refugee resettlement.

Clear Voice Interpreting Services offering high quality interpreting and translation services.

The website contains a page on the Afghan crisis.

Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants (JCWI)

<https://www.jcwi.org.uk/Pages/Category/our-work>

A small charity which definitely punches above its weight. Has more than 50 years of experience in fighting for justice for those who need it.

Challenges unjust laws and practices that restrict rights and lead to discrimination

Influences the debate on migration

Supports vulnerable families and individuals with reliable, high quality legal advice.

Recognized experts in this field.

Improves the quality of advice elsewhere through training and capacity building.

Builds and supports progressive movements at the grassroots and national level.

Toolkit on Resist and Persist. Your Guide to Tackling the Hostile Environment.

Booklet on Work it Out. Information on safe, dignified and legal work for everyone including migrants.

Guide on making Freedom of Information requests to public bodies.

