



**Easy
Read**



IMPACT

Improving Adult Care Together



Economic
and Social
Research Council



The
Health
Foundation

Meeting the Social Care Needs of Refugees and People Seeking Asylum



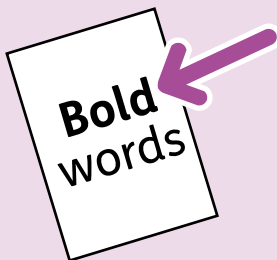
Easy Read



This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.

This **word** means....



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.

[links](#)



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

About IMPACT



IMPACT is a centre in the UK that looks for ways to make adult social care better.



We bring together people who use adult social care.



We have groups to talk about different topics. We call these groups **IMPACT networks**.



We help them to find ways to make social care better.



One of these networks will talk about **Meeting the social care needs of refugees and people seeking asylum.**

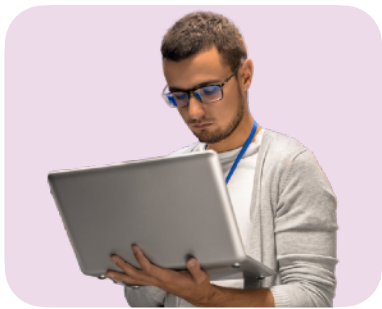
We will explain more about this on page 5.



This booklet is about the **evidence** on the social care needs of refugees and people seeking asylum.

Evidence is information that can be used to prove something.

Our evidence comes from:



- **Research** – this means finding things out.



- Learning from people who work in social care and people who use social care.

What is the issue?



Refugees and asylum seekers have come to the UK from another country.



Refugees and asylum seekers are often very **vulnerable**.

Vulnerable means someone might need help and support to stay safe and well.



They often need different support from other groups in the UK.



There is not a lot of evidence about the support that refugees and asylum seekers need.



Not many

Out of all the people who come to the UK, not many are refugees and asylum seekers.

Legal definitions, needs and support



Refugees have been told they can stay in the UK, and get services.



Asylum seekers are still waiting to be told if they can stay in the UK, and cannot get a lot of services.



Vulnerable people need help and support to stay safe and well.

Asylum policies across the 4 UK nations



Seeking asylum is a human right but the law in the UK has made it very difficult.



There are different rules in the different countries of the UK - England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The needs of refugees and asylum seekers, and entitlement to services



Entitlement is what the law says you should get.



The evidence shows that refugees and asylum seekers have very specific needs.

Health and Mental Health Support



Refugees and asylum seekers often need support with their health, and their **mental health**.

Mental health is the way you think, feel and behave.



They can get NHS services, but asylum seekers might not be able to get all NHS services.

Social Care



Social care includes support for daily living and to stay safe.

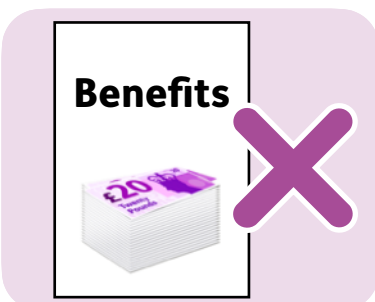


Asylum seekers might be able to get some social care.

Housing, Basic Needs and Financial Support



Refugees can get benefits to live on.



Asylum seekers cannot get most benefits.

Asylum seekers get:



- Somewhere to live, but they cannot choose where it is.



- £49.18 a week to pay for the things they need, if they do not get food where they live.



- £9.95 a week to pay for the things they need, if they do get food where they live.



Most asylum seekers are not allowed to work.



Refugees and asylum seekers need help to understand the law in the UK.

Information, Legal and Advocacy Support



It can be difficult to understand how life in the UK works.



A lot of refugees and asylum seekers need good information in a different language than English.

Borders, Barriers and Inequalities



The evidence shows that refugees and asylum seekers face various **barriers** to getting services.

A **barrier** is something that is put in your way. It makes life harder for you.



It can be difficult for refugees and asylum seekers to find English classes, which can make them feel lonely and vulnerable.



This can be bad for their mental health.



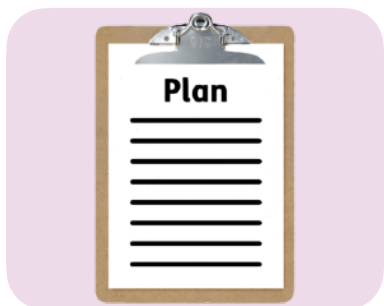
It can also make it difficult for them to get support for their health.

Good practices

The evidence includes good examples of ways to support refugees and asylum seekers, like:



- Different organisations working together.



- A good plan to support refugees and asylum seekers.



- Including refugees and asylum seekers in planning services.

Some good examples from different areas are:



- The Leeds Asylum Support Network helped refugees and asylum seekers get to know other people in Leeds and learn English.



- People in Stirling organised walking groups for people from the area to spend time with refugees and asylum seekers.



- A group in Wales gave mental health support to refugees and asylum seekers who had been through very bad experiences.

Thank you



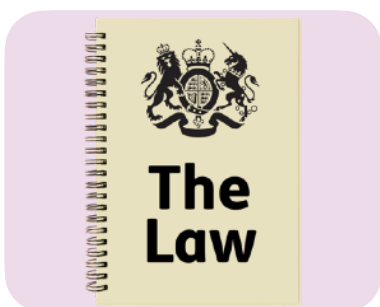
Thank you for reading this booklet. At the meeting, we would like you to talk about your experience of social care for refugees and asylum seekers by answering these questions:



- Do you have any experience or know about what asylum seekers in the UK need? Is it the same as the evidence says?



- Did you know about the differences between refugees and asylum seekers before you read this booklet? What do you think of these words for different groups?



- What do you know about the laws in the UK about refugees and asylum seekers?

We would also like you to answer these questions:



- What do you think of what the evidence says refugees and asylum seekers need? Is there anything missing or anything you do not agree with?



- Have you heard of any of the examples in this booklet? What do you think of these projects? Do you know about any similar projects in your local area?

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