



Oversight and Governance

Chief Executive's Department

Plymouth City Council

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Delegated Decisions

Delegated Executive/Officer Decisions

Delegated Executive and Officer decisions are published every Wednesday and are available at the following link - <https://tinyurl.com/ms6umor>

Cabinet decisions subject to call-in are published at the following link - <http://tinyurl.com/yddrql6>

Notice of call-in for non-urgent decisions must be given to the Democratic Support Unit by 4.30 pm on Wednesday 3 November 2021. Please note – urgent decisions and non-key Council Officer decisions cannot be called in. Copies of the decisions together with background reports are available for viewing as follows:

- on the Council's Intranet Site at <https://modgov/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx>
- on the Council's website at <https://tinyurl.com/jhnax4e>

The decisions detailed below may be implemented on Thursday 4 November 2021 if they are not called-in.

Delegated Decisions

I. Councillor Vivien Pengelly, Cabinet Member for Home & Communities:

- I.1. Afghan Locally Employed Staff (LES) Relocation Schemes July 2021 **(Pages 1 - 16)**

EXECUTIVE DECISION

made by a Cabinet Member



REPORT OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY AN INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER

Executive Decision Reference Number – HC2 21/22

Decision	
1	<p>Title of decision:</p> <p>Afghan Locally Employed Staff (LES) Relocation Schemes July 2021</p>
2	<p>Decision maker (Cabinet Member):</p> <p>Councillor Mrs Vivien Pengelly (Cabinet Member for Homes and Communities)</p>
3	<p>Report author and contact details:</p> <p>Jessica Dann (Community Connections technical Lead – Refugees and Asylum Seekers) jessica.dann@plymouth.gov.uk Tel (01752) 306848</p>
4	<p>Decision to be taken:</p> <p>Agree in principle that Plymouth City Council will support the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) and commit to resettling up to 60 people in the first year of the programme (September 2021 –September 2022).</p> <p>Agree in principle that Plymouth City Council will resettle up to 50 people per year for the duration of the Schemes to support the Home Office to meet its target of 20,000 Afghans across a 5 year period. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that we are not placing too greater pressure on the local housing market.</p>
5	<p>Reasons for decision:</p> <p>ARAP and ACRS are Home Office managed migration schemes to relocate both Afghan Civilian Personnel who have been employed by the Ministry of Defence in recognition of their commitment and bravery shown supporting UK forces since 2013 and Afghan Citizens who may be at particular risk because they have assisted the UK efforts in Afghanistan vulnerable people, including women and girls at risk, and members of minority groups at risk.</p> <p>Plymouth City Council has resettled 215 refugees through similar Refugee Resettlement Schemes since 2015. Plymouth City Council recognise that: this is a high priority for the Home Office; the Council has previously participated in similar schemes; Plymouth has strong connections with the Armed Forces; and is consistent with the commitment to promote Plymouth as a Welcoming City.</p> <p>Benefits to this approach will balance local priorities such as access to affordable private rented sector accommodation alongside support the Home Office’s objectives of ensuring a safe route of passage for the most vulnerable migrants and retains the corporate values as a collaborative Council who acts fairly and responsibly.</p> <p>The Home Office has proposed a fully funded package for resettlement to support families in their initial three years post arrival to the UK. This is a significant increase in the original funding that was proposed earlier in the year and therefore allows the Council to commit to resettling a greater number of people. Ongoing involvement in these schemes will support the future commissioning of the Refugee Integration Service contract, a service that is essential in maintaining the levels of support for all refugees coming</p>

	<p>into the city. This service will further be able to provide the ongoing support to ARAP and ACRS families beyond the 3-year period funded by the HO.</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Alternative options considered and rejected:</p> <p>We could refuse the Home Office's request. However, the scheme, which is now fully funded, has been successful to date and not accepting any further would be contrary to our local values and would not support the national commitment to resettle Afghan Locally Employed Staff and persons at risk many of whom have supported the UK armed forces, often in dangerous and challenging situation. Further, it is not clear whether refusal to co-operate with this scheme may result in the Home Office operating the relocation of those individuals brought to the UK on a no-choice basis with no consultation or veto by Local Authorities.</p> <p>Opting to commit to a smaller number of families would not take advantage of the services already commissioned during previous schemes. If we were to reduce the number of families then existing providers may need to restructure services to reduce current capacity. Similarly if a greater number of families were accepted then local services would be over-stretched and not able to provide the level of support required.</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Financial implications and risks:</p> <p>All our costs associated with the scheme have been and would continue to be met by a specific Home Office Funding package. The Home Office has committed to retaining the existing funding provision it uses for other Refugee Resettlement Schemes to support those being relocated by Local Authorities under ARAP and ACRS.</p> <p>Families will be supported for the first 3 years post arrival at £20,000 per person. This is frontloaded in the initial 12 months and then decreases over the subsequent 2 years. The funding can be pooled across the families and LA's are not required to report breakdown spend per family. The tariff automatically becomes available once the family arrives and unless there is a material change in circumstances e.g. the family moves out of area or return back to their country of origin, the Council will be entitled to claim across the 3 year period. Providing the LA can demonstrate that they are meeting the HO requirements for each family at the two evaluation points (Spring/Autumn following arrival) there are no further reporting requirements.</p> <p>The grant funding will be maximised to ensure that all PCC resource providing support has been accounted for. This includes providing employment costs for 1 FTE Grade H Technical Lead (Asylum Seekers and Refugees) in Community Connections plus 20% of time for a finance administrator, 4 days per month business support and 4 days per month management time (Strategic Manager and Service Director).</p> <p>The Refugee Integration Service (RIS) has been commissioned to provide housing; integration and arrival support, deliver English as a Second or Other Language (ESOL) provision, support access to the labour market as well as develop community cohesion initiatives. This contract is held by Plymouth Access to Housing (PATH) and is supported by three other providers; REC (Racial Equality Council) START and Open Doors International Language School (ODILS). This ensures that families arriving receive the support they need to integrate on arrival to Plymouth.</p> <p>PCC has opted to accommodate the families within the private housing sector at Local Housing Allowance rates to ensure properties are affordable for families. There are substantial benefits to encourage landlords to participate in the scheme including contribution to minor improvements (e.g. heating/decorating) to ensure the property is fit for rental, void costs to cover council tax and rent whilst awaiting arrival, 2 months' rent in advance and deposit. We have been able to improve the standard of a number of properties in this way having a positive impact on the private rental sector when the families decide to move on. Further funding is available to landlords offering 4+ bed properties to mitigate the impact of the benefits cap and housing improvements required to accommodate a particular need.</p> <p>In addition, core Education costs are being offered to schools accepting children from the scheme and</p>

	<p>Health costs are made available to CCG to support initial health screenings, GP registration and other greater health needs.</p> <p>This funding has been sufficient to cover all foreseeable circumstances and the number of families we are proposing to take provides a good level of contingency to deal with unforeseen issues. Through the RIS contract the City is able to offer support to all refugees in the City, including those receiving leave to remain via the asylum process. There is a greater level of support available to Scheme Families as the grant is ring-fenced, however, it has also enabled service providers to provide a wider service to those in need.</p> <p>Accepting 60 families would generate £1.2m in the first 12months. The funding arrangement therefore underwrites our costs and minimises exposure to financial risks and negative implications.</p>			
8	<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? (please contact Democratic Support for further advice)</p>	Yes	No	Per the Constitution, a key decision is one which:
			x	in the case of capital projects and contract awards, results in a new commitment to spend and/or save in excess of £3million in total
			x	in the case of revenue projects when the decision involves entering into new commitments and/or making new savings in excess of £1 million
		x	is significant in terms of its effect on communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards in the area of the local authority.	
	<p>If yes, date of publication of the notice in the Forward Plan of Key Decisions</p>			
9	<p>Please specify how this decision is linked to the Council's corporate plan/Plymouth Plan and/or the policy framework and/or the revenue/capital budget:</p>		<p>This decision is consistent with our corporate values and objectives as a confident council that takes local and global responsibility seriously, and a caring council that promotes social and health equality.</p>	
10	<p>Please specify any direct environmental implications of the decision (carbon impact)</p>		<p>No impact.</p>	
Urgent decisions				
11	<p>Is the decision urgent and to be implemented immediately in the interests of the Council or the public?</p>	Yes		(If yes, please contact Democratic Support (democraticsupport@plymouth.gov.uk) for advice)
		No	x	(If no, go to section 13a)
12a	<p>Reason for urgency:</p>			
12b	Scrutiny		Date	

	Chair Signature:			
	Scrutiny Committee name:			
	Print Name:			
Consultation				
13a	Are any other Cabinet members' portfolios affected by the decision?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>	(If no go to section 14)
13b	Which other Cabinet member's portfolio is affected by the decision?	Councillor Downie, Cabinet member for Education, Skills and Children and Young People		
13c	Date Cabinet member consulted	15/07/21		
14	Has any Cabinet member declared a conflict of interest in relation to the decision?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	If yes, please discuss with the Monitoring Officer
		No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
15	Which Corporate Management Team member has been consulted?	Name	Craig McArdle	
		Job title	Strategic Director for People, PCC	
		Date consulted	04/10/21	
Sign-off				
16	Sign off codes from the relevant departments consulted:	Democratic Support (mandatory)	DS60 21/22	
		Finance (mandatory)	djn.21.22.128	
		Legal (mandatory)	lt/36998/2/011021	
		Human Resources (if applicable)	N/A	
		Corporate property (if applicable)	N/A	
		Procurement (if applicable)	N/A	
Appendices				
17	Ref.	Title of appendix		
	A	Briefing report for publication		
	B	Equalities Impact Assessment		

Confidential/exempt information								
18a	Do you need to include any confidential/exempt information?	Yes		If yes, prepare a second, confidential ('Part II') briefing report and indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box in 18b below. (Keep as much information as possible in the briefing report that will be in the public domain)				
		No	x					
		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18b	Confidential/exempt briefing report title:							
Background Papers								
19	Please list all unpublished, background papers relevant to the decision in the table below. Background papers are <u>unpublished</u> works, relied on to a material extent in preparing the report, which disclose facts or matters on which the report or an important part of the work is based. If some/all of the information is confidential, you must indicate why it is not for publication by virtue of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by ticking the relevant box.							
Title of background paper(s)		Exemption Paragraph Number						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Cabinet Member Signature								
20	I agree the decision and confirm that it is not contrary to the Council's policy and budget framework, Corporate Plan or Budget. In taking this decision I have given due regard to the Council's duty to promote equality of opportunity, eliminate unlawful discrimination and promote good relations between people who share protected characteristics under the Equalities Act and those who do not. For further details please see the EIA attached.							
Signature	Vivien Pengelly		Date of decision	26/10/2021				
Print Name	Cllr Vivien Pengelly							

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AFGHANISTAN RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT SCHEMES

Community Connections



CONTEXT

The Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) are Home Office managed migration schemes to relocate:

- Afghan Civilian Personnel who have been employed by the Ministry of Defence in recognition of their commitment and bravery shown supporting UK forces since 2013;
- Afghan Citizens who may be at particular risk because they have assisted the UK efforts in Afghanistan vulnerable people, including women and girls at risk, and members of minority groups at risk.

The Home Office recently announced its aim to resettle 5000 people in the first year of these Schemes and 20,000 in total over the next 5 years with funding arrangements aligned to current Refugee Resettlement Schemes. Plymouth City Council has resettled 215 refugees through these existing Schemes since 2015 and has commissioned an integration support package for people as they arrive into the city.

RECOMMENDED DECISION

Plymouth City Council recognise that: this is a high priority for the Home Office; the Council has previously participated in similar schemes; Plymouth has strong connections with the Armed Forces; and is consistent with the commitment to promote Plymouth as a Welcoming City and the corporate values of collaboration, fairness and responsibility. The recommendation is that the City will commit to:

- Resettling up to 60 people in the first year of the programme (September 2021 –September 2022).
- Resettle up to 50 people per year for the duration of the Schemes to support the Home Office to meet its target of 20,000 Afghans across a 5 year period.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is a full cost recovery model. Costs are covered by a tariff, which provides £20,000 per person, this consists of a decreasing annual amount for 3 years after the date of arrival in the UK.

Additional funds are made available to cover Health and Social Care costs and Education costs.

An 'extreme cases fund' is available to cover the costs of individuals with more complex needs as well as to support higher rents and mitigate the impact of the benefits cap for larger families requiring 4+ bed properties.

The funding can be pooled across the families and LA's are not required to report breakdown spend per family. The tariff automatically becomes available once the family arrives and unless there is a material change in circumstances e.g. the family moves out of area or return back to their country of origin, PCC are entitled to claim across the 5 year period.

Providing the LA can demonstrate that they are meeting the HO requirements for each family at the two evaluation points (Spring/Autumn following arrival) there are no further reporting requirements.

The funding is sufficient to cover all foreseeable circumstances and the number of families we are proposing to take provides a good level of contingency to deal with unforeseen issues. Through the

Refugee Integration Service contract the City is able to offer support to all refugees in the City, including those receiving leave to remain via the asylum process. There is a greater level of support available to Scheme Families as the grant is ring-fenced, however, it has also enabled service providers to provide a wider service to those in need.

RISKS AND MITIGATION

Insufficient places generated nationally could lead to the HO commitment not being fulfilled and possibly a compulsory dispersal programme. This would mean less control for PCC over the size/arrival regularity of families accepted. The national commitment for 20/21 is 5000. Setting our obligation as 60 would be a slightly higher ratio (1.2%) than the current City commitment against national requirements. There is a further risk that we are unable to meet our commitment and thus difficult to guarantee funding levels for supporting partners. The commitment has been set at 60 individuals in the first year to minimise this risk and to ensure there is not an undue pressure on housing stock.

PCC has opted to accommodate the families within the private housing sector at Local Housing Allowance rates to ensure properties are affordable for families. There are substantial benefits to encourage landlords to participate in the scheme including contribution to minor improvements (e.g. heating/decorating) to ensure the property is fit for rental, void costs to cover council tax and rent whilst awaiting arrival, 2 months' rent in advance and deposit. We have been able to improve the standard of a number of properties in this way having a positive impact on the private rental sector when the families decide to move on. Further funding is available to landlords offering 4+ bed properties to mitigate the impact of the benefits cap and housing improvements required to accommodate a particular need. Support to landlords to participate in the scheme has helped to improve standards in a number of properties to date. These properties may have otherwise not met Local Housing Standards and remained unfilled, these properties will eventually be returned to the wider private rented sector increasing housing capacity for Plymouth residents.

GOVERNANCE

Daily project management will be through the Community Connections team who will monitor the financial spend and provide regular monitoring reports to the Portfolio Holder.

The health and education elements would be managed through strong partnership with the NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group and the Special Educational Needs and Disability team. A project steering group would be established to reflect this and engage all internal and external partners. This will ensure the Home Office Statement of Requirements is met.

CONCLUSION

As a collaborative Council, this programme is consistent with our values as a council that takes local and global responsibility, and a caring council that promotes social and health equality.

The cost profile provided by the Home Office will seek to minimise our exposure to unfunded costs and pay for additional capacity to meet needs.

We will strike a fair balance between meeting the needs of refugees and those of the already resident community. In the long term refugees will benefit the whole community through their economic contribution and by increasing the diversity of our city. We will seek to ensure they are treated with dignity and respect.

EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Community Connections



STAGE 1: WHAT IS BEING ASSESSED AND BY WHOM?

What is being assessed - including a brief description of aims and objectives?	<p>An Executive Decision to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree in principle that Plymouth City Council will support the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) and the Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) and commit to resettling up to 60 people in the first year of the programme (September 2021 –September 2022). • Agree in principle that Plymouth City Council will resettle up to 50 people per year for the duration of the Schemes to support the Home Office to meet its target of 20,000 Afghans across a 5 year period. This will be reviewed annually to ensure that we are not placing too greater pressure on the local housing market. 	Page 9
Author	<p>Jessica Dann</p>	
Department and service	<p>People, Community Connections</p>	
Date of assessment	<p>04/10/2021</p>	

STAGE 2: EVIDENCE AND IMPACT

Protected characteristics (Equality Act)	Evidence and information (e.g. data and feedback)	Any adverse impact See guidance on how to make judgement	Actions	Timescale and who is responsible
Age	<p>Participating families will include children.</p> <p>Older participants are a possibility if they are identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A dependent of the principal applicant 	<p>No.</p> <p>All individuals relocated to the UK will have the opportunity to seek full citizenship and are likely to have enhanced life chances, with support for their social and medical care needs.</p>		

	<p>employed as Afghan Locally Employed Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have specific medic needs which would prioritise them as vulnerable in the current conflict situation 	<p>Schools receive additional funding of £4500 for children aged 4+ who arrive via the scheme. £2500 is available for children aged 3-4 on arrival. Funding has also allowed for childcare facilities to be available for pre-school age children to enable parents to attend English classes.</p> <p>Where necessary older participants will be referred to Adult Social Care.</p>		
<p>Disability</p>	<p>Scheme participants may have significant medical and social care needs. It is possible that some may also experience PTSD or be assessed as having SEND needs after arrival in the UK.</p>	<p>No</p> <p>Some participants may require medical and social care. Children may have special needs that require support in mainstream schools. Education funding is provided by the tariff and additional costs can be claimed for where SEND is identified in the first 12 months.</p> <p>Additional costs for medical, educational and social care costs identified in the first year can be claimed over and above the standard tariff rate provided by the Scheme.</p>	<p>A partnership with health and social care colleagues will be established to assess all medical and social care needs in advance and which will then be met upon arrival.</p> <p>We do not anticipate any difficulty in meeting the needs of the dispersed families and are able to decline cases whose needs could not be met in Plymouth.</p> <p>Services have also been identified that can provide early intervention mental health support or support for young and adult carers.</p>	
<p>Religion or belief</p>	<p>Afghanistan is a predominantly Muslim country, it is anticipated that the majority of those relocated will be Muslims</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>Plymouth has a Muslim population from a range of diverse national backgrounds. There are two</p>	<p>We are seeking to address the potential for isolation and Islamophobia as part of wider Council strategy, including funding recently</p>	

	<p>Many in this population will be Muslim, however there are also a number of Christians and other religious minority groups in the region.</p>	<p>Mosques offering prayer and other facilities. There are also a number of shops with halal provision.</p> <p>There are numerous churches in Plymouth that have a congregation from a range of diverse national backgrounds.</p> <p>There is the potential for Refugees to feel isolated and to be the target of Islamophobia and other race related Hate crimes.</p>	<p>received via the Controlling Migration Fund and work undertaken by the Safer Plymouth Board. Many of the wider Refugee and Asylum Seeker support providers are also third party reporters for hate crime and can help support families and raise awareness of how to report incidents.</p> <p>The Refugee Integration Service is commissioned to provide refugee awareness training and community cohesion work. They will also link families with existing faith and cultural communities in Plymouth.</p>	
<p>Sex - including marriage, pregnancy and maternity</p>	<p>The decision has been made to resettle the spouses and dependent children of those already relocated to Plymouth under the previous Afghan LES Scheme.</p> <p>We may receive families, couples and singles. We will support families that arrive with recently born babies and mothers that become pregnant whilst in the UK.</p>	<p>No. Cultural practices may differ between countries of origin and the UK. These will be addressed through our integration work.</p>		
<p>Gender reassignment</p>	<p>Not known if participants will fall within this protected characteristic.</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>If participants fall within this category, existing support services will be made available</p>		

<p>Race</p>	<p>Afghan nationals will most likely identify their ethnicity as Asian Other.</p>	<p>No. The impact of the decision will be to give Afghan LES an opportunity to apply for citizenship and create a stable home in the UK. There is potential for refugees to feel isolated and to be the target of racism and hostility based on current tension around immigration and security. Interpretation support and English classes will be provided.</p>	<p>We are seeking to address the potential for isolation and Islamophobia as part of wider COUNCIL strategy, including funding recently received via the Controlling Migration Fund and work undertaken by the Safer Communities Plymouth Board. Many of the wider Refugee and Asylum Seeker support providers are also third party reporters for hate crime and can help support families and raise awareness of how to report incidents.</p>	
<p>Sexual orientation - including civil partnership</p>	<p>It is possible that participants may be Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Questioning.</p>	<p>No. If participants fall within this category, existing support services will be made available.</p>		

STAGE 3: ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING? IF SO, PLEASE RECORD ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN

Local priorities	Implications	Timescale and who is responsible
<p>Celebrate diversity and ensure that Plymouth is a welcoming city.</p>	<p>Afghanistan is a predominantly Muslim country, it is anticipated that the majority of those relocated will be Muslims and will most likely identify their race as Asian Other. By taking the decision to participate in the Scheme the Council is remaining consistent with its values as Welcoming City and an area that celebrates and encourages people of different backgrounds, faiths and experiences.</p>	<p>The integration work we will be commissioning will ensure that families are supported and encouraged to engage positively with the wider community. Further projects undertaken by the Controlling Migration Fund will specifically look at improving community cohesion within neighbourhoods and across</p>

		<p>communities will further support this week.</p> <p>We will also seek to address any cultural norms of those arriving via the Scheme which may not be consistent with norms within the UK e.g. LGBTQ+ rights and right of women to work with peer to peer support networks.</p>
<p>Pay equality for women, and staff with disabilities in our workforce.</p>	<p>Women arriving via the scheme may initially have low levels of English, which impacts their ability to go into skilled work. Many of the women arriving on the scheme will have child care responsibilities which may impact their ability to enter the workplace in the short-term.</p> <p>The Scheme will fund employment of Council staff and staff within commissioned services to deliver the scheme requirements.</p>	<p>Plymouth City Council has reported a Gender Pay Gap of 2.6 per cent with a median pay gap of 3.3 per cent in favour of women. Staff employed to support the scheme will be paid according to local authority banded scales to ensure equal pay rates. All commissioned services funded by the Scheme will be required to sign our Equality and Diversity policy, including a commitment to equal pay between genders.</p> <p>Individuals arriving on the scheme will receive an Independent Advice and Guidance session on arrival to discuss future employment. This will include setting out rights and raising awareness of being an employee in the UK.</p>
<p>Supporting our workforce through the implementation of Our People Strategy 2020 – 2024</p>	<p>The Principal Applicants arriving via the ARAP Scheme will have been employed in Afghanistan by the Ministry of Defence and will have a unique and varied range of skills and experience. We are anticipating that English levels will be higher than some of the other migrants and refugees arriving into the city.</p> <p>There may be opportunities with the Council for people with existing skill set as well as potential to participate in future access programmes, including work experience, paid internships and graduate programme.</p>	<p>As an employer we have committed to signing the Race at Work charter and to create a vibrant employee equality, diversity and inclusivity group with regular seminars</p>

<p>Supporting victims of hate crime so they feel confident to report incidents, and working with, and through our partner organisations to achieve positive outcomes.</p>	<p>There is potential for individuals and families arriving via the Scheme to feel isolated and to be the target of racism and hostility based on current tension around immigration and security.</p> <p>Post the Brexit referendum neighbourhood surveys conducted indicate a decline in local community cohesion rates.</p>	<p>Many of the wider Refugee and Asylum Seeker support providers are third party reporters for hate crime and can help support families and raise awareness of how to report incidents. Scheme funding supports events such as respect Festival, International Women’s Day and Hope Festival. The Diverse Communities Team at Devon and Cornwall Police will attend all of these events to educate families further.</p>
<p>Plymouth is a city where people from different backgrounds get along well.</p>	<p>Immigration is currently viewed negatively by a majority of UK residents (79%). Previously there has been significant public support for the relocation of foreign national civilians to the UK who have been employed by the Ministry of Defence and armed forces in recognition of the commitment and bravery shown often in challenging and dangerous situation.</p> <p>Post the Brexit referendum neighbourhood surveys conducted indicate a decline in local community cohesion rates.</p>	<p>Numbers involved in the scheme will be controlled and so the local impact is likely to be minimal.</p> <p>Proactively promoting the scheme may be inappropriate considering the vulnerability of participants. However, Plymouth City Council would embed reference to this group in wider myth busting work on Migrants, Asylum Seekers and Refugees.</p> <p>We will promote engagement with the local community, including the Arabic-speaking and Muslim communities as part of our wider Welcoming City, hate crime incidents and community cohesion work. Any tensions will be monitored and responded to as required.</p>
<p>Human rights Please refer to guidance</p>	<p>Article 2 – right to life - everyone’s right to life shall be protected by law.</p> <p>Article 3 of the HRA states that no-one shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.</p> <p>Article 9 of the HRA protects Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion. This right includes freedom to manifest religion or belief, in worship, teaching, practice and observance.</p>	<p>The government has stated that one scheme aim is to remove the incentive to attempt risky crossings of the Eastern Mediterranean. Our participation promotes protection of the right to life.</p>

	<p>Article 2 of the First Protocol: Right to education</p>	<p>Scheme participants may have been subjected to torture. We will ensure that this is taken in account in health and social care assessments.</p> <p>Whilst this does not amount to a duty to make provision for someone to practice their faith we will have an early conversation with local places of worship about their ability to accommodate new worshipers and enable scheme participants to fully practise any religion or belief they hold in Plymouth.</p> <p>Right to education – all children arriving via the Scheme will be automatically entitled to mainstream education. We will work with the admissions team and the education, participation and skills team to ensure that children are allocated places at school within a reasonable timeframe. Places will be allocated with due regard to impact on the local area. Adults arriving on the scheme will be entitled to access ESOL classes and money provided by the Scheme will support the provision of a crèche facility and women’s only classes.</p>
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STAGE 4: PUBLICATION

Responsible Officer - Craig McArdle

Date

05/10/2021

Strategic Director, Service Director or Head of Service

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