

Annex

UK Resettlement Scheme

The UK Resettlement Scheme (UKRS), which started in March 2021, is an ongoing humanitarian resettlement scheme whose purpose is to resettle vulnerable refugees in need of protection from a range of regions of conflict and instability across the globe. We work closely with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the global refugee agency, to identify those living in formal refugee camps, informal settlements and host communities who would benefit most from resettlement to the UK. Our resettlement schemes are not selective on the basis of employability or integration potential. The number of refugees we resettle every year through the UKRS depends on a variety of factors including future government funding commitments and local authorities' capacity for supporting refugees.

Funding available to local authorities who resettle families under UKRS is set out [here](#).

Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme

ACRS formally opened on the 6 January 2022, providing up to 20,000 women, children, and others at risk, with a safe and legal route to resettle in the UK. ACRS will prioritise those who have assisted UK efforts in Afghanistan and stood up for UK values such as democracy, women's rights, freedom of speech and rule of law; and vulnerable people such as women and girls at risk, and members of minority groups (including ethnic / religious minorities and LGBT+). 6,500 of those already evacuated, including women's rights activists, journalists, prosecutors, and Afghan family members of British Nationals were the first to be resettled under the ACRS and will be granted indefinite leave to remain. From spring, UNHCR will refer refugees to the scheme, based on assessments of protection need. We will continue to receive such referrals to the scheme in the coming years.

Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy

The ARAP launched on 1 April 2021 and this scheme offers relocation or other assistance for those who worked with the UK in Afghanistan. 7,000 people have been relocated under ARAP so far. The scheme is not time limited, and the Government is working to facilitate the continued relocation of those who are eligible.

Funding available to councils who resettle families under ACRS and ARAP is detailed in our funding instruction [here](#) and amounts to £20,520 per person over three years, up to £4,500 per child for education, £850 to cover English language provision for adults requiring this support and £2,600 to cover healthcare.

Enhanced Matching Process

Under the enhanced matching process, households in bridging accommodation will be given two offers of 'appropriate' accommodation, with the expectation being that they will accept the first accommodation offer made to them, unless they have a 'good reason' to refuse it.

If a household rejects an appropriate accommodation offer, the Home Office will review the offer, consider their reasons, and if it was a good reason to refuse, the offer will be discounted. If this is not the case and the review finds that the offer was appropriate, the household will be informed of this and then given their second appropriate accommodation offer. If the household reject the offer (and it is still deemed appropriate upon review) then they will be given a minimum of 56 days' notice to leave the bridging hotel and find their own accommodation.

We hope that given the improvements to the matching process there will be increased uptake of housing offers, and few circumstances in which the Home Office need to give notice to leave bridging accommodation.

For more information about the enhanced matching process please refer to the letter issued by the Home Office and DLUHC on 9 May 2022.

Strategic Migration Partnerships

REGION	SMP LEAD	EMAIL ADDRESS
South East	Roy Millard	RoyMillard@secouncils.gov.uk
North East	Janine Hartley	Janine_Hartley@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Yorkshire & Humber	David Brown	David.2.Brown@migrationyorkshire.org.uk
West Midlands	Dally Panesar	Dalvinder.Panesar@birmingham.gov.uk
East Midlands	Brein Fisher	Brein.Fisher@emcouncils.gov.uk
East of England	Gosia Strona	Malgorzata.Strona@eelga.gov.uk
North West	Katie Jones	katie.jones@manchester.gov.uk
South West	Kelly-Anne Phillips	kelly-anne.phillips@swcouncils.gov.uk
London	Mark Winterburn	Mark.Winterburn@london.gov.uk
Wales	Anne Hubbard	anne.hubbard@wlga.gov.uk
Scotland	Andrew Morrison	andrew@cosla.gov.uk