

Health Improvement

Resettlement Healthcare & Wellbeing Programme, Flash Report 2022/2023

The UK Government has made a commitment to resettle people from various countries in the UK. The Scottish Government (SG) in conjunction with COSLA has agreed to support many of these people in Scotland.



National Strategy

The New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy 2018 – 2022 “aims to be dynamic, so that it can adapt to changing political, policy or international contexts, which have an impact on refugees and asylum seekers living in Scotland.” The latest version of the New Scots Integration Strategy can be found here: New Scots: refugee integration strategy 2018 to 2022 - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

Human Rights

Asylum seekers or refugees living in Scotland, have the right to NHS healthcare while staying here. Health is a fundamental human right for all, including refugees. According to the 1951 Refugee Convention, refugees should have access to the same or similar healthcare as host populations.

NHS Lanarkshire, along with north and south Lanarkshire councils, have a long history of welcoming, settling and taking care of people coming to make Lanarkshire their new home. There are now many people, including those from the Congo, Poland, Syria, Afghanistan and Ukraine settled and living here. The numbers of people seeking asylum and arriving as refugees and coming to settle in Lanarkshire will increase.

NHS Lanarkshire Healthcare Resettlement Team

NHSL in conjunction with the 2 Health and Social Care Partnerships, has established a small healthcare team: The Resettlement Health Care and Wellbeing Team. They provide an initial point of contact for the respective Councils Resettlement teams to seek health advice, support and signposting as people arrive in Lanarkshire.



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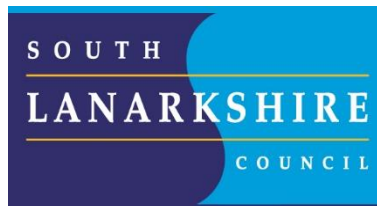


Future Plans

The team is newly set up and plans are evolving however a population health needs assessment is planned for the summer 2023 as is a staff training needs assessment. A networking conference is also planned for June 2023 to discuss what the third sector can offer to support new scots.

A local network of Health Improvement, Third Sector & other Health and Social Care Partnership staff will be established to share good practice and foster joint working. The aim is to provide a forum to respond to national or local policy developments. The resettlement team will continue to develop resources in partnership with translation services as required.

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Third Sector Support – Equalities & Resettlement Officers

These roles in Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire (VASLan) and Voluntary Action North Lanarkshire (VANL) involve building relationships with local community and voluntary sector organisations to create capacity that can support refugees and asylum seekers, their families and carers to take control of their own health and wellbeing and integrate into their local community.

Translated health literature and information: If you are looking for information on translated health resources and information for patients then follow this link below: <https://www.nhsinform.scot/translations>

