



## **Wales Strategic Migration Partnership**

### **3-Year Strategic Plan (2018/19 – 2020/21)**

#### **Vision**

To work with partner bodies and across all areas of UK, Welsh Government and local government with the aim of supporting the inclusion of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants (hereafter referred to as 'migrants') into local communities and delivery of services and working to create and sustain a positive narrative around migration and diversity.

#### **Mission**

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The UK Regional Strategic Migration Partnerships (RSMPs) are funded by the Home Office to coordinate partners at national, regional and local level to ensure a strategic and joined up approach to migration, supporting and enabling participation in UK Government asylum and resettlement programmes.

#### **Values**

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- Collaboration and involvement of partners across sectors in developing and implementing policies around migration
- Migration and managing the impact of migration in the devolved context is a shared responsibility across Wales
- Valuing the key role of the voluntary and community sector in supporting people in communities and their involvement in facilitating the integration of migrants
- Commitment to working with partners to provide people settling in Wales the opportunity to learn the Welsh language as well as English

- Commitment to thinking about the longer term and sustainability in all that we do
- Commitment to hearing migrant voices

## **Our Goal**

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RSMPs have a key role in assisting the Refugee, Asylum and Integration Directorate (RASI) to develop *and adopt a place-based approach* to the delivery of its objectives, enabling a more cohesive engagement between the Home Office and Local Government on services for vulnerable and destitute asylum seekers, and the various UK Government refugee resettlement schemes. This needs to align with Home Office Immigration Priorities (controlled migration, safeguarding, UK prosperity) and the devolved political and legislative agenda in Wales. This work will require a spirit of collaboration across government and different sectors and a recognition of the pressures on local authorities and the challenges they face, and the differing local and regional assets and strengths in responding to migration.

### **Strategic Objectives**

<b>1.</b>	Provide strategic and political leadership and coordination at national and local level and influence and shape the migration agenda in Wales, recognising the differing local, regional and national community contexts and needs.
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2.	<p>Provide expert support to Local Authorities and their partners through relevant structures (PSBs etc.) to develop a strategic, Wales approach to migration that supports integration, in line with ambition of the Home Office to develop a Place-based Approach to migration.</p>
3.	<p>Support local government's participation in implementing and delivering positive outcomes in relation to UK Government asylum and refugee schemes, in line with Wales' legislative and policy framework, focussing on refugee integration in both English and Welsh-speaking communities.</p>
4.	<p>Continue to support the development of an evidence base on migration in Wales and share best practice, assisting Local Authorities and other public bodies to develop an accurate picture of their migrant populations and to enhance public policy responses to migration.</p>
<b>ACTIONS - how we will achieve our strategic objectives</b>	<b>OUTCOME – where will be in three years</b>
<p><b>Leadership and Influence</b></p> <p>Continue to engage with politicians and senior leaders across public services in Wales in order to;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– maintain ongoing support and leadership on migration and influence and shape the delivery of Home Office programmes in devolved context</li> </ul>	<p>Politicians and senior Leaders are well informed about migration and able to engage in policy debates, and continue to show leadership, enabling a whole-Wales approach in responding to the complex and changing dynamic of international migration.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– respond to UK Government policy as it develops around exiting the EU and the impact on EU migrants.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Expertise</b></p> <p>Provide a national annual overview of migration in Wales to Public Service Boards, with local/regional specific information to help inform Well Being Action Plans, highlighting specific trends, issues and opportunities in relation to asylum seekers, refugees and migrants (<i>see also Evidence Based Policy below</i>).</p>	<p>Public bodies, via Public Service Boards, have a clear understanding of the strategic impacts and benefits of migration at local, regional and national level and are better able to reflect on what this means for Well-Being objectives.</p> <p>Improved understanding of the impact of increased migration and diversity and a more developed understanding of labour migration dynamics and regional variances.</p>
<p>WSMP members will use their influence and expertise to assist in taking forward our strategic response to migration.</p>	<p>Greater understanding the contribution of WSMP members and their spheres of influence.</p> <p>Improved linkage between work/priorities of the Partnership and other relevant areas of work.</p>
<p><b>Integration-planning and engagement</b></p> <p>Work with the Home Office/RASI Directorate and Welsh Government on key integration priorities and on developing a</p>	<p>Refugees are fully integrated into social, cultural and economic structures of Wales.</p>

<p>longer-term approach to integration, creating the conditions for refugees, however they arrived in Wales, to fulfil their potential.</p> <p>Work with the Home Office, Welsh Government and local government to influence the development of a Place-Based Approach in Wales, which will give local leaders more influence and control over engagement with UK Government asylum and resettlement programmes, with a focus on the integration of migrants into the cultural, economic and social life of Wales (in line with the ambition of the Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015).</p> <p>Work with partners to help enable Welsh language acquisition for refugees who wish to learn Welsh.</p>	<p>An innovative approach in Wales to migration and resettlement, driven by local government, will have been piloted and evaluated, and will see a distinctive Wales approach to responding to demand, and a person-centred, place-based approach to integration.</p> <p>The place-based approach will have harnessed the combined resources (political and economic) in Wales at National, regional and local level to address the challenges and the opportunities of migration, in line with the goals and ways of working in the FGWBA.</p>
<p><b>Prevention, Safeguarding, Health and Well Being</b></p> <p>Work with UK Visas and Immigration, Welsh Government, public services and the third sector to tackle issues that present a risk or undermine community cohesion, and raise awareness of migrants who are particularly vulnerable and may be at risk of poverty and destitution, ill health (mental and physical), exploitation and harm, including Domestic abuse and Violence against Women and Girls, Modern Slavery, or radicalisation and ensure policy responses are effective and people-centred.</p>	<p>Public services and partners' services and support are people-centred and the most vulnerable people are afforded the rights, protection and services they need and are entitled to, by whichever route they enter the UK, in line with international obligations which span UK and devolved context.</p> <p>Improved coordination between LAs and UKVI in order to facilitate closer working and information sharing in tackling issues which impact on community cohesion.</p> <p>Public services are aware of their roles and responsibilities under the Immigration Act 2016.</p>

<b>Evidence Based Policy</b>  Engage with higher education sector and develop partnerships and influence the research and evaluation agenda, so that we have more evidence about migration policy and practice in Wales, seeking to highlight the challenges and underline the contribution of migrants to our economy, public services and communities.	Migration policy is evidence-based, reflecting the particular needs of local authorities and communities throughout Wales and the experiences of asylum seekers, refugees and migrants.
<b>Asylum and Resettlement</b>  Ensure effective ongoing coordination and delivery of asylum dispersal, arrival of unaccompanied asylum seeking children and refugee resettlement schemes.	Effective promotion and coordination of UK Government programmes in a way which enables Local Authorities to contribute in a planned, informed and sustainable approach, which also engenders community cohesion and support of the community.
Engage with the <i>Resettlement, Asylum Support and Integration</i> (RASI) unit (including Home Office, Dept. for International Development and Communities and Local Government) on the development of asylum and resettlement strategy post 2020.	Home Office asylum and resettlement strategy will have been in part influenced and shaped by regional and devolved administration experiences of asylum and resettlement.
<b>Good Governance and Sustainability</b>	

<p>WSMP continues to deliver on the requirements of HO Enabling Grant.</p>	<p>Effective management of resource and partners in Wales engaged and contributing to the migration agenda, according to agreed objectives.</p>
<p>Deliver on recommendations of the Independent Review, increasing impact and building sustainability.</p> <p>Consider findings of 'Home Office Appreciative Enquiry' report.</p> <p>Ensure the Partnership complies with the relevant Welsh Language Standards and provides its services through the medium of Welsh as appropriate.</p>	<p>A change in the overall governance model and focus on key strategic improvement areas, greater joint strategic engagement.</p>