

Report of Head of Migration Yorkshire

Report to the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities)

Date: 20 April 2016

Subject: To enter into grant funding arrangements to deliver resettlement programmes in the Yorkshire and Humber region

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	X No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	X Yes
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	X no
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	X no

Summary of main issues

Through a Key decision taken on 8 April 2016 the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) authorised accepting grant funding from the Home Office for distribution to a number of Yorkshire and Humber local authorities and third sector organisations for the purposes of operating a re-settlement programme with the total value of the grants being £25m to £30m over 8 years.

Authority to enter into these arrangements is now requested.

Recommendations

That the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) is recommended to:

Enter into a Local Authority Partnership Agreement with each of the following Yorkshire and Humber local authorities to distribute the Home Office grant as a pass through in accordance with a grant funding formula relating to the number of persons resettled:

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- East Riding Of Yorkshire Council

- Hull City Council
- Kirklees Metropolitan Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sheffield City Council
- Wakefield Metropolitan District Council; and
- City of York Council

Enter into a grant funding agreement with the Refugee Council for a value of £3.7m and Refugee Education Training and Advice service (RETAS) for £105K each with a term of April 2016 to 01 November 2019.

Such agreements to be a form approved by the Head of Migration Yorkshire.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval to enter into various agreements required to deliver the re-settlement programme.

2 Background information

Through a Key decision taken on 8 April 2016 the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) authorised accepting grant funding from the Home Office for distribution to a number of Yorkshire and Humber local authorities and third sector organisations for the purposes of operating a re-settlement programme with the total value of the grants being £25m to £30m over 8 years.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 As described in the Key Decision report the third sector has offered to assist with the resettlement programme and provide essential specialist support to refugees fleeing conflict and torture, but needs to be funded to enable them to do this.
- 3.2 The third sector organisations have been identified to provide the specialist support required. Refugee Council, run very specific services and have long standing experience of working with this client group. The agencies involved have a proven track record in this region and the specialist knowledge to run the integration support required. The Refugee Council have 13 years' experience of running resettlement integration programmes in this region and have a long standing reputation of services for refugees in Leeds, as well as across the region.

RETAS will continue to provide their specialist refugee knowledge and experience of running ESOL and refugee employment advice, to run these elements of the integration package in Leeds.

- 3.3 The total value and term of the grant to the Refugee Council and RETAS required to enable them to provide specialist support to persons involved in the resettlement programme has now been finalised. This is entirely funded through the Home Office funding instruction.
- 3.4 The documentation required to distribute the grants monies is now in its final form subject to any final amends approved by the Head of Migration Yorkshire.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Regular consultation and meetings are taking place with the Home Office throughout the development, negotiation and planning for the Y&H SRP.
- 4.1.2 Regular meetings have been chaired by Migration Yorkshire for all Y&H LA's as part of the consultation and planning process.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 An equality, diversity, cohesion and integration screening has been undertaken which concluded that equality has been taken into account, attached as appendix 2 of the Key Decision report dated 23 March 2016.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 This arrangement will contribute to all the 'Best city...for communities' aims in the Leeds 2030 Vision:
- People are safe and feel safe;
 - The city is clean and welcoming;
 - People are active and involved in their communities; and
 - People get on well together;
- 4.3.2 It will also contribute to the 'Best city ... for communities' priority to:
- Increase a sense of belonging that builds cohesive and harmonious communities

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The grant/funding from the Home Office will provide funding for all costs during the period for which Leeds City Council and Migration Yorkshire will provide support.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.5.1 This is a Significant Operational Decision that is consequential to a previous Key Decision taken on 08 April 2016 and is not subject to call – in.

4.6 Risk Management

4.6.1 Risk management information is contained in appendix 1 of the Key Decision report dated 23 March 2016.

5 Conclusions

The assistance of the organisations and Local Authorities listed in this report is essential for the delivery of the re-settlement programme in Yorkshire and Humber.

6 Recommendations

That the Assistant Chief Executive (Citizens and Communities) is recommended to:

Enter into a Local Authority Partnership Agreement with each of the following Yorkshire and Humber local authorities to distribute the Home Office grant as a pass through in accordance with a grant funding formula relating to the number of persons resettled:

- Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council
- Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council
- Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council
- East Riding Of Yorkshire Council
- Hull City Council
- Kirklees Metropolitan Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- North Lincolnshire Council
- North Yorkshire County Council
- Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sheffield City Council
- Wakefield Metropolitan District Council; and
- City of York Council

Enter into a grant funding agreement with the Refugee Council for a value of £3.7m and RETAS for a value of £105K each with a term of April 2016 to 01 November 2019;

Such agreements to be a form approved by the Head of Migration Yorkshire.

7 Background documents¹

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.