

# Migration news roundup 7 August 2023

Image  
View of Houses of Parliament from bridge over river Thames

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## Stories that inspired us this week

[Councillors in Calderdale committed to welcoming and respecting all refugees](#), passing a motion to become a Council of Sanctuary. (Source: Halifax Courier)

With community support in Calderdale Sergiy Fedchenko, [a Ukrainian boxing champion and his family have been raising funds to aid their home country](#). (Source: Yorkshire Post)

[Hamzeh Al Hussien, a disabled Syrian artist who arrived in England five years ago, will be performing his drama, Penguin](#), in Leeds (during October) and Sheffield (in November). (Source: Theatre Weekly)

## International news

In Europe, [Afghan refugees protested against the German government](#), wanting them to review the regulations barring their family members aged over 18 to be evacuated from Afghanistan. (Source: Info Migrants)

Outside Europe:

- [UNHCR and the International Organisation for Migration \(IOM\) called for more legal pathways to migrate to the USA](#) from South America after the Darién gap migration route between Panama and Columbia has seen record numbers. (Source: the Guardian)
- [In New York many asylum seekers are rough sleeping due to capacity to process and house them](#). (Source: CBS News)

## UK borders and migration policy

[On the Illegal Migration Act, this briefing explains how the legislation has evolved](#) since its first reading in Parliament in March, and what provisions are already in place. (Source: Free Movement)

[July saw the highest numbers of people per boat crossing the Channel](#) at 52, despite the total number of arrivals still being 10% lower than last year. Meanwhile, a [Dover museum is showcasing the history of Channel crossings](#) exploring themes of trade, tourism, and migration. (Sources: Independent, BBC)

On visas and immigration:

- [Here's an insight into students who overstay their visas](#), highlighting that the Home Office has little official data on the numbers overstaying. (Source: Sky News)
- [A top Eritrean professional cyclist has been unable to secure a visa](#) to participate in the World Road Cycling Championships taking place in Glasgow. (Source: the Guardian)

Following an investigation previously reported on, the [Solicitors Regulation Authority has suspended three immigration law firms who were advising clients to make false asylum claims](#). (Source: the Guardian)

## Specific migrant groups

On asylum:

- The [Bibby Stockholm barge will supposedly become operational as asylum accommodation in the coming weeks](#) despite delays over fire safety rules. (Source: BBC)
- Here's [more insight into the High Court ruling on delays processing asylum support applications](#). (Source: Free Movement)

This article [discusses five problems with digital proof of immigration status](#), based on experiences of the EU settlement scheme. (Source: Free Movement)

An evaluation has been published on a recent [Home Office-led pilot regarding victims of domestic violence with no recourse to public funds](#). One of the partners included in the project was Ashiana in Yorkshire and Humber. (Source: Home Office)

On Hong Kong:

- An updated list of [organisations receiving grants under the Hong Kong Welcome Programme has been updated](#), four of which are in Yorkshire and Humber. (Source: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities)
- [The Migration Yorkshire project with Jo Cox Foundation was launched on Yorkshire Day](#). (Source: Jo Cox Foundation)

[Torbay Council has shared details of the financial challenges with supporting care leavers who are refugees and the lack of resources available](#). In other news, some [UK ministers were questioned about figures of unaccompanied children in hotels](#), following the High Court judgement released last week. (UK Visas and Immigration, the Guardian)

## Cohesion and integration

Read [a new impact report on the effectiveness of the Reaching New Scots Fund](#) a fund that was made available to grassroots organisations and community groups supporting refugee integration. (Source: Scottish Refugee Council)

[Research from Northumbria University has demonstrated the economic benefits of companies hiring refugees](#), as well as to the integration of refugees themselves. (Source: The Conversation)

**Contact us about research**

If you have any questions about our research, contact us:

[research@migrationyorkshire.org.uk](mailto:research@migrationyorkshire.org.uk)

[0113 378 8188](tel:0113 378 8188)

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