**UASC Working Group Minutes 23.11.2023 4pm**

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| 16.00-16.05 | Introduction to new attendees | Frazier Stroud |
| 16.05-16.20 | UASC: National Update  Work within social care and with our colleagues in the home office.  Overview of national transfer scheme  6000 odd transferred through the National Transfer Scheme.  National statistics were published recently.  Number of CLA in UK have increased 2% overall.  Number of UASC increased by 29%  Large increase in UASC young people  Overall number of people arriving is down this year from 2022  Challenges in sourcing placements for YP.  School placement issues, access to ESOL support.  NTS means that areas with fewer UASC will have challenges expanding support in this area.  Colleagues in Scotland NI and Wales are experiencing more challenges. These challenges might be quite acute  Illegal migration bill – now an act. Looking at what this means for UASC under 18 and care leavers.  The act places a general duty on home secretary to remove anyone entering the country illegally.  Duty to remove is suspended for UASC until they are 18. Care Leaver entitlements will continue as they do now but there is a power to remove in certain circumstances e.g. coming to UK from a safe country. This may impact Albanian young people in particular  Existing entitlements will remain in place. UASC will be looked after with local authorities.  The risk of removal for care leavers will have implications for how to support these young people.  How to support them with future outcomes?  Managing risk e.g. going missing to avoid removal from UK.  There are still various decisions to be made by the home office.  What guidance are we providing? How do we support professionals through this?  Pamela Middleton – East Sussex  *The Home Office is considering adding to Iran, Egypt and Turkey to safe list. Do you think this is feasible?*  I have not read this. It has not come up in any conversations I have been in.  Cass Hardy – Surrey Virtual School  *Extent to which schools are set up to support UASC. We are meeting resistance from out of area schools regarding UASC. We are loath to enforce enrolment as it feels quite adversarial.*  I recognise the challenge. Some schools will support brilliantly, some schools won’t.  It would be good to hear suggestions about how to support in this space. Resources are tight  I have an ambition to avoid out of area placements  *We find it difficult to find appropriate foster carers. There are some subjects that UASC can access fairly easily like Music, Art etc.*  *Many UASC are put into school with their peers but are not equipped to manage the content.*  Robert Bermingham  *We have developed some training with another school and are rolling out to other boroughs and councils.*  I think collaboration is good.  [Julian.WARD@education.gov.uk](mailto:Julian.WARD@education.gov.uk) | Julian Ward - DfE |
| 16.20-16.35 | City of Sanctuary - Work with Schools and Colleges  Ongoing research into young people arriving late. REUK and BELL Foundation research.  Small UK wide charity.  Safety, Understanding, Support, Solidarity for those who have had to flee.  We started in Sheffield but we now have a wide mix of different community groups across the UK.  Schools of sanctuary stream; Nursaries, Primary Schools, Secondary Schools, College, University  Rapidly growing network of college. 19 colleges across the UK so far.  Hopefully 4-5 new ones across the UK.  415 awarded schools of sanctuary  Network meetings with College. There is one on next Thursday.   * subscribe to the half-termly [Schools of Sanctuary newsletter](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdata.cityofsanctuary.org%2Fschoolsnewsletter%2Fsignup%23&data=05%7C01%7CFrazier.Stroud%40barnet.gov.uk%7C7d3d8149afea4689366e08dbecc76e97%7C1ba468b914144675be4f53c478ad47bb%7C0%7C0%7C638364113585055237%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=o0uzxmTfx0nWlmusGG7q1E4mio0m09N36axbsRXhoVQ%3D&reserved=0) * subscribe to the half-termly [FE Colleges of Sanctuary newsletter](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdata.cityofsanctuary.org%2Fcolleges%2Fmailinglist&data=05%7C01%7CFrazier.Stroud%40barnet.gov.uk%7C7d3d8149afea4689366e08dbecc76e97%7C1ba468b914144675be4f53c478ad47bb%7C0%7C0%7C638364113585055237%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=HD33%2BTz7mlGDeL63DnlOEw%2Fq4vPw2ybHkeeHCKqLtO4%3D&reserved=0) * register for the next [FE College network meeting](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fcityofsanctuary.org%2Fevents%2Ffe-colleges-network-meeting-wellbeing-and-welfare%2F&data=05%7C01%7CFrazier.Stroud%40barnet.gov.uk%7C7d3d8149afea4689366e08dbecc76e97%7C1ba468b914144675be4f53c478ad47bb%7C0%7C0%7C638364113585055237%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=4LDuPBEyi5T%2Bew97huOziQ1yBpqg4kWeWK5Tj3nMv%2FE%3D&reserved=0) (Theme:Wellbeing and Welfare) on the 30th Nov at 1pm   [megan@uk.cityofsanctuary.org](mailto:megan@uk.cityofsanctuary.org) | Megan Greenwood |
| 16.35-16.50 | Discussion. Update about new terms – detailing any issues  Robert Birmingham – Sharing training and resources  Pamela East Sussex:  We are seeing increasing numbers of young people with absolutely no schooling at all. No literacy and numeracy at all. We are really struggling with this. How should we approach this? Handwriting, ICT?  How can we begin to support someone who within 18 months will be transitioning into independence  What should our approach be about teaching English for someone who has such a lack of formal educational understanding  Kim Green:  Student with low literacy and those with no education experience.  A borough was doing an assessment model.  *Who was this borough?*  Might be Wandsworth  Cass:  Croydon’s policy is to put any year 11 into a 14-16 college provision. Our policy is to put a year 11 into a school.  We don’t put a statutory school age into a college.  Ed:  Feels like our young people are stuck in a perpetual cycle of ESOL. Repeating years etc.  Robert:  One college adds a course on top of ESOL E3 (non-accredited) which is aimed at gaining English skills related to their desired career path. | Frazier Stroud |
| 16.50-17.15 | AOB  National Trauma Council videos  [https://uktraumacouncil.org/resources/childhood-trauma-migration-asylum](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fuktraumacouncil.org%2Fresources%2Fchildhood-trauma-migration-asylum&data=05%7C01%7CFrazier.Stroud%40Barnet.gov.uk%7C14898d64f4164daf225008dbe6c38120%7C1ba468b914144675be4f53c478ad47bb%7C0%7C0%7C638357499588762682%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=zvknPKFXJRl8g8Too3bIE8tDi0n0QHjWGow2twG3HhY%3D&reserved=0)  Kent NTS videos  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgRlM5gpPfk](https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DKgRlM5gpPfk&data=05%7C01%7CFrazier.Stroud%40Barnet.gov.uk%7C29ab759815d3443c468708dbe74da0d5%7C1ba468b914144675be4f53c478ad47bb%7C0%7C0%7C638358092819146736%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=tViXimRqdC0XrGcppJrOTAa3hmSNy8acapZKAGJSVVg%3D&reserved=0) |  |
| Notes from chat | * Link UASC Working Group Resource Map:   [UASC Working Group Resource Map (padlet.com)](https://padlet.com/frazierstroud/uasc-working-group-resource-map-ipvy4eswkxc3iu1v)  [Map of the UK where members of the working group can upload resources, organisations, or information relating to UASC support in their area](https://padlet.com/frazierstroud/uasc-working-group-resource-map-ipvy4eswkxc3iu1v).   * To get a sense of where we are working locally on schools, this is a map of our network (different colours for LAs and community groups): [Local Lead Network - Schools of Sanctuary (cityofsanctuary.org)](https://schools.cityofsanctuary.org/case-studies/maps-of-the-schools-of-sanctuary-uk-network) * Nottingham based NEST is a really great model * You may have already done this, but The Bell Foundation have fantastic resources and knowledge on EAL / refugees and I imagine may have some info on this * Hi Ed.  Colleges are looking to expand ESOL beyond English & Maths.  Calling it ESOL Plus or Vocational ESOL. * Full time in FE is 540 guided learning hours, which is 12-16 hours per week. * Funding model for Post 16 doesn't encourage this creative approach. * The funding is capped so we won't be able to persuade them (colleges) to offer five days. * As an EAL specialist I'm not a fan of ESOL.  It's fine for adults but it's not great for teenagers.  I'd prefer them to access vocational courses they are interested in with English/Maths support.  Better immersion in English language.  Better integration with 'home grown' students. * We're piloting vocational pathways for UASC and one of our colleges allows young people to progress to vocational subjects quite quickly but not the others. I think it's mainly derived from an irrational fear that it will hit their results, when actually most UASC are much more motivated than your average indigenous learner. |  |