

Monthly updates



[February 2011 Update](#)

Topics in this month's update:

New family returns process begins; Asylum policy leads to destitution: Oxfam report; Report explores barriers to citizenship for refugees; Children's Commissioner releases new report; Refugee Council publishes research on quality of legal aid, and Report on Refugee Council's SMILE project.



[December 2010 - January 2011 Update](#)

Topics in this update:

Funding slashed for refugee advice services; briefings on legal aid reforms; date to end child detention announced; guidance on preventing illegal working; refugees to lose out on ESOL courses; Jobcentre Plus services for refugees; PAFRAS report on undocumented work; UNHCR and Council of Europe publish booklet on protecting refugees; UKBA Chief Inspector publishes annual report; report on quality of decision-making in women's asylum claims.



[November 2010 Update](#)

This month's topics: Asylum applications fall; Child trafficking in Scotland on the increase; Glasgow forced to stop housing asylum seekers; Oakington detention centre closed; Report criticises Azure payment card; European court halts returns to Iraq; Joint declaration on immigration at UK-France summit; UKBA publishes new employers' guidance on preventing illegal working, and Government announcement on settlement reforms.



[October 2010 Update](#)

Topics in this month's Update: Zimbabwe returns to resume; new English language requirement for partners; inspection report on Dover; Archbishop concerned about the protection of refugees; Local councils stop housing for asylum seekers; budget for immigration appeals cut, and Angolan refugee dies on deportation flight.



[September 2010 Update](#)

This month's Update covers the following topics among others: Refugee Council report on the stressful impact of limited leave on refugees in the UK; restraint of children during removal; new report on children in detention; UKBA asylum backlog claims; detainees without possibility of removal; EC identifies shortcomings in existing common standards, and free health clinic for refugees in London.



[July/August 2010 Update](#)

This update covers the months of July and August 2010. Among other topics, it covers refugees applying for indefinite leave; the Supreme Court's ruling on permission to work; ruling on fast-track deportations; new asylum figures; Government plans to cut legal aid; new guidance on employing refugees and asylum seekers, and the Supreme Court's ruling on the rights of gay asylum seekers.



[June 2010 Update](#)

This month's topics include: an update on child detention; closure of RMJ; Communicating with the Case Resolution Directorate; a destitution report by the British Red Cross; UNHCR global refugee figures for 2009, and a UNHCR report on Afghan child asylum seekers.



[May 2010 Update](#)

Among other topics, this month's update covers: Coalition Government's immigration programme; urgent asylum issues for new government; EU Action Plan on unaccompanied children; 2009 EU asylum figures; ruling on deportations, and a report on homophobia in the asylum system.



[April 2010 Update](#)

Topics in this month's update include: new guidance for ESOL providers; IOM's new voluntary returns programme; update on the Section 4 Azure card; new research on family reunion in the UK; UNHCR guidance on improving asylum procedures; UNHCR asylum figures for 2009, and a follow-up Parliamentary report on UKBA.



[March 2010 Update](#)

Topics in this month's update include: Refugee Council's concerns about detained fast track; review of access to NHS by foreign nationals; new asylum support rates for 2010/11; ruling on withdrawal of refugee status; update on Earned Citizenship and five year review of refugee status, and the Home Office's review on treatment of detainees.



[February 2010 Update](#)

This month's update reports on newly published research and policy briefings, including new asylum figures for the fourth quarter of 2009, administrative detention in Europe, the UKBA Chief Inspector's first thematic report on asylum, and the Parliamentary Ombudsman's report on the UKBA, among others.



[January 2010 Update](#)

This month's topics: UK Government opts out of amended EU asylum directives; new reports from the Refugee Council, Home Office, and MIND; new detention centre refused planning permission; asylum-seeking children go missing from care; UNHCR releases resource folder on Zimbabwe, and Spain takes over presidency of the EU.



[December 2009 Update](#)

Topics in this update include: UKBA policy change on judicial review; Parliament's report on the work of the UKBA; UKBA Chief Inspector's annual report; a report on an unannounced inspection of Tinsley House Immigration Removal Centre; EU protection

figures for 2008; the Mayor of London's new refugee integration strategy; a Children's Society report on separated children at risk; a report by the Women's Asylum Charter at Asylum Aid, and categories exempted from further submissions in person.



[November 2009 Update](#)

This month's Update covers the following topics, among others: publication of the Draft Simplification Bill; Refugee Council briefing on proposed asylum support reform; UKBA's duty to safeguard children; new reports on mental health provision for refugees; MPs' report on the detention of children; new report on the impact of detention on children's health; Supreme Court victory for child asylum seekers, and new immigration statistics.



[October 2009 Update](#)

This month's update covers changes to making asylum applications and further submissions; research on asylum destitution in Scotland; the Government's returns policy to Zimbabwe; amendments to the European Common Asylum System; new research on the 'de-skilling' of refused asylum seekers, and new asylum figures for developed countries.



[September 2009 Update](#)

This month's update covers news of the UK's agreement to share fingerprints of asylum applicants with foreign governments; UKBA's move to replace refugee support and integration contracts; our statement on the closure of Calais migrant camp; EC preparations to offer sanctuary to more refugees; our briefing on entitlement to work, and UKBA plans to introduce a Section 4 payment card.



[August 2009 Update](#)

This update covers new guidance on housing for refugees; latest immigration and asylum statistics; a research report on outward migration from the UK; how to trace Case Resolution caseworkers; changes to enforcement guidance and instructions, and a new Refugee Council briefing on the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009.



[July 2009 Update](#)

This month's newsletter carries updates on the new Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act; cuts in asylum support rates; expansion of access to healthcare for refused asylum seekers, and new reports on asylum seeker education and skills, access to social housing, and evidence of the damage caused by long term immigration detention.



[June 2009 Update](#)

This update covers the UN refugee agency's latest annual statistical report; legal representation for asylum support appeals; UKBA's policy on the Zimbabwe Country Guidance of RN; wrongful refusal of legal aid for asylum appeals; language tests for Palestinian and Kuwaiti refugees; a report on the economic impact of irregular migration on the UK, and a report on Colnbrook detention centre.



[May 2009 Update](#)

This update covers access to employment for asylum seekers; age assessment; the new tribunals structure for immigration appeals; UNHCR audit of UK decision making in child asylum cases; alternative to detention pilot scheme; access to ESOL; quarterly asylum figures; asylum destitution; proposed protection rules; new EU asylum rules, and a House of Lords ruling on returns from UK to Greece.



[April 2009 Update](#)

This update covers the Children's Commissioner for England's report on the detention of children in Yarl's Wood; an update on the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill; asylum destitution; devolution of the Administrative Court, and ILPA's call on the Government to revert to the Country Guidance on Zimbabwe.



[March 2009 update](#)

Highlights in this month's update include the Court of Appeal's ruling on access to healthcare for refused asylum seekers, the UKBA's new policy on Zimbabwean cases, and UNHCR's new asylum figures for developed countries.



[February 2009 update](#)

This month's newsletter covers updates on case resolution, the Immigration and Citizenship Bill, new UK quarterly asylum statistics, and developments in the EU's common asylum policy.

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