

Migration news roundup 9 September 2024

Image
View of Houses of Parliament from bridge over river Thames

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Stories that inspired us this week

[Guillaume 'Junior' Atangana, a Bradford district Paralympian athlete, won a bronze in the T11 400m event at Paris 2024.](#) He wins the first-ever Paralympic medal for the Refugee Team. (Source: Telegraph and Argus)

[Sam Pordale, a 24-year-old from Afghanistan, celebrates his nomination for the Big Issue's Changemakers award of 2024.](#) (Source: Big Issue)?

International news

[Germany's migration commissioner has suggested the EU takes advantage of asylum facilities in Rwanda](#) for people arriving through Belarus without authorisation. (Source: Reuters)?

[The number of people attempting to cross the Channel from the UK to France is growing.](#) Some people used the UK as a way to enter France, some were at risk of being deported, and some found life in the UK difficult. (Source: InfoMigrants)?

UK borders and migration policy

From different quarters, the government is being urged to rethink how it frames migration issues. [This article argues for 'taking integration seriously again'](#) and that in the current economic and demographic context, politicians should capitalise on the UK's appeal to newcomers. [The government has also been urged to use the language of 'compassion and humanity'](#) to tackle community tensions about refugees and asylum seekers. Meanwhile, Conservative leadership candidate [Kemi Badenoch accused Home Office staff of ineffective border control due to being 'squeamish'](#). (Sources: the Guardian, Independent)?

[At least 12 people died this week attempting to cross the Channel,](#) after their boat suffered major damage. [A new UK-Germany joint action plan to address 'illegal' migration](#) focuses on tackling people smuggling gangs. (Sources: the Guardian, InfoMigrants)?

[The 2023/24 annual inspection report has been published](#) by the (interim) Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration, giving an overview of inspection findings for the year and planned topics for the coming year. (Source: Home Office)?

Specific migrant groups

On asylum:??

- [The government is scrapping plans for an asylum accommodation site at RAF Scampton](#) in Lincolnshire, due to high costs. (Source: Home Office)?
- A research report argues that [women seeking asylum who are accommodated in hotels face patterns of coercive and controlling practices](#) that perpetuate the gender based violence from which many have fled. (Source: Women for Refugee Women)??
- The Home Office has published [two updated country policy and information notes on Afghanistan](#) leading to [fears that there will be an increase in asylum refusals relating to that country](#). (Sources: Home Office, Free Movement)??
- [This report looks at homelessness among people whose asylum application got refused](#), finding rough sleeping, couch hopping and generally unstable accommodation. (Source: Jesuit Refugee Service)??

Relatedly, [this briefing explores housing difficulties faced by survivors of modern slavery who are awarded a positive asylum decision](#). It finds that councils have inconsistent approaches to considering homelessness applications for this cohort, that temporary accommodation can be unsuitable, and it can be unclear who should be providing support. (Source: Anti-Slavery International)?

Home Office data for the first half of 2024 shows that over [1,400 unaccompanied asylum seeking children who were age disputed were later found to be under 18](#). This data does not include the hundreds of children wrongly placed in adult asylum accommodation. (Source: The National)?

[Pre-settled status of EU nationals can now be cancelled at the border](#) if holders no longer meet or never met the requirements under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). In other news, [four Nigerian nationals have been sentenced for forging more than 2,000 marriage certificates](#) designed to support non-EU family members stay in the UK under the EUSS. (Sources: Schengen News, Home Office)?

On international students:?

- [A recent investigation documents how international students have been deceived by fraudulent recruitment agents](#) into paying for work visa documentation for the care sector that was unnecessary or invalid. (Source: BBC)??

- [This article analyses the potential effects of the fall in international students attending UK institutions](#) beyond university income, including the effect on local economies, the national income, and the UK's international reputation. (Source: Higher Education Policy Institute)?

Cohesion and integration

Read how [Migrant Centres in London and the West Midlands have been reaching out to individuals following the far-right riots](#), to make sure they do not feel alone and to provide a sense of solidarity. (Source: Independent) ?

[Bradford is preparing for its next Intercultured Festival](#) from 21 October. The event will celebrate Bradford's migrant and refugee communities and unite people in this City of Sanctuary. (Source: BBC)?

Contact us about research

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