

BRISTOL
ONE CITY



Bristol City Council – supporting people with NRPF

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BRISTOL CITY OF SANCTUARY

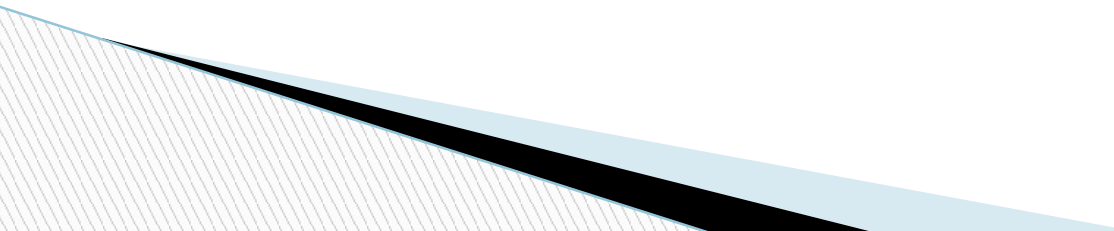


Building a City of Welcome, Safety and Hope

Bristol City of Sanctuary



Background – Pre Covid

- Ambition- nobody would have to sleep rough in Bristol.
 - Our [Homelessness & Rough Sleeping Strategy](#) sets an objective to end rough sleeping in Bristol by 2027
 - Implement a [Refugee & Asylum Seeker Inclusion Strategy](#), and its purpose is to:
 - Live up to our designation as a City of Sanctuary.
 - Provide a platform for increasing strategic coherence across the corporate body on refugee issues.
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Everyone In

- We had about 400 in hotel accommodation, & out of these in total about 75 are people subject to NRPF

This work was coordinated & led by our **Housing Options** with support from Mayor's Office & voluntary sector.

What we have done?

A) We set up two Task groups:

1. EEA National Move-on
 2. Asylum seekers Move-on
- Through the Adult Care service- a new Homeless Move-on service /Team was established important to carry out assessments & make referrals eg to our Asylum Team to support in the following ways:
 1. Human Rights Assessments
 - Weekly operational and bi-weekly move on meetings held with relevant agencies.
 - This is an opportunity for updates and information to be shared with action plans set in place for each **ineligible client** who is resident in the hotels.

What we have done to support EEA nationals with NRPF?

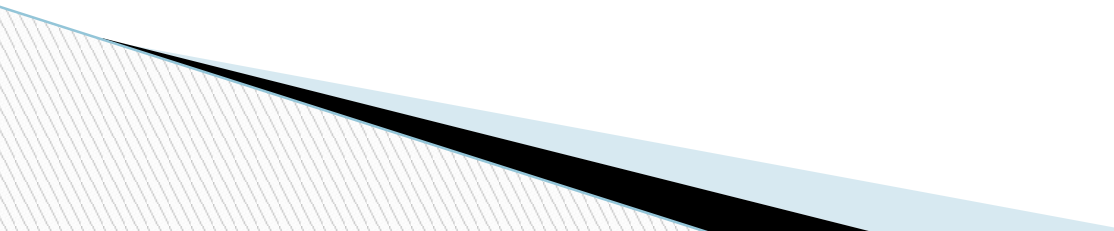
- Provided welfare benefits advice & support through our Welfare Rights and Money Advice Service.
- Offered training and work based learning courses.
- Encouraged / signposted to specific advice agencies to apply EUSS or pre-settled status.
- Currently we have 55-60 people accommodated in temporary accommodation by our Housing Options Service.

What we have done for asylum seekers with NRPF?

- Through the task group some individuals received legal advice & support from refugee agencies
- Homeless Move-On Service
- Through our WeAreBristol campaign, our External & Public Relations team promoted a joint appeal with Bristol Hospitality Network for more hosts across Bristol.
- Engaged the media on the impact of NRPF to communities to raise awareness eg Mayor wrote to the Prime Minister, produced blogs and held media interviews locally, nationally & internationally.

Plans for the future?

There are a few things we can do as a Council in response to this situation:

- Promote the Settled Status Scheme and try to ensure that as many people as possible in Bristol get Settled Status as soon as possible.
 - Employment support for EEA nationals
 - Exploring partnership working with the Law Centre, private law firm and both our universities to run legal 'clinics' for people subject to NRPF.
 - Ensure that the Asylum Team has the skills, expertise and resources to meet the scale of the challenge.
 - One of our local Night Shelter, offered funds to support 9 people NRPF currently in hotel.
 - Work with others to lobby Government to suspend/scrap/ameliorate the NRPF status.
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“We are committed to being a city of welcome, safety & hope for all, where everyone shares in its success”



Mayor Marvin Rees



THANK YOU!