

# Introduction to NRPF: No Recourse to Public Funds

We provide informal training for organisations working with people with an immigration status including 'NRPF'

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Equalities Participation Network  
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**No Recourse  
North East**  
Partnership





# What are Public Funds?

- income-based jobseeker's allowance
- income support
- child tax credit
- universal credit
- working tax credit
- a social fund payment (including the Scottish Welfare Fund)
- child, housing and council tax benefits
- council tax reduction
- state pension credit
- attendance allowance
- severe disablement allowance
- adult disability payment
- carer's allowance
- disability living allowance
- an allocation of local authority housing or local authority homelessness assistance

# Public Funds and Housing

**Not available** to those with NRPF status:

Local Authority housing (including emergency temporary accommodation) **is** counted as a Public Fund, either directly or when a local authority nominates a person to a housing association under a nomination agreement, (or to discharge homelessness duties) - this would be a public fund for immigration purposes.

**Available**

Housing may be applied for via the Private Rental Sector or a Registered Social Landlord (unless nominated by the LA) and thereafter people with NRPF have the same rights as any other tenant in the UK.

## The reality of living with NRPF

“We went through episodes of Anxiety and depression. At times I even wanted to give up. Glad I didn't. But no one should go through this kind of suffering especially when it is not their fault.”

-what support is available when things go wrong?

# Status =NRPF

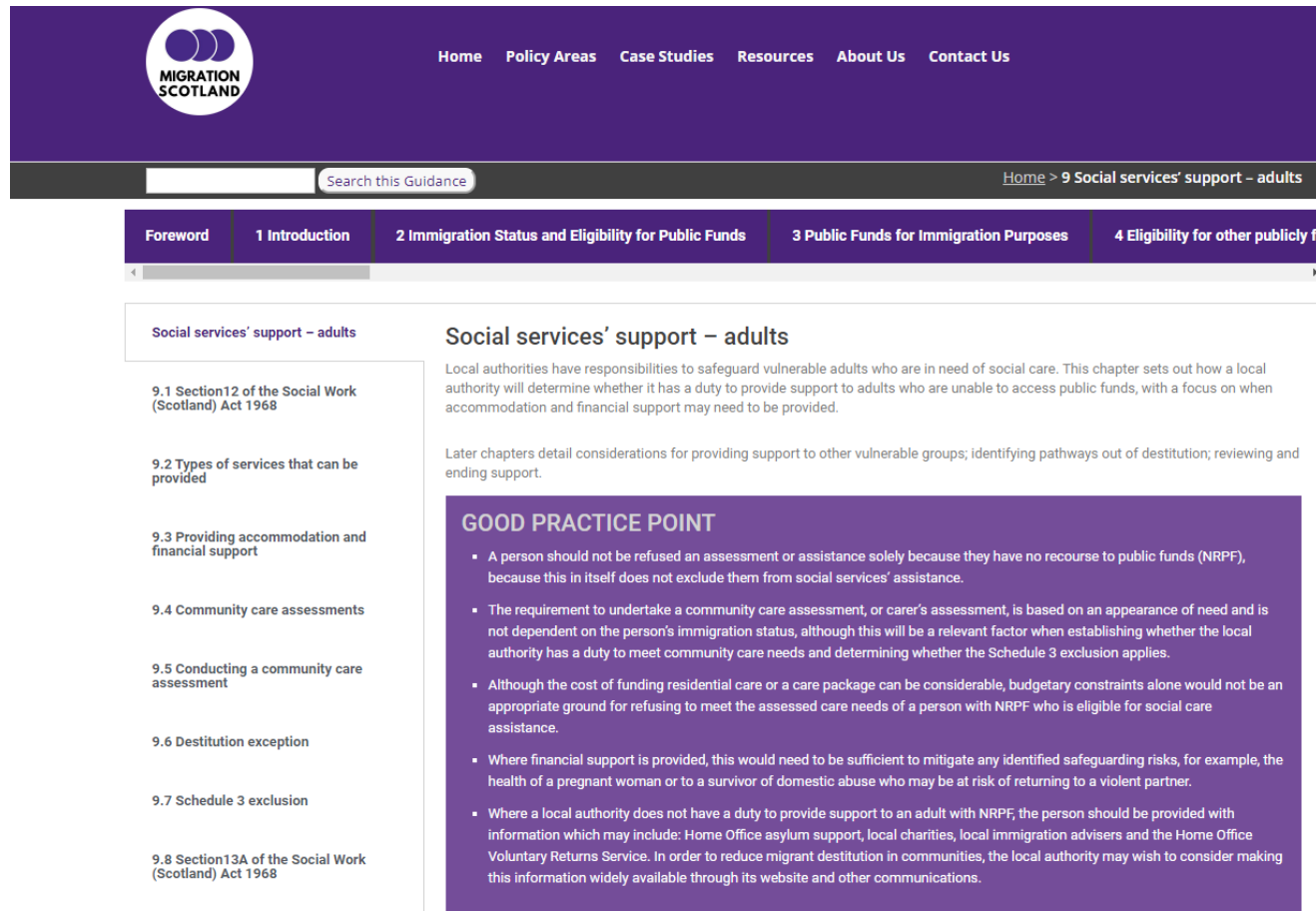
## what support is available?

**There is some support which can depend on the situation or a particular problem:**

- Family with children
- Domestic Abuse
- Relationship Breakdown
- Redundancy
- Delay in Visa Applications/Extensions
- Visa Refusals and Visa Over Stayers
- Ill Health or Death of a family member

# Social Services Support

<https://migrationscotland.org.uk/migrants-rights-and-entitlements/>



The screenshot shows the Migration Scotland website interface. At the top, there is a purple navigation bar with the Migration Scotland logo and a menu with links: Home, Policy Areas, Case Studies, Resources, About Us, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a search bar and a breadcrumb trail: Home > 9 Social services' support – adults. A secondary navigation bar contains tabs for: Foreword, 1 Introduction, 2 Immigration Status and Eligibility for Public Funds, 3 Public Funds for Immigration Purposes, and 4 Eligibility for other publicly funded services. The main content area is titled 'Social services' support – adults' and includes a table of contents on the left with links to sections 9.1 through 9.8. The main text area contains an introductory paragraph, a 'GOOD PRACTICE POINT' section with a list of bullet points, and a concluding paragraph.

**Social services' support – adults**

Local authorities have responsibilities to safeguard vulnerable adults who are in need of social care. This chapter sets out how a local authority will determine whether it has a duty to provide support to adults who are unable to access public funds, with a focus on when accommodation and financial support may need to be provided.

Later chapters detail considerations for providing support to other vulnerable groups; identifying pathways out of destitution; reviewing and ending support.

**GOOD PRACTICE POINT**

- A person should not be refused an assessment or assistance solely because they have no recourse to public funds (NRPF), because this in itself does not exclude them from social services' assistance.
- The requirement to undertake a community care assessment, or carer's assessment, is based on an appearance of need and is not dependent on the person's immigration status, although this will be a relevant factor when establishing whether the local authority has a duty to meet community care needs and determining whether the Schedule 3 exclusion applies.
- Although the cost of funding residential care or a care package can be considerable, budgetary constraints alone would not be an appropriate ground for refusing to meet the assessed care needs of a person with NRPF who is eligible for social care assistance.
- Where financial support is provided, this would need to be sufficient to mitigate any identified safeguarding risks, for example, the health of a pregnant woman or to a survivor of domestic abuse who may be at risk of returning to a violent partner.
- Where a local authority does not have a duty to provide support to an adult with NRPF, the person should be provided with information which may include: Home Office asylum support, local charities, local immigration advisers and the Home Office Voluntary Returns Service. In order to reduce migrant destitution in communities, the local authority may wish to consider making this information widely available through its website and other communications.

# What other support is available?

## Entitlements

- Education services up to age 18
- Student grants and loans
- Legal aid (means-tested criteria)
- Housing via Private Rental Sector or Registered Social Landlord and the same rights as any other tenant in the UK
- Certain work-related benefits including:

Contribution based Jobseeker's Allowance or Employment and Support Allowance **if** enough NI Contributions have been made previously



# Support for Migrant Families 1

- The **NRPF Network** has a support tool online to help migrant families
- It is in partnership with **COMPAS** (The University of Oxford's Centre on Migration, Policy and Society)

## Support for migrant families

This tool has been created in partnership between the [NRPF Network](#) and [COMPAS](#), with funding from the Legal Education Foundation.

**NRPF**  
NETWORK

No  
Recourse  
to Public  
Funds

**COMPAS**  
CENTRE ON  
MIGRATION,  
POLICY AND  
SOCIETY

The  
Legal  
Education  
Foundation

Find out where migrant families can get help with housing and financial support when they have no recourse to public funds (NRPF).

### Support Options

Find out what help may be available

Start

### Use this tool to find out if a person:

May be able to claim benefits and social housing

May be able to get help from social services

Might need to seek immigration advice

You can use this tool if you are a person needing help, adviser, or local authority

<https://migrantfamilies.nrpfnetwork.org.uk/>

# Support for Migrants 2

## **The No Accommodation Network (NACCOM)**

NACCOM is a national network of over 140 frontline organisations and charities across the UK, working together to end destitution amongst people seeking asylum, refugees and other migrants who are not able to access to public funds because of their immigration status.

<https://nacom.org.uk/>



They will also refer on offers of hosting within their network.

# Other Accommodation Support for Migrants



## **Positive Action in Housing**

<https://www.paih.org/resources/category/housing-and-homelessnes>

They are based in Glasgow but help people throughout Scotland and the rest of the UK.

### **Lifeline Destitution Service**

Crisis intervention for destitute or insecurely housed refugees and asylum seekers.

### **Emergency Relief Fund**

The fund is paid for by donations by members of the public. Referral partners who register with Positive Action in Housing can also access the fund.

### **Rooms for Refugees**

Room For Refugees is a community hosting network that offers safe, temporary homes and pastoral support for insecurely housed refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable groups.



# Where to get help in Scotland?

It is important to ensure that the individual with NRPF is referred for specialist advice at as early a stage as possible.

## **Housing Advice**

- Shelter Scotland!

## **Immigration Advice**

- Ethnic Minorities Law Centre Tel: 0141 204 2888
- Latta and Co Tel: 0141 222 2185

# Where to get help in Scotland?

## Money and Debt Advice

- Citizens Advice Bureaux <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland/immigration/>

## Domestic abuse

- Scottish Women's Aid <https://womensaid.scot/>  
Helpline: **0800 027 1234** Email: [helpline@sdafmh.org.uk](mailto:helpline@sdafmh.org.uk)
- Shakti <https://shaktiedinburgh.co.uk/services/> Tel 0131 475 2399

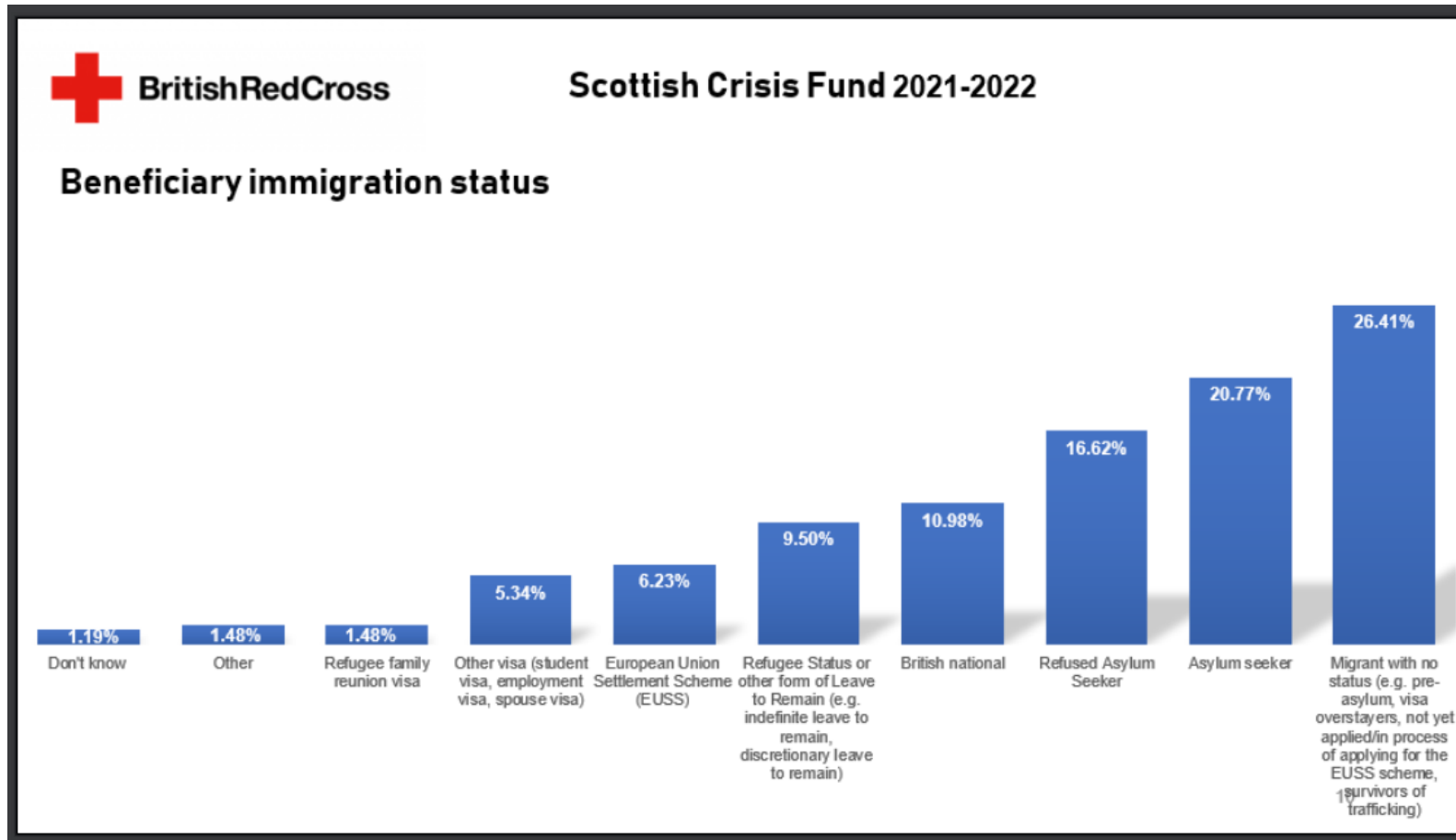
## General

Regional Equality Councils e.g. Grampian (GREC)

[info@grec.co.uk](mailto:info@grec.co.uk) Tel. 01224 595505

Services include support and advice for individuals and communities; translation and interpreting; counselling for adults and young people; language cafés and English classes; financial inclusion work; information campaigns; research

# Where to get local help when working with someone who is appeals rights exhausted (ARE) with NRPF



British  
Red  
Cross  
Scottish  
Crisis  
Fund

# Follow -up

- NRNE website at:  
[nrnepartnership.org](http://nrnepartnership.org)
- Training materials and resources

## Any Questions?