

SUB REGIONAL MIGRATION GROUPS (SRMGs) – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

1. The purpose of the SRMGs is to assist the Strategic Migration Group (SMG) to provide a strategic leadership, advisory and coordination function in the region and to provide a forum for senior representatives of LAs, Police, Health, Home Office, asylum accommodation and support contract providers and other key partners (including representatives from the voluntary sector) within sub regions.

Core Responsibilities

2. The SRMGs core responsibilities include:
 - Facilitating strategic debate on migration issues among partners in the sub-regions to assist SMG in the development of a strategic approach to promoting the benefits of migration into the region and minimising any adverse impacts.
 - Considering the benefits and impact of migration and identifying changes in migration patterns and developing joint strategies to respond to these.
 - Contributing to the development and implementation of local, regional and national migration policy.
 - Planning and taking action together – particularly when there are cross boundary migration issues.
 - Working with local delivery partners to design and oversee delivery of services that meet migrants' needs in the Yorkshire and Humber region.
 - Agreeing, managing and reviewing a protocol for partnership working and information sharing amongst all participants.
 - Receiving and reviewing regular and detailed reports from providers on the management of the asylum accommodation and support contracts - including considering the potential impact in local communities of the management of these contracts.
 - Considering statistical reports from the Home Office, Migration Yorkshire and the asylum accommodation provider, in conjunction with SMG, agree and monitor the cluster policy for asylum dispersals in the region.
 - Sharing examples of good practice within the sub-region for the benefit of the region as a whole.
 - Taking a sub-regional overview of how local Multi-Agency groups are functioning and share good practice on how to develop effective groups in localities.
 - Providing a forum where the views of voluntary groups and migrants themselves can be heard at a senior and more regional level.

Accountability and Key Relationships

3. The Home Office provides funding for Migration Yorkshire to support SMG and SRMGs in order to cover the wider migration agenda and their impacts on local

areas. This includes economic migration and considering how the region could maximise its benefits.

4. The activities of the SMG are detailed in the relevant section of the business plan. This is currently agreed by members of the SMG, the Home Office and local authority Leaders, providing three-way accountability.

Working Arrangements

Ways of Working

5. Wherever possible business will be conducted on the basis of consensus. However, should a ballot be required, each member will have one vote.

Chairing Arrangements

6. Each SRMG will be chaired by a sub regional local authority representative (member or officer) on SMG.
7. The Chair is appointed for a one year term in line with SMG membership.

Membership

8. The core membership of each SRMG will be:
 - Senior officers/members from each Local Authority within the sub region
 - Home Office
 - Asylum Accommodation Provider
 - Asylum Advice Provider
 - Key Voluntary/Community Sector Representatives
 - Police
 - Health Sector
9. Further representation may be sought on an *ad hoc* basis to respond flexibly to issues that arise.

Secretariat Support

10. Secretariat and policy support will be provided by the Migration Yorkshire officer team.

Meeting Arrangements

11. Each SRMG will meet a minimum of three times per year.