



Moving on from asylum accommodation:

The impact and learning from councils on the asylum backlog clearance

Research Report

May - June 2024



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Summary

Background

In May 2024, the Local Government Association (LGA) worked with the local government associations across the UK and Strategic Migration Partnerships to conduct an online survey of councils in England, Scotland and Wales regarding the impact/s arising from the asylum backlog. The survey gathered the views of how authorities have experienced impacts from the cessation of support for asylum seekers. The survey also looked to identify which potential initiatives respondents thought could help on reducing costs and impacts to councils and also help to build a more effective move on process in the long term. A total of 92 responses were received from individual local authorities across England, Scotland and Wales resulting in a final response rate of 25 per cent.

Key findings

Impacts:

- Nine-tenths of respondents (90 per cent) said the cessation of support for asylum seekers that have received a positive or negative asylum decision between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had led to additional pressures on council staff and wider services.
- Nearly nine-tenths of respondents (89 per cent) said the cessation of support for asylum seekers had led to a rise in homelessness presentations to their local authority.
- Around three-fifths of respondents (61 per cent) said it had led to increased street homelessness whilst 55 per cent said it had led to increased destitution.

Reducing costs and impacts:

- An 'extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act' was identified as the initiative most likely to

reduce costs and impacts to respondent councils as part of the Home Office backlog clearance programme.

- 'Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim' was identified as the second most likely initiative to reduce costs and impacts.
- 'Funding for move on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture) and 'funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim' were identified as the third and fourth most likely initiatives to reduce costs and impacts.

More effective move-on process:

- The initiative identified as most likely to build a more effective move on process in the longer term if it was put in place nationally and locally was an 'extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act.
- 'Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim' was identified as the second most likely initiative to build a more effective move-on process.
- 'Funding for move on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture) and 'funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim' were seen as the third and fourth most likely initiatives respectively.

Introduction

In order to meet commitments to reduce the backlog of those waiting for decisions on their asylum claim and reduce hotel use, the Home Office introduced a 'Streamlined Asylum Process' (SAP) in the summer of 2023 in order to expediate cases from the countries receiving the highest number of positive decisions. Accommodation and support are provided by the Home Office's contracted providers until a decision is made on adults and families' asylum claims. The survey asked for responses from councils on their role in supporting those moving on from their accommodation after receiving decisions on their asylum claim between 1 August 2023 to 31 March 2024, both as part of the SAP and the 'legacy' cohorts.

Councils provide a range of statutory and non-statutory support to asylum seekers and newly recognised refugees as part of the move on process, including providing temporary or permanent accommodation for households owed a homelessness relief duty and wider integration support such as supporting access to benefits and employment, working closely with partners across health, government and the faith, community and voluntary sector, with further examples outlined on page 29.

Whilst local government welcomed people receiving quicker decisions on their asylum claim, the scale and pace of the move on from asylum accommodation placed significant pressure on councils, [particularly given a lack of funding and existing pressures on affordable accommodation](#). The survey has been designed to help the LGA try and better understand the impact of the asylum backlog clearance. The results will also help inform discussions with Government on how best to create a cross-system approach that allows for a planned move on from asylum accommodation in a way that minimises negative impacts for local partners and communities and ensures better outcomes for people receiving their decisions, moving on from asylum accommodation, and rebuilding their lives in the UK.

The Local Government Associations are keen to work across government on the learning from the report and the suggestions for improvement to the move on

process, and to inform the next asylum backlog clearance plan following the [Home Office's recent announcement](#).

Methodology

The LGA launched an online survey which was open to respondents for around three weeks between 22 May and 12 June 2024. Designed by the LGA's Research and Information Team, it was sent to key contacts in all councils in England, Scotland and Wales, by Strategic Migration Partnerships. A total of 92 responses were received from individual local authorities out of a possible 371, resulting in a response rate of 25 per cent. This level of response means that these respondents should not necessarily be taken to be widely representative of the views of all asylum and resettlement leads/key contacts. Rather, they are a snapshot of the views of this particular group of respondents.

The full set of survey questions is included in [Annex A](#) for information.

In addition, the following points should be noted about the research methodology:

- The bases from which percentages were calculated vary throughout the survey, as not all respondents were shown all questions, and some questions were optional, meaning that some respondents chose not to answer them.
- Numbers and percentages are provided for any questions where the base was less than 50. Care should be taken in interpreting percentages in these cases, as the small total number could magnify otherwise small differences. To calculate the number of respondents who provided a certain response for other questions, simply multiply the percentage provided by the base.
- Throughout the report, percentages in figures and tables may add to more than 100 per cent due to rounding. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole per cent.

Response rates

As Table 1 shows, by council type, the response rate was highest from English unitary authorities (46 per cent) and lowest from county councils (14 per cent).

Table 1: Response rate by type of council

Type of council	Number of councils	Number of responses	Response rate
English councils	317	83	26%
County	21	3	14%
District	164	26	16%
London borough	33	10	30%
Metropolitan district	36	15	42%
Unitary	63	29	46%
Scottish councils	32	5	16%
Welsh councils	22	4	18%
Total	371	92	25%

Regionally, as shown in Table 2, the response rate was highest from the North East (58 per cent) and lowest from the East (10 per cent).

Table 2: Response rate by region and nation

Region/Country	Number of councils	Number of responses	Response rate
England	317	83	26%
East	50	5	10%
East Midlands	39	8	21%
London	33	10	30%
North East	12	7	58%
North West	36	19	53%
South East	70	11	16%
South West	29	8	28%
West Midlands	33	9	27%
Yorkshire and Humber	15	6	40%
Scotland	32	5	16%
Wales	22	4	18%
Total	371	92	25%

Asylum Backlog Clearance

This section contains analysis of the full results from the survey.

Impacts

Respondents were asked what impact/s, if any, the cessation of support for asylum seekers that had received positive or negative asylum decisions between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had on their local authority.

- Nine-tenths of respondents (90 per cent) said it had led to additional pressures on council staff and wider services.
- A further 89 per cent said it had led to a rise in homelessness presentations to their local authority.
- Around three-fifths of respondents (61 per cent) said it had led to increased street homelessness whilst 55 per cent said it had led to increased destitution.
- A third of respondents gave an 'other' response which covered themes such as an increased financial strain, increased pressures on housing and accommodation, a negative impact on the safety and well-being of staff and volunteers, increased community and social tension as well as an increase in service demand.

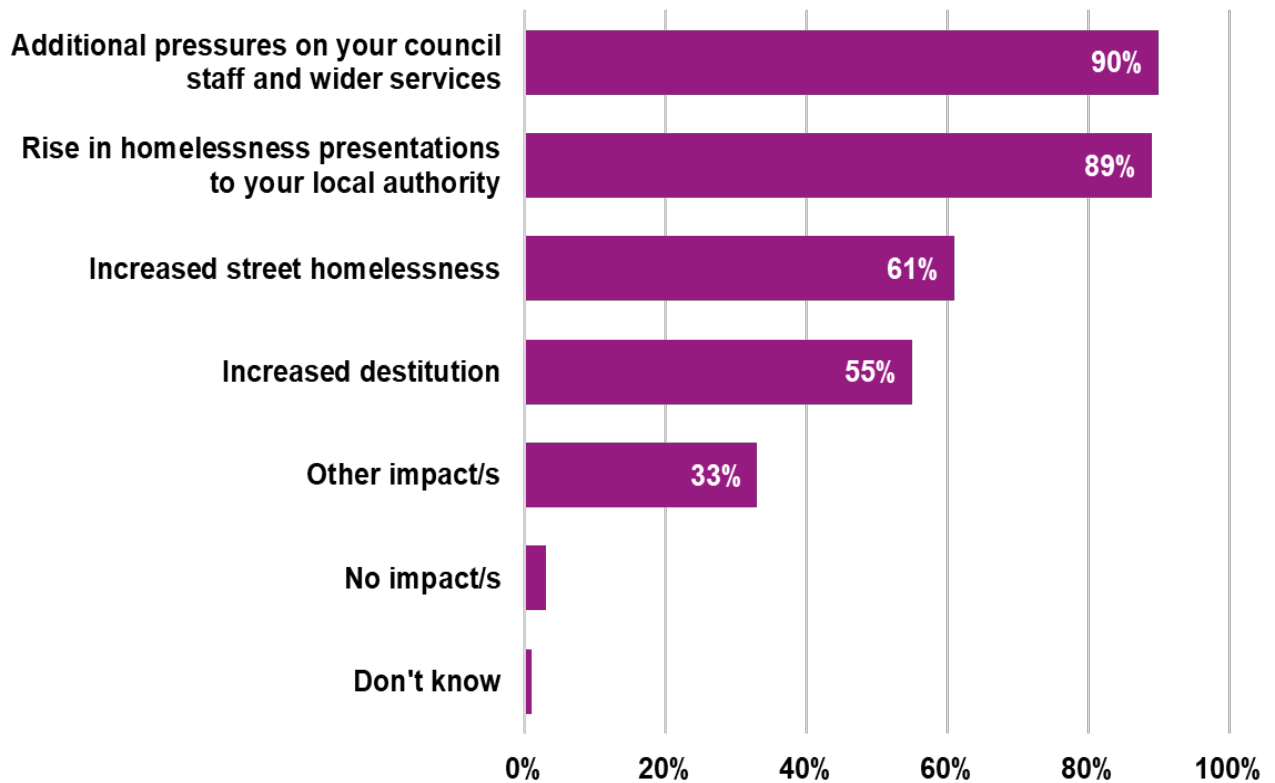
The results for this question are shown in Table 3 and Figure 1 below.

Table 3: What impact/s, if any, has the cessation of support for asylum seekers that have received positive or negative asylum decisions between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had on your local authority?

	Number	Per cent
Additional pressures on your council staff and wider services	83	90%
Rise in homelessness presentations to your local authority	82	89%
Increased street homelessness	56	61%
Increased destitution	51	55%
Other impact/s	30	33%
No impact/s	3	3%
Don't know	1	1%

Unweighted base: All respondents (92). Please note that respondents could select more than one option.

Figure 1: What impact/s, if any, has the cessation of support for asylum seekers that have received positive or negative asylum decisions between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had on your local authority?



Unweighted base: All respondents (92). Please note that respondents could select more than one option.

Reducing costs and impacts

Respondents were asked to select up to their top five actual or potential initiatives which have had, or could have had, the most significant impact on reducing costs and impacts to their council, as part of the asylum backlog clearance programme between 1 August 2023 and 31 March 2024. They were then asked to rank those initiatives from one to five in terms of which one would have, or could have had, the most significant impact (one being the most significant, two being the second most significant, and so on). These rankings were then calculated using a form of

descriptive analysis using the ranking scale data. The way the ranking scale data was calculated was that each initiative was given a score based upon a respondent's ranking. So, for example if a respondent ranked 'faster access to benefits' first, then it would receive a score of five whereas if 'faster access to benefits' was ranked fifth, then it would receive a total score of one. If an initiative was not selected by a respondent then it would score 0. The results for each respondent would then be added up creating an overall ranking score for each initiative. The maximum possible score that could result from this calculation would have been 440 if all 88 respondents for this question had ranked a specific initiative first.

Table 4 below shows that:

- An 'extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act' was the highest ranked initiative with a total ranking score of 291.
- 'Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim' was the second highest ranking initiative with a total ranking score of 218.
- 'Funding for move on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture)' was the third highest ranking initiative with a score of 198.
- 'Funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim' was the fourth highest ranked initiative with a score of 141.
- Six councils gave an 'other' initiative with comments calling for increased funding for councils in providing asylum accommodation in a similar manner to resettlement support, more funding for councils to cover the cost of hotel and temporary accommodation, more conversations around the delivery of more affordable accommodation, wider integration support post decisions and ensuring that accommodation needs to be in areas where rents are affordable.

Table 4: Of the options you have selected please rank which of the actual or potential initiatives, have had, or could have had, the most significant impact on reducing costs and impacts to your council as part of the current asylum backlog clearance programme?

Actual of potential initiative	Score
Extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act	291
Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim	218
Funding for move-on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture)	198
Funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim	141
Additional funding support for the voluntary and community sector and other key partners	80
Improved sharing of personal data of asylum decisions from Home Office or Providers	76
Improved data from Home Office or Providers on planned asylum decisions and asylum support cessations after receiving a decision	71
Meeting agreed notice periods before people have to leave accommodation	55
Faster access to benefits	47
Pause in cessations of support (for those that have received asylum decisions) during extreme weather	26
Quicker issuing of Biometric Residence Permits (BRPs)	24
Clear and consistent communications and engagement across local partners for people in all types of asylum accommodation	20

Clear and effective channels for escalation	19
Home Office/other government staff to be placed in asylum accommodation	13
Faster access to ESOL	9
Other	21
Don't know	0
None	0

Unweighted base: All respondents who answered the question (88).

Building a more effective move on process in the longer term

Respondents were asked to select up to five of the top actual or potential initiatives from the same list, which they thought should be put in place nationally and locally to build a more effective move on process in the longer term. They were then asked to rank those initiatives from one to five in terms of which one would have, or could have had, the most significant impact. Those rankings were again calculated using the same form of descriptive analysis using the ranking scale data.

Table 5 below shows that:

- An 'extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act' was the highest ranked initiative with a total ranking score of 278.
- 'Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision their claim' was the second highest ranking initiative with a total ranking score of 190.
- 'Funding for move on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture)' was the third highest ranking initiative with a score of 169.

- 'Funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim' was the fourth highest ranked initiative with a score of 152.
- Seven councils gave an 'other' initiative with comments calling for funding to cover the cost of hotel and temporary accommodation, funding for councils to provide wider/longer term support from the date on which they receive a decision on their claim, looking at local housing markets to determine where accommodation numbers should be and not just by population, longer term integration support and councils/Home Office procuring houses in multiple occupation (HMO) beds to move people into who aren't suitable for supported accommodation.

Table 5: Of the options you have selected, please rank which of the actual or potential initiatives you think should be put in place nationally and locally to build a more effective move on process in the longer term?

Actual or potential initiatives	Score
Extension to the 28-day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act	278
Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim	190
Funding for move-on accommodation (first months' rent, deposits, furniture)	169
Funding for councils to provide early intervention and support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim	152
Faster access to benefits	59
Additional funding support for the voluntary and community sector and other key partners	58
Improved data from Home Office or Providers on planned asylum decisions and asylum support cessations after receiving a decision	51
Improved sharing of personal data of asylum decisions from Home Office or Providers	44
Meeting agreed notice periods before people have to leave accommodation	43
Quicker issuing of Biometric Residence Permits (BRPs)	42
Home Office/other government staff to be placed in asylum accommodation	25
Clear and effective channels for escalation	21

Clear and consistent communications and engagement across local partners for people in all types of asylum accommodation	19
Pause in cessations of support (for those that have received asylum decisions) during extreme weather	18
Faster access to ESOL	6
Other	22
Don't know	0
None	0

Unweighted base: All respondents who answered the question (81).

Number of people helped to move on

Respondents were then asked how many people their council had helped to move on from asylum accommodation once they had received a positive or negative decision on their status and had notice that their asylum support was to cease between 1 August 2023 and 31 March 2024. Please refer to page 29 for more information on the various ways in which councils can provide move on support.

It is understood that some councils wouldn't have recorded the number of people that had their support ceased following an asylum decision or the number of people they have supported. Of the 92 councils who responded to this survey, 55 were able to provide a response to this question. Of the 55 councils who responded to this question, the average number of people helped per council was 215. The total number of people supported by councils when moving on from asylum accommodation, from all 55 councils that responded, was 11819.

Table 6 shows the number of councils from each region that responded to this question, and of those who responded, the total number of people that these councils had helped move on. It is worth noting that these numbers should be treated with caution due to the response rate, but they provide a snapshot of the numbers of people that councils have supported.

Table 6: Number of people helped to move on, by region

Region	No. of responses	No. of people moved on
East	3	222
East Midlands	6	81
London	6	2894
North East	3	462
North West	12	2838
Scotland	5	1829
South East	5	992
South West	4	634
Wales	3	23
West Midlands	5	733
Yorkshire and Humber	3	1111
Total	55	11819

Unweighted base: All respondents who answered the question (55).

The 55 respondents were then also asked what data sources they had used to answer how many people their council had helped to move on from asylum accommodation. A range of data sources were supplied including, but not limited to, their Homelessness Case Level Information Collection (H-CLIC) statistical return, Discontinuation data provided by the Home Office, data from Home Office providers (i.e. daily notifications data), and internal systems/records such as Locata and homelessness databases.

Costs to councils

Respondents were then asked to share the total costs that their council has faced that can be directly attributed to supporting those that have left asylum accommodation and had their asylum support ceased after having an asylum decision between 1 August 2023 and 31 March 2024. The examples of costs that could be included when answering this question are included in [Annex A](#).

Overall, 24 councils were able to provide a response to this question. Given that the number of responses cover a small number of the overall councils, the results must be interpreted cautiously as they may not be representative of all councils generally. It is not possible to attribute the below figure to all councils in England, Scotland and Wales due to the low response rate, but this figure can provide a snapshot of the costs faced by responding councils to this question. Of the 24 councils who responded, the average total costs that councils had faced during this period was £852,900.

It is worth highlighting that there was variation in the answers provided. For example, three respondents said their council had faced zero costs, one London borough said their total cost faced was £10,000,000, one Metropolitan district said £5,540,200 with a further Metropolitan district stating a cost of £1,671,100. Please note that these figures have been rounded to the nearest £100.

The 21 councils who provided a figure that wasn't zero were then asked to what extent, if at all, that cost was covered by the asylum dispersal grant funding in order to illustrate the resource impacts on them. One council (5 per cent) answered to a great extent. Just over a tenth of councils (14 per cent) answered to a moderate extent whilst almost two thirds (62 per cent) said to a small extent. Two councils (10 per cent) said the cost was not covered by the asylum dispersal grant funding. A further two councils (10 per cent) were unsure. The results to this question are shown in Table 7.

Table 7: To what extent, if at all, would you say this cost is covered by the asylum dispersal grant funding?

	Number	Per cent
To a great extent	1	5%
To a moderate extent	3	14%
To a small extent	13	62%
Not at all	2	10%
Don't know	2	10%

Unweighted base: All respondents who answered the question (21).

Further comments

Respondents were asked to provide any further comments or suggestions on the topics covered in the survey. Overall, 38 respondents gave further comments relating to themes such as the impact of asylum seekers on local services, administrative and operational issues, policy concerns, implications for social cohesion, the economic burden and also policy recommendations.

A number of respondents made comments around the **impact that the Home Office asylum backlog clearance had on local services**. These comments highlighted the strain on local housing services due to the number of asylum seekers and refugees receiving decisions at pace with local authorities struggling to provide adequate temporary and permanent accommodation. Some of these comments highlighted the need for more financial resources for local authorities and voluntary sectors to support asylum seekers.

“We only began receiving asylum seeking families in November 2022. We now have a small, but steadily increasing population of asylum-seeking families and 4 single people.”

Welsh Unitary authority

“Funding for the Local Authority and the Voluntary sector to support individuals who have received either a positive or negative decision is crucial. This funding would ensure that we can adequately care for these vulnerable individuals, providing the appropriate support according to their needs.”

County council

“The significant cost to the LA in relation to those coming from asylum route is not even remotely touched by the funding we receive from the government for this purpose.”

Unitary authority

Another common theme mentioned by respondents was around **administrative and operational issues**. Here comments emphasized the need for more detailed data on asylum seekers to plan and deliver services effectively with further calls for better coordination and improved methods for identifying where to place asylum seekers, considering local housing markets and availability.

“More data about individuals who are due to be/have been given a decision needed to be able to plan for/deliver services/assess impacts.”

District council

“The Home Office MUST get more sophisticated in how it assesses where to procure asylum accommodation and has to base some if not all of their assessment on where the households are likely to be able to afford to live after they are granted their status.”

District council

Respondents also made comments on **legislative and policy concerns**.

Respondents mentioned the impact of specific policies on asylum seekers and local services, as well as the short notice periods for leaving asylum accommodation creating significant challenges for local authorities in preventing homelessness.

“My big concern is the impact of the Illegal Migration Act if this places would-be asylum seekers in permanent limbo.”

Welsh Unitary authority

“By far the biggest challenge is the notice period from HO accommodation, there simply is not enough time for us to work with people to prevent homelessness.”

Unitary authority

Respondents also made comments referring to the broader implications for **social cohesion and community resources**, with a need for comprehensive support services, including health, education and social integration.

“Consider and consult on collaborative efforts to support the social integration of refugees.”

London borough

“These families need support to understand everyday living in the UK, supporting children into school, ESOL classes, access to benefits, household bills and work.”

District council

Respondents also mentioned the **cost and economic burden**. Comments pointed towards the significant financial burden placed on local authorities due to the costs associated with providing temporary accommodation and other services, alongside other additional costs such as staff time and legal challenges.

“Our overall budget was overspent by 208k.”

District council

“We have recruited an additional fixed term housing solutions officer to develop the refugee pathway in response to the demands.”

Metropolitan district

“We can confirm that a significant financial burden has been placed on our temporary accommodation budget and homeless prevention grant.”

Unitary authority

Comments also made references to **policy recommendations and requests**.

Respondent’s recommendations included allowing asylum seekers to work in skill shortage areas and more equitable distribution of asylum seekers across regions as well as an emphasis on the need for collaborative efforts between local authorities and other stakeholders to address challenges.

“Asylum Seekers should be allowed to take up employment in areas of skill shortages pending decision on asylum application.”

Metropolitan district

“We would like more opportunity to work with HO and CS colleagues to deliver information to set expectations and educate service users.”

Unitary authority

“Additionally, extending the eviction notice period would be beneficial. This would give services time to ensure support in place preventing homelessness effectively.”

County council

“It is also important to note that the Home Office process does not set people up for success (short turnaround, delays and errors with BRPS) – we have only avoided increases in street homelessness and destitution thanks to a proactive Outreach team supporting new refugees with the move on process, which takes up a lot of staff capacity.”

London borough

Conclusion

This report shows the impact of the asylum decision-making backlog clearance between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had a significant impact on local authorities across the UK. The majority of respondents indicated that it led to increased pressures on council staff and wider services, a rise in homelessness presentations to their local authority, and increased street homelessness and destitution within their communities.

The majority of respondents also indicated that extending the notice period from 28 to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act would be the single most effective change to the current process. Respondents also highlighted the need for funding for councils, both to enable councils and other partners to provide immediate move on support but also to enable more upstream support well ahead of people receiving a decision on their asylum claim.

We are keen to use the learning from the report to work with councils and across central government to work towards an end-to-end, cross system and placed based approach that reduces homelessness risks, utilises and funds councils and their partners' services and expertise, and delivers effective integration outcomes for individuals, families and their new communities.

Annex A: Questionnaire

Survey on the impact of the asylum backlog clearance on councils

The scale and pace of the move on from asylum accommodation, from the asylum backlog clearance, has increased at a time of significant pressure on councils, particularly in relation to the lack of available, affordable accommodation.

This survey includes questions on impacts and possible mitigations. It also includes questions on numbers and costs, if respondents are able to provide these. There will also be the opportunity to provide any further detail on any of the topics at the end of the survey.

Its findings will be used to evidence the impact of the backlog clearance on councils. It will also inform discussions with Government on how best to create a cross-system approach that allows for planned move on from asylum accommodation in a way that minimises negative impacts and ensures better outcomes for people moving on.

The information request is voluntary and you are not obliged to complete it; however, your participation would be greatly appreciated. If you do reply, please do seek views and data from other officers within your council as appropriate.

Please note that the date range in this survey (**1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024**) includes the backlog clearance of the streamlined asylum process (SAP) cohort and then the legacy cohort. It starts from the process change on 1st August where the 28 day move on period began from the point of an asylum decision rather than from a notice to vacate, although this was subsequently reversed.

Survey instructions

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. You can navigate through the questions using the buttons at the bottom of each page. Use the 'previous' button at the bottom of the page if you wish to amend your response to an earlier question.

If you stop before completing the return, you can come back to this page using the link supplied in the email and you will be able to continue where you left off. To ensure your answers have been saved, click on the 'next' button at the bottom of the page that you were working on before exiting.

All responses will be treated confidentially. Information will be aggregated, and no individual or authority will be identified in any publications without your consent. Identifiable information may be used internally within the LGA but will only be held and processed in accordance with our [privacy statement](#). Information from Scottish and Welsh councils will be shared at a council level with the convention of Scottish

Local Authorities (COSLA) and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) respectively, but individual respondent information will not be shared, and COSLA and WLGA will not identify individual councils in any of their publications. We are undertaking this survey to aid the legitimate interests of the Local Government Association in supporting and representing authorities.

If you would like to see an overview of the questions before completing the survey online, you can access a PDF here: [Asylum backlog survey](#).

Please complete this survey by 5pm on Wednesday 5 June 2024 at the latest. Please email keiron.watt@local.gov.uk if you have any questions when completing the survey.

Please amend the details we have on record if necessary.

If you are responding on behalf of more than one authority please note this in the 'authority' box below, but please check with us first whether a separate return is needed for each authority.

- Name
 - Authority
 - Job title
 - Email address
-

What impact/s, if any, has the cessation of support for asylum seekers that have received positive or negative asylum decisions between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024 had on your local authority?

You may select more than one answer.

- Rise in homelessness presentations to your local authority
 - Increased street homelessness
 - Increased destitution
 - Additional pressures on your council staff and wider services
 - Other impact/s (please specify)
 - No impact/s
 - Don't know
-

Please select up to five actual or potential initiatives, which have had, or could have had, the most significant impact on **reducing costs and impacts to your council** as part of the asylum backlog clearance programme, between 1 August 2023 – 31 March 2024.

The list below includes initiatives that are currently in place and some which are not, such as local funding.

Please choose up to five options from the below, and you will then be asked to order them by preference.

- Home Office/other government staff to be placed in asylum accommodation
- Meeting agreed notice periods before people have to leave accommodation (i.e. 28 days notice)
- Extension to the 28 day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act
- Improved data from Home Office or Providers on planned asylum decisions and asylum support cessations after receiving a decision
- Improved sharing of personal data of asylum seekers from Home Office or Providers
- Pause in cessations of support (for those that have received asylum decisions) during the extreme weather
- Quicker issuing of Biometric Residence Permits (BRPs)
- Clearer and consistent communications and engagement across local partners for people in all types of asylum accommodation
- Clear and effective channels for escalation (i.e. in cases of error on BRPs, request for reinstatement)
- Faster access to benefits
- Faster access to ESOL
- Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim
- Funding for move-on accommodation (first month's rent, deposits, furniture)
- Funding for councils to provide early intervention and wider integration support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim (with that

support either provided directly by councils or by councils funding local partners to deliver that support)

- Additional funding support for the voluntary and community sector and other key partners (i.e. for legal advice, support for those with NRPF etc)
 - Other (please specify)
 - None
 - Don't know
-

Of the options you selected please rank which of the actual or potential initiatives, have had, or could have had, the most significant impact on **reducing costs and impacts to your council** as part of the current asylum backlog clearance programme.

Please drag each option in order of preference with the first option being the initiative which has had, or could have had, the most significant impact on reducing costs and impacts to your council, the second option being the initiative which has had, or could have had, the second most significant impact, and so on.

Please select up to five actual or potential initiatives, that you think should be put in place **nationally and locally to build a more effective move on process in the longer term.**

The list below includes initiatives that are currently in place and some which are not, such as local funding.

Please choose up to five options from the below, and you will then be asked to order them by preference.

- Home Office/other government staff to be placed in asylum accommodation
- Meeting agreed notice periods before people have to leave accommodation (i.e. 28 days notice)
- Extension to the 28 day move-on timeframe to 56 days in line with the Homelessness Reduction Act
- Improved data from Home Office or Providers on planned asylum decisions and asylum support cessations after receiving a decision

- Improved sharing of personal data of asylum seekers from Home Office or Providers
- Pause in cessations of support (for those that have received asylum decisions) during the extreme weather
- Quicker issuing of Biometric Residence Permits (BRPs)
- Clearer and consistent communications and engagement across local partners for people in all types of asylum accommodation
- Clear and effective channels for escalation (i.e. in cases of error on BRPs, request for reinstatement)
- Faster access to benefits
- Faster access to ESOL
- Funding for councils to provide immediate move-on support after people have received a decision on their claim
- Funding for move-on accommodation (first month's rent, deposits, furniture)
- Funding for councils to provide early intervention and wider integration support whilst people are waiting for a decision on their claim (with that support either provided directly by councils or by councils funding local partners to deliver that support)
- Additional funding support for the voluntary and community sector and other key partners (i.e. for legal advice, support for those with NRPF etc)
- Other (please specify)
- None
- Don't know

Of the options you selected, please rank which of the actual or potential initiatives you think should be put in place nationally and locally to build a more effective move on process in the longer term.

Please drag each option in order of preference with the first option being the initiative which has had, or could have had, the most significant impact on reducing costs and impacts to your council, the second option being the initiative which has had, or could have had, the second most significant impact, and so on.

Between 1 August 2023 and 31 March 2024, how many people has your council helped to move on from asylum accommodation once they have received a positive or negative decision on their status and had notice that their asylum support is to cease?

If possible this number should include individuals and people within families/households. The support offered could be support to find accommodation, or other forms of support such as integration support and assistance to access benefits. This number may also include those who were accommodated in another local authority area and moved to your council after their asylum support was ceased following their asylum decision.

We understand not all councils will have recorded the number of people that have had their support ceased following an asylum decision or the number of people they have supported. Please use an approximate figure or skip this question if it is not possible to complete it.

Some ways in which councils may be able to get this data, or an approximate figure, include compiling provider notifications, and/or referring to council caseworker service and homelessness data. You may be able to use data provided by the Home Office (such as from the weekly Home Office reports) or your own internal data. And if you do complete the question, please note the question below about which data source you used.

Please do not enter any commas, letters or currency symbols, as the input will only accept numbers. If you are unsure please leave the text box empty.

If applicable, please state which data source/s you used to provide this data.

If you are able to, please share the total costs that your council has faced that can be directly attributed to supporting those that have left asylum accommodation and had their asylum support ceased after having an asylum decision between 1 August 2023 - 31 March 2024. Some potential costs are listed below. You may also be able to use your Homelessness Case-Level Collection system data to inform your response.

This should not include any lone asylum seeking children or any resettled refugees (i.e. those that have arrived on Ukraine visas or Afghan resettlement routes) your local authority may have assisted to provide or find accommodation for during this time.

Examples of costs incurred include: Supporting households owed a prevention duty; Supporting households owed a relief duty including the provision of temporary or permanent accommodation and stepping up specific housing provision/alternative forms of temporary accommodation for those impacted by asylum support cessations after receiving an asylum decision; Financial and accommodation support for those with no recourse to public funds; Advice and assistance on housing; Council redeploying staff to cope with increased demand; Hiring additional staff to provide advice and support including recruitment for specialised roles; Commissioning the voluntary and community sector to provide move on support/signpost individuals; Support to help individuals access Biometric Residence Permits (BRPs) and benefits; Translating materials for individuals; Developing specific information to help newly recognised refugees navigate the housing market; Providing wider integration support i.e. language/education support, employment guidance etc; Working with neighboring councils to support individuals; Collating data/measured outcomes of those leaving asylum accommodation after having support ceased after receiving an asylum decision; Working with health partners to ensure all asylum seekers are registered with GPs ahead of moving.

Please provide a figure in GBP. Please do not enter any commas, letters or currency symbols, as the input will only accept numbers. If you are unsure, please leave the text box empty.

Please provide any further comments or suggestions on the topics covered by this survey.

Please indicate below if you would be happy for the LGA to contact you in future about further work on this issue. You would be able to contact the LGA at any time if you no longer wish to be contacted on this topic.

- Yes, please contact me in the future about asylum and related subject areas
- No, please do not contact me in the future about asylum and related subject areas

Once you press the 'Submit' button below, you will have completed the survey.

Many thanks for taking the time to complete this survey. You are in control of any personal data that you have provided to us in your response. You can contact us at

all times to have your information changed or deleted. You can find our full privacy policy here: [click here to see our privacy policy](#)



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