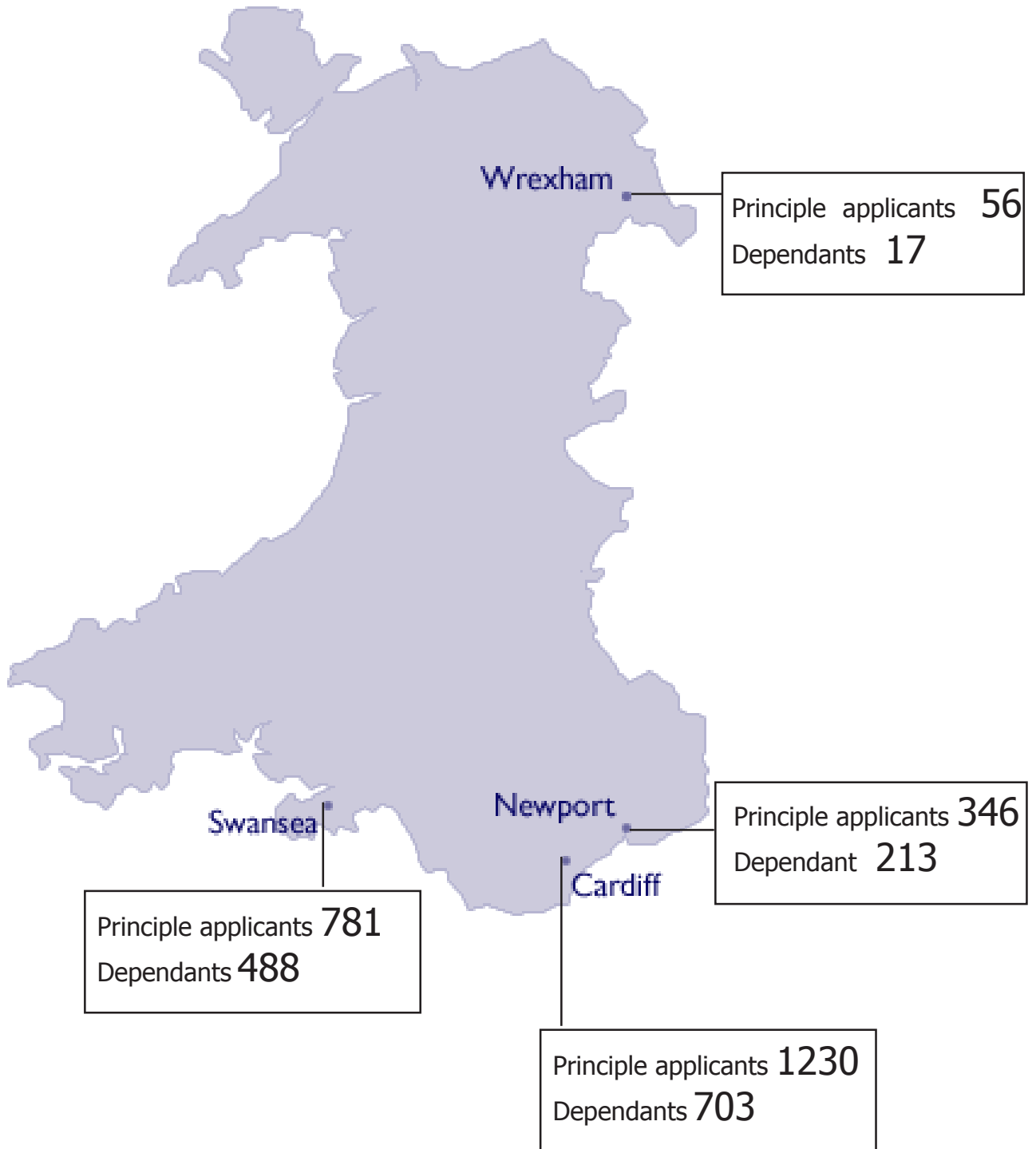


Integration Briefing Notes



Statistics - Asylum Seekers & Refugee Statistics for Wales



Number of Asylum Seeker Principle Applicants and Dependent for Cluser Areas in Wales

Taken from R35B report dated 03/11/2003

Top 10 Countries of Origin

Country of Origin	Cardiff	Swansea	Newport	Wrexham	Total
Somalia	220	20	52	0	292
Iraq	138	56	33	8	235
Iran	128	66	18	2	214
Pakistan	87	85	25	4	201
Afghanistan	63	42	24	4	133
Turkey	7	83	11	0	101
Czech Republic	76	14	11	0	101
Algeria	41	31	13	6	91
Congo [Dem. Rep.]	29	38	14	0	81
Zimbabwe	35	19	7	3	64

Asylum Seekers Dispersed to Wales consist of 69 Countries of Origin. Above table relates to Principle Applicants only.

Country of Origin for Asylum Seekers in Wales

Country of Origin	Cardiff					Total
	Cardiff	Clearsprings	Wrexham	Swansea	Newport	
Afghanistan	43	20	4	42	24	133
Albania	6			6		12
Algeria	31	10	6	31	13	91
Angola	2	14		12	24	52
Azerbaijan	2	8		7		17
Bangladesh				17	7	24
Benin					2	2
Burma	1	4		2		7
Burkina Faso					2	2
Burundi	19	7		3	1	30
Cameroon	7	3	1	2	1	14
Chad	2	1				3
China	3		1			4
Columbia	3				5	8
Congo	21	10		16	11	58
Congo (Dem Rep.)	12	17		38	14	81
Croatia				13	2	15
Czech Republic	49	27		14	11	101
Czechoslovakia	2					2
Egypt				4	6	10
Equatorial Guinea	2					2
Eritrea	2	5	1	24	5	37
Estonia	2					2
Ethiopia		3		7	4	14
Gambia				2		2
Georgia					4	4
Guinea		2			2	4
Guinea-Bissau				1		1
India	5		4	7		16
Iran	92	36	2	66	18	214
Iraq	48	90	8	56	33	235
Ivory Coast	7	4	1		3	15
Jamaica	5			9		14
Jordan	8					8
Kazakhstan	1					1
Kenya	1			9	4	14
Kosovo	5			14		19
Kuwait	12	4				16
Lebanon	15	1		19		35
Liberia	3		2	5	3	13
Libya	1				4	5
Lithuania	3	1			11	15
Macedonia	4			6	8	18
Moldova		2	1	2		5
Mongolia				5	3	8
Montenegro	3			4		7
Nigeria		2	6	8		16
Pakistan	81	26	4	85	25	201
Palestine	36	4		10	3	53
Poland	1			29	4	34
Romania		21	6	10		37
Russia	4			3	4	11
Rwanda	9	4		8	3	24
Serbia				3		3
Sierra Leone	8	2		5		15
Slovakia		3				3
Somalia	158	62		20	52	292
South Africa	10	4	1	2		17
Sri Lanka	4			8		12
Stateless	3			4		7
Sudan	29	11	1	13	11	65
Togo				1		1
Tunisia	1					1
Turkey		7		83	11	101
Uganda	6	1	1	1		9
Uruguay				3		3
Venezuela			3			3
Yemen	16	11		12	1	40
Yugoslavia				11		11
Zimbabwe	19	16	3	19	7	64
Total	787	443	56	781	346	2413

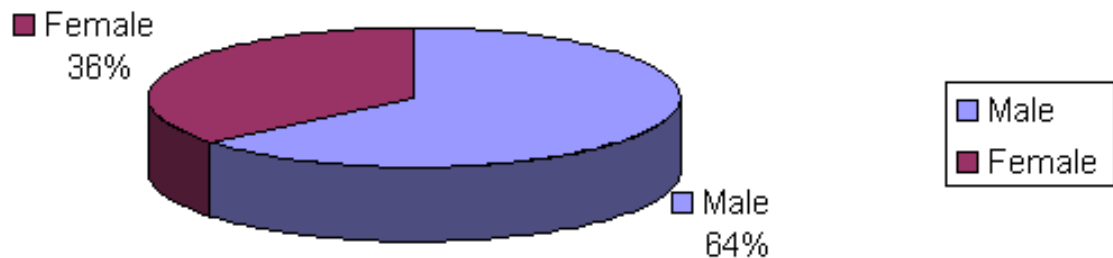
Taken from R35B report
dated 03/11/2003

Gender Perspective on Asylum Seeker Figures

	Cardiff	Wrexham	Swansea	Newport	Total
Single Male	240	27	83	44	394
Single Female	44	6	42	9	101
Total no of people in Families with Male as Head	512	15	341	134	1002
Total no of people in Families with Female as Head	434	156	315	159	916
Total	787	56	781	346	2413

Total no of Families with Male as Head	123	3	81	32	239
Total no of Families with Female as Head	120	3	87	48	258
Total	243	6	168	80	497

Gender of Principle Asylum Seeker Applicants

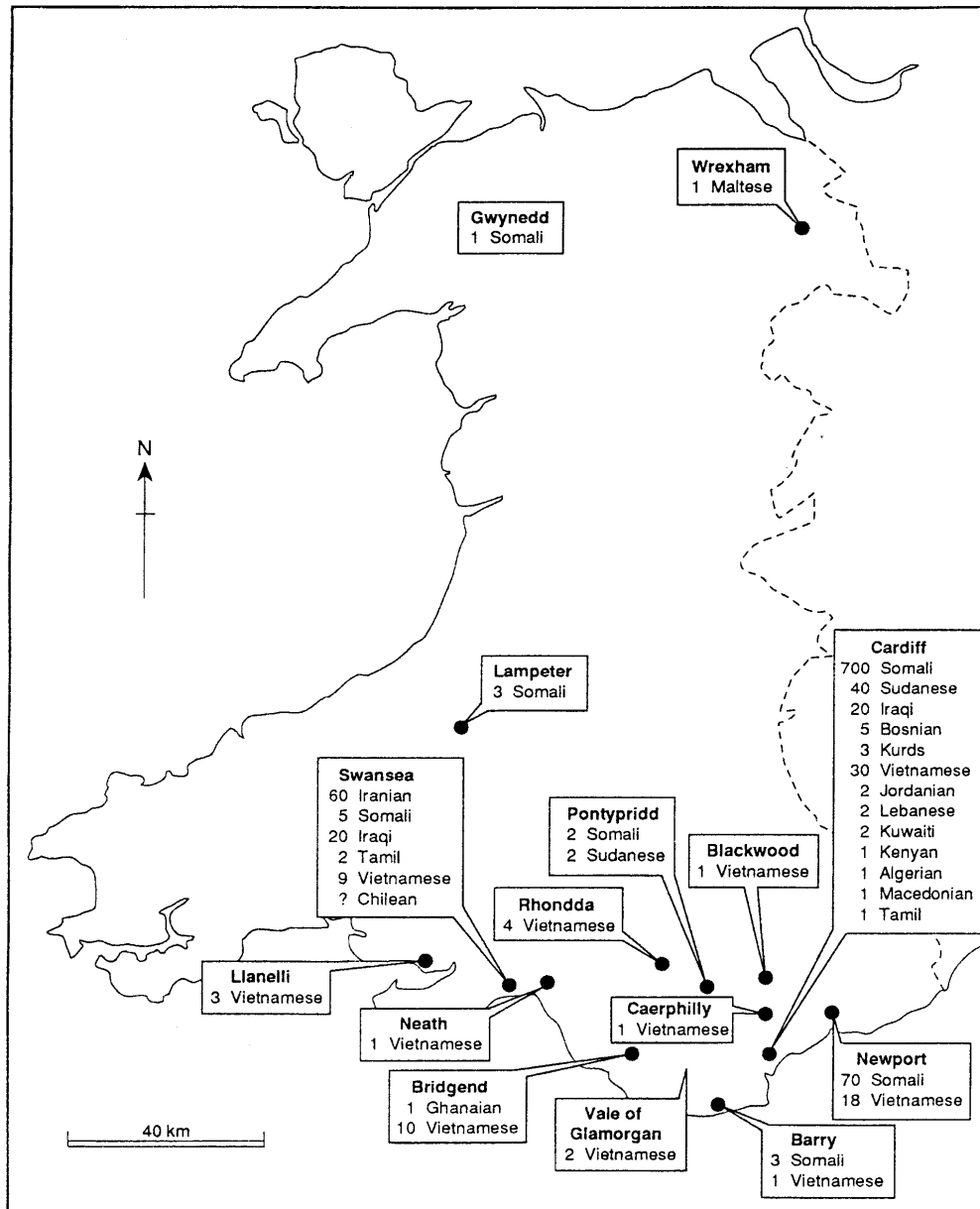


Taken from R35B report dated 03/11/2003

Number of Voucher only Cases in Wales

Local Authority	Town	Number of properties	Number of People
Wrexham	Wrexham	6	7
Denbighshire	Llangollen	1	2
Flintshire	Connahs Quay	1	2
Flintshire	Shotton	3	3
Clywd	Rhyl	2	2
Clywd	Prestatyn	1	1
Conwy	Colwyn Bay	1	1
Conwy	Llandudno	1	4
Powys	Builth Wells	1	1
Powys	Newtown	1	1
Powys	Brecon	1	1
Gwynedd	Caernarfon	1	1
Gwynedd	Blaenau Ffestiniog	1	1
Gwynedd	Pwllheli	1	1
Carmarthenshire	Llanelli	2	5
Ceredigion	Aberystwyth	1	1
Newport	Newport	13	15
Torfaen	Cwmbran	2	2
Monmouth	Chepstow	1	1
Blaenau Gwent	Ebbw Vale	1	2
Blaenau Gwent	Tredegar	1	1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Aberdare	4	4
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Pontypridd	2	2
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Porth	1	1
Rhondda Cynon Taff	Tonypanyd	1	1
Caerphilly	Hengoed	2	5
Caerphilly	Bargoed	1	1
Bridgend	Maesteg	1	1
Bridgend	Bridgend	3	3
Caerphilly	Caerphilly	2	2
Cardiff	Cardiff	48	59
Pembrokeshire	Pembroke	2	2
Carmarthenshire	Carmarthen	1	1
Swansea	Swansea	15	22
Neath & Port Talbot	Port Talbot	1	2
Neath & Port Talbot	Neath	1	1
Total		128	162

Number of Refugees in Wales



Distribution of refugees in Wales, 1996. Refugees in Wales: an Invisible Minority by Vaughan Robinson of Migration Unit Swansea University. Research commissioned by the WRC

Research by Vaughan Robinson indicated that in 1996 there were 3,600 refugees in Wales.

The Welsh Refugee Council estimate that there are currently 9,000 refugees in Wales



Incidents of Racial Harrassment Reported to Welsh Refugee Council One Stop Services since 1st April 2003

	No. Incidents
Cardiff OSS	0
Newport OSS	5
Swansea OSS	7
Wrexham OSS	12
Total	24

Migrant Helpline	1,700 during 2002
Refugee Action Plymouth	22 per month





Directory of Key Agencies working with Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Newport & District Refugee Support Group

Newport & District Refugee Support Group is an umbrella organisation for voluntary agencies within the locality providing support for asylum seekers and refugees.

The group meets monthly to coordinate support services for asylum seekers and refugees in Newport.

Newport & District Refugee Support Group holds a weekly drop in for asylum seekers and refugees, recently supported art classes for refugees. An exhibition entitled 'Paintback!' was produced from the artwork and this exhibition has toured public venues in Swansea.

Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group

The Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group aims to bring together asylum seekers / refugees and friends together to discuss common interests and develop projects including: Swansea World Stars football team, music, dance, drama and crafts workshops. The group also provides a guide to local facilities and resources.

A drop in centre takes place on Fridays 3 to 6pm at the Heyokah Centre. Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group sponsored a book 'Between a Mountain and the Sea' of refugee poems, stories and testimonies.

Wrexham Asylum Seekers Support Group

The Wrexham Asylum Seekers Support Group provides support for asylum seekers in Wrexham. The Group hold a regular drop in and organise recreational activities for asylum seekers.

The Wrexham Asylum Seekers Support Group coordinates the Wrexham Multi Agency Group, coordinating local support arrangements amongst statutory, voluntary and private agencies.


Voluntary Action Refugee Forum


Voluntary Action Cardiff coordinates this forum of Voluntary agencies and Refugee Community Organisations. The Forum held an Information exchange day in June 2003 in Cardiff.

Displaced People in Action

Displaced People in Action aims to involve asylum seekers and refugees in their new communities, in a voluntary capacity, giving them time meaningful and interesting use of their time. Displaced People in Action objectives are to offer relief to displaced people, to advance their education and to improve the condition of their lives through the provision of leisure facilities and group activities.

Displaced People in Action support a Refugee Doctors group that exists to give asylum seekers and refugees who are qualified as doctors and opportunity to find employment in the UK. The group provides an opportunity to study for and take the IELTS (International English Language Testing System) test, to study and take the





medical exams PLAB 1 and PLAB 2 and then to find work placements in hospitals in their field of expertise. classes and exam fees are free of charge.

The Refugee Doctors Group is wholly funded by the Welsh Assembly Government.

SOVA Cymru

The SOVA Plethu Project aims to recruit, train and manage volunteers from local communities to support refugees and asylum seekers in Wales. The Plethu project shares SOVA's philosophy of preventing social exclusion amongst marginalized groups. Plethu works with mentors and in partnership with a variety of local agencies to provide a network of emotional and practical support for refugees and asylum seekers.

CADMAD

CADMAD is Wales' leading group in promoting multi-cultural arts. CADMAD have a Refugee Project as part of its education outreach programme. The aims of the project are to educate children into understanding the experiences of Refugees in Wales. They are required to turn what they understand about Refugees into creative writing, dance, poetry and drama.

British Red Cross

The Red Cross provide a number of services for Asylum seekers and Refugees:
Messaging and Tracing Service – This service helps to bring together close relatives who have been separated by armed conflict and political upheaval.
Emergency Response Service – Provision of blankets and toiletries.

The Red Cross have an innovate project in Swansea providing health mentoring to asylum seekers and refugees.

Immigration Advisory Service


Immigration Advisory Service appeal on behalf of asylum seekers who consider the decision made against them by the Home Office to be unfair. The service is free and IAS provide general advice regarding asylum.

Cardiff County Council Asylum Seekers Team

Cardiff County Council has a contract with the National Asylum Support Service [NASS Scheme] to provide Accommodation and support to asylum seekers under the NASS scheme. Cardiff County Council Asylum Seekers Team Provide 1,000 bed spaces to NASS.

Swansea County Council Asylum Seekers Team

Swansea County Council has a contract with the National Asylum Support Service [NASS Scheme] to provide Accommodation and support to asylum seekers under the NASS scheme. Swansea County Council Asylum Seekers Team Provide 150 family units of accommodation to NASS.





Refugee Media Group in Wales

The Refugee Media Group in Wales is working with editors and journalists to ensure that the media reporting of asylum is factual and balanced. The success of the project rests upon the participation of the Refugee Link Group – a group of men and women with direct experience of asylum who are being trained and supported to work with the media challenging negative myths and stereotypes and promoting positive and more in-depth coverage.

An important aim of the project is to raise awareness of asylum and associated issues through refugees and asylum seekers' own voices and ensure the different experiences of men and women are understood.

Members of the group include the Welsh Refugee Council, Displaced People in Action, Amnesty International, Cardiff Council, Welsh Local Authority Consortium for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Cardiff University, Oxfam and The Society of Voluntary Associates [SOVA].

Small World Theatre

Small World Theatre project uses Theatre to raise awareness of refugee issues in the host community.

Cardiff Law Centre

The Cardiff Law Centre provides advice and representation in the areas of refugee and asylum law; welfare and benefits; housing; employment; community development and social policy work.

Citizens Advice Bureau

Citizens Advice Bureau provide advice to asylum seekers and refugees. The Cardiff branch of CAB provides representation to asylum seekers through the asylum determination process.

Private Accommodators in Wales are:

Clear springs

Operates in Cardiff, Swansea, Newport and Wrexham

Leena Homes


Operates in Swansea

Accommodator

Operates in Cardiff under a subcontract with the Cardiff County Council Asylum Seekers Team

Adelphi

Operates in Wrexham





Refugee Community Organisations

Society of Afghan Refugees
Central African Association
Sudanese Community Association
Iraqi Community Association of Wales
Somali Progressive Association
Zimbabwe Hope
Kurdish Community in Wales
Newport Somali Association
African Friendship Association
Iranian Community Association
Zimbabwe Hope
Horn of Africa
Zimbabwe Development Support Group
Refugee Women's Action Group
Refugee Women's group
Central African Women's Forum
Cymru Refugee and Asylum Seekers Academic Council
African Friendship Society
Refugee Writers Association
Welsh Great Lakes Community Association
Kurdish Support Group

Research Reports in Wales:

Refugees in Wales – An 'Invisible Minority' 1997 Vaughan Robinson, Migration Unit Swansea University

Vaughan Robinson undertook, on behalf of the Welsh Refugee Council an in-depth study of refugees in Wales, in his report remarked:


"There is limited provision for refugees in Wales, since service providers do not see a demand and do not regard refugees as high priorities. Moreover, there is little evidence to suggest that this picture is changing, despite the fact that a clear majority of organisations which expressed an opinion believed that the needs of refugees and asylum seekers were not being met. Refugees in Wales might therefore be styled as an invisible minority."

The overarching conclusion is that provision for refugees can only be understood with reference to three cultures: cultures of 'ignorance', 'disbelief', and 'denial'.

Welcome or overreaction? Refugees and asylum seekers in the Welsh media Tammy Speers Wales Media Forum, Centre for Journalism Studies at Cardiff University

- the Welsh media covers the issue of asylum seekers without the 'hostility or hyperbole' of the UK national media



- 
- the debate about asylum seekers and refugees is framed primarily as an 'official issue' with emphasis on government 'management' as opposed to the reporting of personal experiences of asylum seekers, in particular why they might be fleeing
 - there is an emphasis on cost and numbers
 - the refugee and asylum seeker voice is under-represented
 - communication processes need to be improved to ensure better circulation of accurate information. An active Local Authority Public Relations Department can improve this.

Understanding the decision-making of asylum seekers Vaughan Robinson and Jeremy Segrott
Migration Unit, Department of Geography University of Wales, Swansea

Home Office Research, Development and Statistics Directorate
July 2002

Understanding the decision-making of asylum seekers was based upon interviews with refugees and asylum seekers in Wales

Key points

- The principal aim of respondents in the sample was to reach a place of safety. There were a number of factors influencing choice of final destination. One of these was the ability to pay for long distance travel. Some asylum seekers had to be satisfied with intermediate destinations including, in some cases, the UK.
 - For those respondents who were able to choose a destination country, several key factors shaped their decision to come to the UK: the presence of relatives or friends; their belief that the UK is a safe, tolerant and democratic country; previous links between their own country and the UK including colonialism; and their ability to speak English or desire to learn it.
 - Agents played a key role in channelling the asylum seekers to particular countries. Some agents facilitated travel to a destination chosen by the asylum seeker. Some asylum seekers had no choice and were sent to particular countries by their agent. Other agents offered asylum seekers a priced 'menu' of destinations to choose from.
 - There was little evidence that respondents had detailed knowledge of UK immigration or asylum procedures, entitlements to benefits in the UK, or the availability of work in the UK. There was even less evidence that the respondents knew how such features compared with other European countries. Most respondents wanted to work and support themselves during the determination of their asylum claim rather than be dependent on the state.
- 