

Refugee and asylum seeker support centres in North-East England Local Authorities January 2026



County Durham

Communities Together

Project Co-ordinator Joanne Thorns

Telephone: 0788 377 9030

Email: Info@communitiestogetherdurham.org.uk

Website: <https://communitiestogetherdurham.org.uk/about-us/>

Collaborates with Mears Housing, the DCC Humanitarian team and DCoS to provide assistance with basic needs such as legal advice housing, healthcare, education and language classes. Programs provide comprehensive support, including information and advice tailored to the refugee and asylum seekers unique circumstances. They offer guidance on navigating the complex systems they encounter, ensuring they receive the help they need to rebuild their lives. Holds drop- in sessions in Stanley Newton Aycliffe & Durham, offering friendship and links with the local community & the above-mentioned support. Offers face to face support and signposting.

Durham City of Sanctuary (DCoS)

Telephone: 07783933448

Email: anna@durham.cityofsanctuary.org

Aims to create a welcoming environment for refugees and asylum seekers in Durham. Offers various support services, including befriending schemes, language classes, and community events to help newcomers integrate

Durham County Council (DCC)

Rebecca Angus, Housing Team Leader

Telephone: 07909537208

Email: rebecca.angus@durham.gov.uk

DCC is now engaged in five different programmes delivering refugee and asylum support. It has a comprehensive planning process to incorporate the changing nature of the refugee and asylum seeker in County Durham, providing support with housing, job centres, volunteering and access to education and vocational training and also links to the local community Council's Housing Solutions, Employability and Education (EAL) teams and local charities dedicated to supporting refugees and asylum seekers. Offers language classes in local centres around the county.

Durham University

Durham for Refugees Kids Club

Email : dfr.kidsclub@durham.ac.uk

Provides fun, educational and helpful childcare activities for the children of local refugees who attend community drop-in sessions run by City of Sanctuary in Durham.

Pact House

Contact: Darren McMahon

Address: 39 Front Street, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 0JE

Telephone: 07720 650 533

Email: pacthousestanley@outlook.com

Website: <https://www.neighbourly.com/project/5cb85c07c7ac89043c5a58a2>

This is a hub for community access to help to reduce isolation, support people with well-being, address and support local people in poverty. It supports people in the local community, including refugees and asylum seekers in food poverty with food packs and through low cost and free meals in the community cafe. It helps people to access services, training and information they need to improve their quality of life.

Quaking Houses Village Hall

Address: Quaking Houses Village Hall, Second Street, Stanley, County Durham, DH9 7HQ

Telephone: 01207 283016

Email: quakinghousesvillagehall@mail.com

Website: <https://www.quakinghousesvillagehall.org/>

They offer advice and support to the community about benefits, accessing grants and energy saving measures alongside safety and help to access other services around housing, debt, mental health and so much more. Also organise community cookery sessions and have welcomed newcomer asylum seekers, with friendship and support.

Darlington

Darlington Assistance for Refugees (DAR)

Website: <https://darlingtonrefugees.org/>

Email: hello@darlingtonrefugees.org.

DAR is a volunteer-led organisation that offers support and friendship to refugees and asylum seekers in Darlington. They provide practical assistance, social events, and advocacy to help individuals integrate into the community.

Refugee Support Network (RSN Darlington)

Address: Suite 1.3 The Chandelier Building, 8 Scrubs Lane, London, NW10 6RB

Website: <https://refsource.gebnet.co.uk/directory/refugee-support-network-rsn>

Email: <http://www.refugeesupportnetwork.org/>

RSN Darlington works to support refugees, asylum seekers, and vulnerable migrants through education, mentoring, and community involvement initiatives.

Gateshead

Gateshead Council

Dedicated team at Housing Support Services.

Government approved refugee settlement scheme for refugees and those with Leave to Remain status.

Particular focus on Syrian refugee support.

Oasis Community Housing (Gateshead and Sunderland):

Address: FL 1- 4, 7- 8 Delta Bank Road,
Metro Riverside Park,
Gateshead NE11 9DJ

Tel: 01914773535

Email info@oasiscommunityhousing.org

Website: www.oasiscommunityhousing.org

Provides housing, support, and crisis services for vulnerable people, including refugees and asylum seekers at risk of homelessness.

Our Gateshead

Contact Person Alexander Jones

Address Hope House Durham Road Gateshead NE8 4AR

Email: hello@gateshead.church

Website: <https://www.ourgateshead.org/things-to-do/refugee-drop>

Weekly drop-in at Hope House, Durham Road

Run jointly by Gateshead Council and Alive Church

In addition to council-led services, a network of local organizations and faith groups offers practical assistance and a sense of belonging to newcomers. These groups may provide advice, social activities, and advocacy, helping refugees navigate life in a new country and find support tailored to their unique needs

Peace of Mind

Contact Sam and Sara

Address: Methodist Church Hall, Whitehall Road

Telephone: 07595 300 326

Email: Peaceofmind455@gmail.com

Range of projects for refugees and asylum seekers

Food, clothing, household items, English conversation, warm space.

Comfrey Project

Address: Windmill Hills Centre,

Chester Place, Gateshead, NE8 1QB

Telephone: 0191 447 7801 | 07795 320706

Email: info@thecomfreyproject.org.uk

Website: <https://thecomfreyproject.org.uk/what-we-do/>

Support for refugees and asylum seekers

Community garden and allotments.

Language support and informal advice, café.

Ultimate Advocacy

Provides a wide range of advocacy and mentoring support to help vulnerable people to overcome barriers in accessing learning and employment opportunities, housing etc. Offers practical support for people in crisis situations..

Website: <https://www.ultimate-advocacy.co.uk/> (Not up and running as yet)

Newcastle upon Tyne

The North of England Refugee Service (NERS)

Address: 2 Friars St, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4XA

Telephone: 0191 245 7301

Email: info@refugee.org.uk

The West End Refugee Service (WERS)

Address: St Philip's Vicarage, St Philip's Close, Arthur's Hill, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 5JE

Telephone: 0191 273 7482

Email: info@wers.org.uk

Exists to meet the needs and promote the interests of asylum seekers and refugees who have arrived or have settled in the North of England. Offers information and advice sessions, and practical support focusing on the most vulnerable stages of the journey from initial application to integration into life of citizens in the North-East.

North East Law Centre (Newcastle and Middlesbrough)

Address: 2nd Floor 10-13 Saville Row

Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8JE

Website www.nelawcentre.co.uk

Provides free and low-cost legal advice and representation for refugees and asylum seekers, including help with immigration, asylum applications, and appeals. Website:

African Community Advice North East (ACANE)

Address: 1 Raby Cross, Byker, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2FF

Telephone: 0191 265 8110

Email: acane2003@hotmail.com

Information, advice and advocacy

After school club for young people with free access to IT, internet, table football and art & craft.

The Hub at Westgate Baptist Church

Address: 366 Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6NX

Telephone: 0191 272 0647

Email: info@westgatebaptist.org.uk

Help to settle into life in the UK; giving advice about rights, emergency support for homeless and destitute asylum seekers, including showers and food

Justice and Peace (Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle)

Address: St. Vincent's Support Centre, New Bridge Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 2TQ

Address: Blackfriars Centre, New Bridge Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, St Vincent's Centre Newcastle NE1 2TQ

Telephone: 0191 261 6027

Email: stvincentsnewcastle@svp.org.uk

Supports asylum seekers and destitute asylum seekers, food, free WIFI, toiletries, clothes, bedding and shoes are available. There is a hardship fund for destitute asylum seekers. Provides a drop-in and information and advice sessions Wednesdays and Fridays 11am to 1.30pm.

Action Foundation

Address: CastleGate, Melbourne Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 2JQ

Telephone: 0191 231 3113

Email: info@actionfoundation.org.uk

Website: <https://actionfoundation.org.uk/>

They collaborate closely with both local and national organisations, including the British Red Cross, Local Authorities, North East Law Centre, and West End Refugee Service to support disadvantaged refugees, asylum seekers and other migrants across the North East.. These partnerships have been instrumental in arranging family reunions, securing legal representation for those with no recourse to public funds, and broadening the range of support available to our beneficiaries.

Information Now

(Newcastle Upon Tyne Council – a City of Sanctuary)

Websites:

<https://www.informationnow.org.uk/article/support-for-asylum-seekers-and-refugees/>

<https://www.informationnow.org.uk/article/immigration-and-asylum/>

These websites provide extensive information and advice and support for asylum seekers and refugees. They also give details about supportive organisations in the Newcastle area

Open Clasp Theatre Company (Newcastle):

Address: The Stephenson, 173 Elswick Rd,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 6SQ

Tel: 0191 272 4063

Email: info@openclasp.org.uk

Website: www.openclasp.org.uk

Works with women and young people, including refugees and asylum seekers, using theatre to address social justice issues and amplify marginalised voices.

The Wellness Tribe

(Newcastle Upon Tyne City of Sanctuary)

Address: New Bridge Street West, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8BS

Telephone: 07440021790

Email: info@thewellnesstribe.co.uk

Website: <https://www.thewellness-tribe.co.uk/>

Supports individuals and families who are at high risk of experiencing mental health issues due to social and personal factors such as poverty, lack of skills, racial trauma, language barriers, refugee and asylum experiences, health, economic inequalities, unemployment, and poor housing.

West End Foodbank (Newcastle):

Address: The Foodbank Centre, Benwell Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6LX

e.mail: info@newcastlefoodbank.org

Tel: 0191 275 3019 07580 751365

Website: newcastlewestend.foodbank.org.uk

Supports anyone in crisis, including refugees and asylum seekers, with emergency food parcels and advice on accessing further support services.

West End Women and Girls Centre (Newcastle upon Tyne)

Tel: 0191 273 4942

Email: info@westendwomenandgirls.co.uk

Website: www.westendwomenandgirls.co.uk

Provides advocacy, practical support, and community activities specifically for women and girls, including those from refugee and asylum-seeking backgrounds. They focus on empowerment, social inclusion, and access to essential services.

www.westendwomenandgirls.co.uk

North Shields

Churches Together North Shields.

‘New to the UK’ weekly session (Every Wednesday 11.00am -1.30pm.)

Address: North Shields Baptist Church, Howard Street, North Shields, NE30 1AR

Telephone: 0191 257 5222

Website: www.nsb.org.uk

Signposts facilities and services, provide essential homeware, clothing, and food, and assist people to access legal, medical, and other advice.

Meadowell Connected

Address: The Meadows Waterville Road, North Shields, NE29 6BA.

Telephone: 0191 3410033

Email: info@themeadows.community

Website: www.themeadows.community

Provides support for the wider local community including after school kids club, a community garden and a cafe serving affordable meals

Peace of Mind CIO

Address: Whitehall Road Methodist Church, Whitehall Road, Gateshead, NE8 4LH

Telephone: 07595 300326

Email: [phttps://peaceofmindnortheast.org.uk/eaceofmind455@gmail.com](https://peaceofmindnortheast.org.uk/eaceofmind455@gmail.com)

Provides practical and emotional support, helps with translation, registering with a GP, finding a solicitor, healthy living, food parcels, clothing, baby equipment, settling into the community and with destitution issue.

South Tyneside

South Tyneside Housing Service

Address: South Tyneside Council Housing Services, South Shields Town Hall, Westoe Road, South Shields, NE33 2RL

Telephone: 0300 123 6633

Email: connect2@southtyneside.gov.uk

Website: <https://housing.southtyneside.gov.uk/>

For refugees and those with Humanitarian protection

South Tyneside Asylum Seekers and Refugees Church Help (STARCH)

Address: 13 Glencourse East Boldon NE36 0LW

Phone: 01915367533

Email: maggregg@talktalk.net

Website: info from <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/en/charity-search/-/charity-details/4002867/contact-information>

Weekly drop-in Centre at Living Waters church attended by local services and charities to provide advice.

Clothes, toys, household items

Love Amelia

Telephone 07394878432

Email: referrals@loveamelia.org.uk

Children's charity based in Sunderland offering support to families experiencing poverty and hardship across Tyne & Wear and County Durham.

Mention of support for refugees and asylum seekers in Sunderland and South Tyneside, especially those from Afghanistan.

Only professionals can make referrals

St James's Church

Address: Benwell Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 6RR

Telephone: 0191 273 5356

Email: church@benwellscotswood.com

Helps with wellbeing, signposting to other services in the community, foodbank vouchers volunteering opportunities free Wi Fi , tea and coffee, conversation and spiritual support, social time or time for peace and quiet.

Refugee and asylum seeker support centres in Northumberland

Northumberland –

County/ City of Sanctuary. (Partnered with the Red Cross}.

Email: northumberlandsanctuary@gmail.com

Website: <https://northumberland.cityofsanctuary.org>

Runs a weekly drop-in in Ashington, Bedlington and Blyth. These sessions are friendly, informal and open to anyone going through the asylum system. We signpost to education, healthcare and housing services.

Outreach from the Red Cross (North East Migration Partnership)

Address: St Andrew's Church House, Hawthorn Road, Ashington, Northumberland, NE63 9AU

Website: <https://www.nemp.org.uk/services/red-cross-outreach-saint-andrews-church/outreach-9/>

St. Cuthbert's Church, Blyth – (North East Migration Partnership)

Address: Saint Cuthbert's Church, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 5JN

(More details for both: Middlesbrough Council, PO Box 500, Middlesbrough, TS1 9FT Telephone; 01642 726241 Email: nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

Provides many services plus a list of phone numbers for Red Cross contacts if there are problems with Mears (housing) or the Home Office

**Northumberland Learning and Skills–(North East Migration Partnership)
ESOL – Cramlington**

Address: Northumbria House, Manor Walks, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 6UR
Website: www.nemp.org.uk/services/northumberland-learning-and-skills
(More details for both: Middlesbrough Council, PO Box 500, Middlesbrough,
TS1 9FT Telephone; 01642 726241 Email: nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk)

Tynemouth Together With Refugees

Email: TynemouthTWR@gmail.com
Websites: <https://www.facebook.com/TynemouthTWR/>
<https://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk>
www.facebook.com

(Often works with The Walking With Centre in Wallsend)

Together with Refugees

Website: <http://togetherwithrefugees.org.uk>

A coalition of organisations founded by Asylum Matters, British Red Cross, Freedom from Torture, Rainbow Migration, Refugee Action, Refugee Council, and Scottish Refugee Council.

Walking with

Address: The Walking With Centre, Church House, Hugh St, Wallsend, NE28 6RL
Phone: 0191 649 8974 Mobile: 0749 722 1716
Email: info@walkingwith.co.uk
Website: <https://walkingwith.co.uk/>

Provides a service to help refugees and asylum seekers to adjust to a new life in the UK. Their welcoming centre aims to provide welcoming safe environment to befriend, support, and empower, providing education and resources to all who use their services. They provide practical and moral support services on a daily basis.

Teesside

Middlesbrough

Halo Project Charity

Head Office Address: Vanguard Suite,
BBC Broadcasting House,
Gilkes Street, Middlesbrough, TS1 5JA
Telephone: 01642 683 045
Website: <https://www.haloproject.org.uk/contact>

Provides safeguarding and culturally appropriate confidential advice, help and support to Black and Minoritised Women and girls who are at risk of and/or are survivors of domestic and sexual violence and abuse. This includes searching for safe accommodation, outreach support, safety planning and ongoing support to those at risk of harm and abuse.

Open Door North- East

Tel: 01642 213634

Email: info@opendoornortheast.com

Website: <https://www.opendoornortheast.com/>

Helps refugees to settle in the Northeast by facilitating access to services, legal support, increased skills and employability and tackling the urgent problem of homelessness serving asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants in the Tees Valley. They provide a range of services supporting the wellbeing and integration of those seeking sanctuary in the UK. Our mission is to support those seeking sanctuary to move out of poverty and destitution and be empowered to achieve their full potential.

North of England Refugee Service

Address: Unit 6, Broadcasting House, Newport Road, Middlesbrough, TS1 5JA

Website: <http://www.refugee.org.uk>

Offers advice and guidance, particularly to people from Black Minority Ethnic (BME) communities.

At the same address: Turn2Us

Offers support for asylum seekers and their families, refugee community groups, local communities, migrants - asylum law advice, support and referrals, help with housing and subsistence, accessing health, education, support services and solicitors. Refers refugees to access training and employment, development work with refugee community groups. Is involved in campaigning, refugee awareness training, volunteering programmes, voluntary return programmes and liaison with other agencies.

Methodist Asylum Seeker Project (MAP)- Middlesbrough

Address: 54 Borough Rd, Middlesbrough, TS1 2JH

Telephone : 07970192841

Email: MAPMbro@gmail.com

Website: <https://mapmiddlesbrough.org.uk>

The North East Migration Partnership

Middlesbrough Council,

PO Box 500,

Middlesbrough,

TS1 9FT

Telephone: 01642 726241

Email: nemp@middlesbrough.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.nemp.org.uk/>

Provides hubs to cover four areas of support for councils and other statutory partners involved in supporting new arrivals in their understanding the UK way of life, the development of English language skills, helping resettled refugees and unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) and a useful range of welcome resources (including health, life and laws, and parenting), online government guidance, information about where to get support, and links to publicly available data.

Stockton on Tees

Justice First

Address: Stanley House, 133 Norton Rd, Stockton-on-Tees TS18 2BG

Telephone: +44 (0) 1642 601122

Email: info@justicefirst.org.uk

Website: <https://justicefirst.org.uk/>

Justice First operates in Stockton and offers legal advice and representation to refugees and asylum seekers. They focus on ensuring fair treatment and access to justice for individuals navigating the asylum process.

Stockton Baptist Tabernacle

Address: The Square Stockton-on-Tees County Durham United Kingdom TS18 1TE

Telephone: 01642602223

Email: office@stocktonbaptistchurch.co.uk

Website : Expired

Stockton Baptist Tabernacle provides a range of support services for refugees and asylum seekers, including English language classes, social activities, and practical assistance.

Refugees Futures

Address: Catalyst House, 27A Yarm Road, Stockton-on-Tees, TS18 3NJ

Telephone:

Email: info@refugeefutures.org

Website: <https://refugeefutures.org/contact/>

Refugees Futures collaborates with other organisations in the area to support refugees and people seeking asylum

Sunderland

Sunderland Information Point website

Provides links to many agencies supporting refugees and Asylum Seekers some of which are listed below

Website page:

<https://www.sunderlandinformationpoint.co.uk/kb5/sunderland/directory/results.page?qt=%22Refugees%22&term=&sorttype=relevance>

Sunderland City of Sanctuary, (Sunderland Council)

Contact: Chris Howson

Other Telephone: 0784 6099 643

Email: sanctuariesunderland@hotmail.com

Other Email: chris.howson@sunderland.ac.uk

Provides English Classes face to face and online and a free film every Friday. Contact Chris Howson. Beginner English classes are in person on Friday afternoons. Advanced classes are online on Friday afternoons.

Friends of the Drop-In for Asylum Seekers and Refugees (FODI)

Address: The Co-op Centre, Whitehouse Road, Hendon, Sunderland, SR2 8AH, United Kingdom.

Contact: Fanni Ngambi

Telephone: 07525 853 9131

Email: fodi.sunderland@outlook.com

Website <https://fodisunderland.org/>

With a focus on mental health, FODI offers a wide range of services and activities to enable asylum seekers to negotiate the application process and also integrate into the local community.

International Community Organisation of Sunderland (ICOS)

Telephone: 07596 538 482

Email: office@icos.org.uk

Website: <https://icos.org.uk>

North of England Refugee Service (NERS) Sunderland Office

Telephone: 0191 511 1410

Email: sunderland@refugee.org.uk

British Red Cross

Telephone: 0191 510 8753

Email: laylaegal@redcross.org.uk

Friends of Asylum Seekers (FAS)

FAS Sunderland provides practical support, social activities, and advocacy for asylum seekers and refugees. Their mission is to alleviate poverty and social exclusion among vulnerable newcomers in the city.

Young Asian Voices (YAV)

Address: Young Asian Voices Sans Street Centre Upper Sans Street Sunderland SR1 1HG

Tel: 0191 543 6820

Mobile: 07496 310734 | 07917003828

Email: info@youngasianvoices.co.uk

Website <https://www.youngasianvoices.co.uk/>

YAV is a youth and community organisation in Sunderland that supports young refugees and asylum seekers through educational programmes, social activities, and mentoring. The focus is on providing opportunities for employability, volunteering community engagement and sport

Government Websites

<https://www.gov.uk/asylum-helplines>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/asylum-support-uk-rights-and-expectations>

Additional Regional Organisations

In addition to the organisations already listed the following groups that also offer support to refugees and asylum seekers in the North East of England:

British Red Cross Refugee Support (multiple locations):

Delivers emergency support, practical help, and advice for refugees and asylum seekers, including orientation services, help with accessing healthcare, and assistance with family reunion processes.

Website: www.redcross.org.uk

Depaul UK – Nightstop North East (multiple locations):

Offers emergency accommodation for young people experiencing homelessness, including refugees and asylum seekers, in the homes of vetted volunteers.

Website: www.depaul.org.uk/nightstop/