

Management Committee

Date: 30th September 2015



Conclusion of COSLA's Migration Matters Project

1.0 Purpose

This report informs CPP Management Committee members of the conclusion to the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) "Migration Matters" project and the resources available to assist, welcome and integrate migrants developed through this.

2.0 Recommendations

CPP Management Committee is asked to note the suite of resources available from COSLA on migration.

3.0 Background

COSLA undertook a European funded project, Migration Matters Scotland, between December 2013 and June 2015. A key aim of the project was to provide local authorities and their community planning partners with a suite of well-informed policy tools to further aid the integration of migrants into their communities.

Argyll and Bute CPP participated in the project in January 2015. Officers from a range of partners whose remit covered migrants in some way took part in a group interview with consultants from COSLA to help inform the development of resources.

4.0 Detail

COSLA's migration resources can be found at www.migrationscotland.org.uk. The resources consist of the following:

- an interactive, modular, migration policy toolkit focusing on a number of key policy areas and highlighting case studies of good practice
- an online Migration database designed to be a "one-stop shop" for research, policy papers and statistics relating to migration in a Scottish context.
- A report of COSLA's findings from engagement activities with migrants in conjunction with four pilot councils.

- A report commissioned from the National Records of Scotland on how councils can utilise data from the census to inform them about their migrant populations.

The 5 key themes identified by COSLA most pertinent to migrants are:

1. Housing,
2. Education,
3. Health and Leisure,
4. Employment; and,
5. Social Connections

COSLA suggests that creative approaches to deliver services for migrants (e.g. English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses) should be considered by working in partnership. Innovative approaches could maximise uptake and offer additional opportunities to migrants. Examples could include partnering with businesses who employ a number of migrants to deliver ESOL courses as part of the working day or providing childcare facilities as part of the ESOL class.

5.0 Conclusions

A suite of tools to inform Local Authorities and Community Planning Partnerships to assist, welcome and integrate migrants into communities is now live and accessible.

6.0 Implications

Strategic Implications	Increasing the population relates to the overarching aim of the Single Outcome Agreement.
Consultations, Previous considerations	COSLA have held numerous workshops to best determine the content of the revised toolkit.
Resources	None arising from this report
Prevention	None
Equalities	Use of the toolkit may reduce inequalities faced by migrant groups

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References

www.migrationscotland.org.uk

COSLA Strategic Migration Partnership, report to CPP Management Committee, 19th
August 2014

Appendices

N/A