8 March 2017

Dear Sirs

Ref. Submission to Equalities and Human Rights Committee: Destitution and Asylum in Scotland – expiry 6pm Wednesday 8 March 2017

Please find attached e-mail Submission on behalf of Refuweegee (Scottish Charity Number SC046843) in response to EHRiC Call for Evidence document dated 25 January 2017 on the question of Destitution and Asylum in Scotland.

The enclosed has been collated from statement and comment amongst the following:

(i) Refugee/asylum seeking nationals, including those recently arrived in Glasgow
(ii) Refuweegee the organisation

Refuweegee is hopeful that Organisations with whom it works have responded independently to the EHRiC Call for Evidence.

In setting out and progressing the the Questionnaires attached, Refuweegee considered and expressed in its questions, the content of the document titled: “Scottish Government 2014-2017 New Scots : Integrating Refugees in Scotland's Communities” including 6 action plans on the needs of dispersed asylum seekers:

1. Employability and welfare
2. Housing
3. Education
4. Health
5. Communities
6. Social Connections

The responses by nationals/refugees/asylum seekers with whom Refuweegee work show a mixed experience around housing and community orientation, albeit each considered crucial across the board. In the sample interviewed there was acknowledged access to healthcare and the administrative, settlement procedures, while 'complicated', seem to have settled into a comprehensible format. There were no stated experiences or complaints/fears of violence.

Refuweegee's own comments and experiences and carefully thought out recommendations are clearly stated in the attached and it is hoped those are helpful to this Call for Evidence and are insightful and relevant.

Refuweegee is happy to be contacted for any further input of information and/or with any queries regarding the enclosed. They are contactable at the below address or by e-mail at selina@refuweegee.co.uk.

Refuweegee would respectfully request that any names and personal details of participants in this response remain confidential and are not disclosed to any other organisation or 3rd party save for the strict purposes and objectives stated within the said Call to Evidence.

Refuweegee hopes the attached has been helpful. Please acknowledge receipt of this e-mail and the enclosed.

Yours Faithfully

For and on behalf of Selina Hales

Contact details for Selina Hales are undernoted

Undernote
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