

# GEMA

## Gwent Police Ethnic Minority Association Cymdeithas Lleiafrifoedd Ethnig Heddlu Gwent

*There are significant pockets of negative attitudes and prejudice towards asylum seekers and refugees living in Wales.*



### ASYLUM SEEKER/REFUGEE

An **asylum seeker** is a person who has come to the UK to exercise his or her right to claim asylum under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and is waiting for a decision about whether or not they will be granted refugee status.

A **refugee** is a person who has been recognised by the UK government as needing protection under the 1951 Convention and has been granted leave to remain in the UK.

### MIGRANTS

An **international migrant** is defined as someone who has, or intends to, change their country of usual residence for a period of at least a year.

International students in Wales contribute £237m to the nation's gross domestic product and more than 9,000 jobs

The largest group of people born outside UK living in Wales is from Poland. There are also significant numbers from India, Germany, Ireland and the Philippines

### Newport City & Refugees

Newport is the third largest urban centre in Wales and is the second most diverse unitary authority after Cardiff. The number of non-white people in the city has continued to increase from 4.8% in 2001 to over 6% in 2011.

Newport is a Border Agency dispersal centre for **Asylum Seekers** and is one of Wales' four dispersal centres for **refugees**.

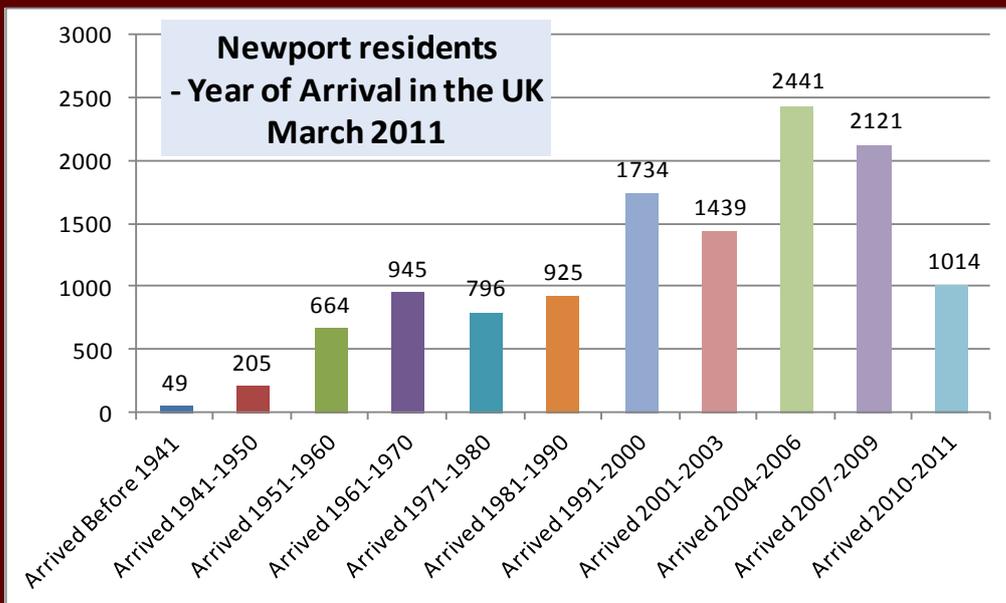
Wales accommodates approximately 1500 dispersed asylum seekers (as at May 2012). Of these 825 are dependants of the main applicant.

The top 5 nationalities of asylum seekers in Wales are: Iran, Pakistan, Afghanistan, People's Republic of China and Nigeria..

Welsh Assembly Government policy looks to support refugees and asylum seekers living in Wales and promotes integration.

### EXPERIENCES

Pill, in Newport is one area of Wales with previous experience of large scale immigration.



### NEWPORT ARRIVALS (CENSUS 2011)

After the eight Central & Eastern European countries, with Malta & Cyprus gained accession, arrivals of migrants in Newport increased significantly from 2004 and 2006. However recent years have seen a marked decline in arrivals to levels last seen in the 80s.

## References

Information on Asylum Seekers in Wales and the UK -

<http://www.wmp.org.uk/asylumseekers.asp>

Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees (ICAR) -

[http://www.icar.org.uk/index.html@lid=9348&geographical\\_coverage=4.html](http://www.icar.org.uk/index.html@lid=9348&geographical_coverage=4.html)

Asylum seekers and refugees -

<http://www.wmp.org.uk/documents/wsmf/News%20and%20Events/Migration%20Briefings/Asylum%20Seekers%20and%20Refugees%20in%20Wales.pdf>

Migration and Employment in Wales -

<http://www.wmp.org.uk/documents/wsmf/News%20and%20Events/Migration%20Briefings/Migration%20and%20Employment%20in%20Wales.pdf>

International migrants in Wales -

<http://www.wmp.org.uk/documents/wsmf/News%20and%20Events/Migration%20Briefings/International%20Migrants%20in%20Wales.pdf>

NCC Supporting People Local Commissioning Plan 2013-16

[http://www.newport.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/plans\\_and\\_strategies/cont710274.pdf](http://www.newport.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/plans_and_strategies/cont710274.pdf)

## HATE CRIME IN WALES

*"there are significant pockets of negative attitudes and prejudice including in relation to asylum seekers and refugees."*

Crawley and Crimes (2009) found that more than half of all refugees in Wales have experienced negative public attitudes and racism whilst living in Wales.

A significant number of **hate crime incidents** were described by survey respondents, many involving **verbal and physical abuse**, often by teenagers and youths. **Damage to property** was also widely reported. Many racist incidents are not reported due to concerns about the consequences.

The EHRC (2010) has identified a wide range of street-level abuse and violence reported by asylum seekers and refugees who said it made them feel unwanted and inhuman.

**October 2014**

## Gwent Police Ethnic Minority Association

c/o Gwent Police HQ  
Croesyceiliog  
Cwmbrân  
NP44 2XJ

Tola Munro, Chair

Email - [tola.munro@gwent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:tola.munro@gwent.pnn.police.uk)

Blackberry: 07855 557 069