



Minutes of South East Integration Network Meeting

Tuesday 7th September – Online

Present:	Mariam Ahmed	Amina MWRC
	Shgufta Anwar	Bike for Good
	Eileen Baxendale	Castlemilk Community Church
	Grace Browne	The Hidden Gardens
	Angela Christie	National Lottery Community Fund
	Susan Clark	The Dixon Community
	Claire Cooke	Women's Support Project
	Sabine Etchu	Women's Support Project
	Dee Gildea	National Lottery Community Fund
	Nicola Godsal	The Glendale Women's Cafe
	Kirsty Hood	Queen's Park Arena
	Leo Isac	Daisy Chain
	Karen Krawczyk	SEIN
	Aiesha Marr	The Dixon Community
	Sarah McPhie	The Well
	Steph McCulloch	NHS Health Improvement Team
	Lydia Murphy	Project Scotland / Volunteering Matters
	Valerie Murray	Co-op
	Angie Mwafulirwa	SEIN / Sharpen Her
	Nico Ndlovu	Siyakhuluma We Talk podcast
	Yas Rahemtulla	G42 Mutual Aid
	Jagoda Sadowska	SEIN Illustrator
	Jess Steele	SEIN

Apologies: Aastha Aryal (SEIN), Ghazala Amin (The Daisy Project), Ruth Cape (SEIN), Meg Camley (Home Start / SEIN), Amy Gill (Reach Community Health), Grace Gracie (Families Outside), Hazel Kyle (Glasgow Life), Amra Nazim (Govanhill Housing Association), Rachel Walker (Rumpus Room), Joanna Young (Govanhill Baths Community Trust), James (Music Broth), Will (Bike for Good)

1. Welcome

Meeting co-chaired by Karen and Jess

2. Minutes of last meeting

Proposed by Grace, seconded by Jess

3. Board Update

The SEIN Annual General Meeting has been postponed for the time being, we will update you with the new date as soon as possible.

4. Staff Update

Illustrator Selected

We're delighted to announce we will be working with Jadoga Sadowska, who will be creating a series of illustrations to represent the work of the network and our members.

Bank of Artists/Illustrators

We had lots of brilliant applicants for the illustrator opportunity, and have a list of artists who are mostly south east based and from a variety of backgrounds who are available for opportunities. Get in touch with Jess if you would like this list

jess@seinglasgow.org.uk

Upcoming Blogs

We are looking for contributors for blogs for October and November; October is Black History Month and we would like to speak to members who are either planning an event for it, or have projects for Black people. This is very open and we really want it to be member led, so let us know if you have any ideas and we can work around you.

We are also looking to do a blog around climate initiatives that are happening in the South East and wider as Glasgow will be hosting the COP26. Again this is very open, so do get in touch if you'd like to contribute jess@seinglasgow.org.uk

5. Discussion: Current Afghan crisis, ways to support and benefit the wider refugee community.

Overview

The Government have committed to settling 20,000 Afghan refugees over the next 5 years, a very small amount (1 person per 3300pp). The Government are also currently trying to pass the Borders Bill which will criminalise a lot of asylum claims.

How are organisations supporting those affected by the current situation in Afghanistan (both here and in Afghanistan) and what resources are available to for those looking to help?

Resources:

- [Latest UN Info](#)
- [Scottish Refugee Council variety of resources, ways to support, and info about the current situation](#)
- [FAQs about the resettlement programme](#)

Comments:

- Important to continuously create spaces where people can share knowledge and work towards positive change
- Refuweege is a good charity to support if people are wanting to help with welcoming new refugees to Glasgow with both belongings and letters.
- Information and advice sharing, and running social spaces (The Well run chai and chat for women and children)
- Awareness that we need to be proactive and responsive as a community, and listen to what support Afghan refugees will need
- Castlemilk Community Church run an integration program which includes ESOL classes, welcome packs, discussion groups etc is open to anyone local to Castlemilk and nearby
- Coop can set up food share partners to donate surplus food
- The National Lottery is about sharing information and funding for positive change, as well as being linked in with stakeholders and partners to support in the best way possible.
- Often what is said in our community doesn't go further, Siyakhuluma We Talk podcast can offer a platform for sharing information and having important conversations.
- Glendale Women's Café is a women's space for friendship and activities.

How do we take the current largely positive public opinion on forced migrants and use it to benefit the whole refugee and asylum seeker community?

Resources:

- [Changing the conversation \(Freedom from Torture\)](#)
- [Resources from Imix to positively change conversations around migration](#)
- [Praxis No Recourse to Public Funds Campaign](#)
- [Together with Refugees Campaign](#)

Comments:

- Public pressure on the government to do something, it's clear that the government will react to this
- Concerns about the future for all asylum seekers and migrants because of the Borders bill
- Questions posed within the discussion whether SEIN can be doing more to challenge the Borders Bill and support refugee communities?

- Concerns about how old cases will be forgotten and how the needs of other asylum seekers will be compromised.

6. **Breakout Groups**

The meeting split into groups, with the following guiding questions:

- What do you think to role of the network is when situations like this happen/ how do we collectively contribute to the bigger conversations?
- Do you feel having a collective conversation about a topic like this has been beneficial and insightful?

7. **Updates**

G42 Mutual Aid

G42 Mutual Aid have a women and non-binary people football group in Cathkin Park on Wednesdays from 6pm-7pm. Email Yas to be added to the WhatsApp group or to refer people. The group is very welcoming and Yas can meet people before hand to welcome them into the group.

Yas can be contacted at glasgowmutualaid@protonmail.com

Yas is also developing a resource for mixed race people in Glasgow and is looking to connect with other organisations that can support and advise as she develops the project.

National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF)

Angela Christie & Rachel Edwards have just joined NLCF & will be based across the South Sector of Glasgow.

Still open for business for all our programmes, if you would like to discuss a potential application then you can contact Angela or Rachel via: 0300 123 7110 or advicescotland@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

[More information on all of our programmes at the link here.](#)

Regarding COP26, [NLCF have opened a small grants programme](#) for funding up to £10,000. We expect most of the funding to support activities taking place after the COP26 event in November 2021 but there is the possibility of funding projects to take place during the event itself. However, there are 5 priorities & you must meet two of them. If you'd like to apply for funding for activities, contact us via togetherforourplanet@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk to discuss.

The Hidden Gardens

All activities are free: FROM TRAM TO TREES - OUR INNER CITY SANCTUARY next Tues 14th Sept 7-8.30PM online. Join us as volunteers guide us through the history of Copelawhill Tramworks and the design and evolution of The Hidden Gardens. Head Gardener Paula Murdoch will demonstrate how The Hidden Gardens provides a sustainable and nurturing environment for wildlife and Scott Shanks from RSPB Glasgow will offer plenty of inspiring ideas for improving biodiversity in urban environments.

[Book your tickets](#)

GARDEN FOR A GREENER PLANET Sat 18th Sept, 1 - 3.30PM at The Hidden Gardens, 25A Albert Drive, G41 2PE

Featuring fun activities for all ages including; volunteer-led tours, Bioblitz with RSPB and activities on gardening without peat and growing your own garden plants. Find out more; <https://bit.ly/2WQyf4B>

Tai Chi on the Lawn - Tuesdays and Fridays 10am

Men's Group - Tuesdays 1-3pm

For more info please contact grace@thehiddengardens.org.uk

Siyakhuluma We Talk podcast

The podcast is getting a lot of attention, so thank you to those who have listened and contributed. Contact: nico775nn45@gmail.com / [Listen to the podcast](#).

Nico has teamed up with Imagine Action Across Borders to do editing and hosting interviews. [Find out more here](#).

Castlemilk Community Church

At Castlemilk Community Church we welcome asylum seekers and refugees through our "Settling In" programme. This includes basic English classes, Welcome Packs and our Integration group which provides social contact, activities and a safe place to share cultures and experiences. We can also provide household goods, baby/toddler equipment, toys and clothes if needed. All our services are free, including our weekly international lunch.

Our Furniture Project can also provide small items of furniture for asylum seekers as well as a City-wide free furniture service for people gaining refugee status, and others coming out of homelessness and moving into a new tenancy.

We support asylum seekers and refugees throughout the Linn Ward area of Glasgow. (Castlemilk, Croftfoot, Kings Park, Simshill and parts of Cathcart). We are also able to help asylum seekers and refugees in the areas of South Lanarkshire adjacent to Castlemilk; Toryglen, Fernhill, Cathkin, Whitlawburn and Rutherglen. Contact us on **0141 634 0018**, or **0739 318 3334** during opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday 9am to 5pm Friday 9am to 1pm. Its best to make an appointment but we will try to see local people who call in: Castlemilk Community Church, 150 Arden Craig Road, Glasgow G45 0JG. Buses 5, 75 and 46 stop outside.

Bike for Good (BfG)

BfG have launched the Glasgow Women on Wheels Festival which is a month long event for women and nonbinary people who either cycle or want to get more confident with cycling. Lots of taster sessions and events running. [Find out more here](#)

Rumpus Room

Are seeking space to host some sessions with children and young people over the

upcoming months. They are looking for (extremely cheap) space to host some sessions with the 'Families Outside' group of young people as well as their regular Thursday neighbourhood sessions. Contact: rumpusroomteam@gmail.com

Reach Community Health

Reach are looking for funding and partners to work with to help facilitate the work they do in mental health within the BAME communities in the south side. They have seen an increased demand for their services, but have an uncertain financial future and are looking for insight and support to help them continue and ideally grow. If you would like to find out more about their work and potential partnership please contact Amy Gill amy@reachhealth.org.uk

Queen's Park Arena

Will be hosting a few dance events in collaboration with Tramway on the 8th, 15th, & 16th of October as part of the dance international festival. Tickets are free so keep an eye out. Also looking to do an event with the police to do a bike marking event, keep an eye out for that as well.

Co-op

Throughout the Co-op stores, we have been promoting sustainability and have set up soft plastics recycling boxes in the stores. We're looking to work with a kid's project/school to encourage children and young people to recycle. If anyone has any contacts in the Gorbals/South East area, please contact

8. Notes from the chat

Glasgow South East Carers Centre (The Dixon Community)

Glasgow Carers can receive support from their local carers centre on such matters as:

- o Short Breaks
- o Information and Advice
- o Emotional Support
- o Money Matters
- o Training
- o Having a Voice

To self-refer call The Carers Information Line on **0141 353 6504** or complete the online form on the [Your Support Your Way Glasgow Website](#). If you would like me to raise awareness about Carers within your organisation you can [book via the website](#) or contact Susan Clark **07377 400127** or susan.clark@dixoncommunity.org.uk

Multicultural Day Opportunities for older people in our community has resumed face-to-face activities. Places are available.

Women's Support Project

Just wanted to put a little bit of information about our Rights & Choices initiative at The Women's Support Project. We support asylum, refugee and migrant women who have been referred to us mostly due to isolation.

We run courses such as health and wellness and one for people who are new to the city filled with information about transport, things to do and information all about Glasgow. We also help to get women enrolled in college courses which range from computing, IT and nail and beauty.

We have previously delivered training on FGM and other harmful practices too and hope to start training and information sessions up again in the near future for other practitioners and to other organisations.

[Our website](#) and email claire@womenssupportproject.org.uk

9 **AOB**

[A reminder that we have a newsletter information submission form on website](#), please use this for any updates and opportunities you'd like to share.

[Fill out the short feedback form here for feedback on the network meetings.](#)

10. Dates of Next Meetings

Tuesday 12th October

Tuesday 9th November