

Decision under Delegated Powers
The change in role title and the extension of the Resettlement
Project Support Officer

Officer Requesting Decision:

Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Coordinator – Emma Moonlight

Officer Making the Decision:

Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing – Alison Simmons

Recommendation:

That approval is given to change the job title for the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Administration Officer to Resettlement Project Support Officer.

That approval is given to extend the Resettlement Project Support Officer post for a further 20 months until 31st March 2022 and to include an essential car user allowance as part of the package.

Reason:

On 17th June 2019 the Government confirmed its ongoing commitment to resettlement, announcing plans for a new UK Resettlement Scheme for 2020-2021 which will begin in April 2020. The change in role title of the post is to reflect the change in Scheme to be taken forward.

The Local Authorities of Leicestershire and Rutland have agreed to participate in the first stage of the new Scheme during 2020-2021 and have submitted pledges to the Home Office. The extension of the post reflects this extension of the service.

In addition, the Council will continue to support the 35 families who have been resettled in the area under the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme until March 2025.

Authority for Decision:

Section 8 of the Council Constitution contains authority for the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive) to agree changes to the establishment, within budget and without major service or policy implications, affecting no more than five posts (irrespective of their post number) in any single case (item 6 on page 8-4 of the Constitution).

Decision and Date:



Alison Simmons

Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing

16th March 2020

Background:

Between 2016 and 2020, 35 families were resettled in Leicestershire and Rutland on the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme. Charnwood Borough Council will continue to provide each family with support during their first five years in the UK, with the final family's support coming to an end in March 2025.

On 17th June 2019 the Government confirmed its ongoing commitment to resettlement, announcing plans for a new UK Resettlement Scheme for 2020-2021 which will begin in April 2020.

The UK Resettlement Scheme will consolidate the existing Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme, the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS), the Vulnerable Children's Resettlement Scheme (VCRS) and the Gateway Protection Programme.

The new Scheme will be open to refugees identified by UNHCR to be in need of resettlement to the UK because of their vulnerability. There is no geographic focus to the new Scheme.

Six Local Authorities of Leicestershire and Rutland have pledged to resettle families under the new UK Resettlement Scheme. Charnwood Borough Council will continue to lead and coordinate the VPRS and will take the lead role on the UK Resettlement Scheme during 2020-2021.

For Charnwood, Cabinet endorsed the recommendations of the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme Working Group to agree to the provision of one property (up to six people) from the Private Rented Sector during 2020-2021 to resettle a family under the new UK Resettlement Scheme.

Summary of Advice Provided by HR:

HR Adviser: Anna Cairns (13/3/20)

Comments: This is a management decision regarding the change of job title. This would not need to be re-evaluated to change the title.

Financial Implications:

The cost to extend the post until the 31st March 2022 will be £54,870.00 plus Car Allowance of £2,333.33 making a total of £57,203.33.

The post will be paid from the Home Office funding for the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and the UK Resettlement Scheme.

Post will be in Cost Centre F313.

Risk Management:

There are no risks associated with this decision.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Administration Officer
Job Description and Person Specification