

**Decision under Delegated Powers**  
**The extension of the VPRS Coordinator and 3 FTE Resettlement**  
**Worker posts**

**Officer Making the Decision:**

Head of Strategic and Private Sector Housing – Alison Simmons

**Recommendation:**

That approval is given to extend the existing fixed term contracts as follows:

Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Coordinator post for a further 8 months until the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

3 FTE Resettlement Support Worker posts for a further 15 months until the 30<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

The posts will be fully funded by the Home Office funding for the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

**Reason:**

The Districts and Boroughs Chief Executives agreed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 that Charnwood would take the lead and coordination role for Leicestershire and Rutland for the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

A total of 35 families have been resettled across Leicestershire and Rutland under the VPR Scheme and each family will continue to be supported for a period of 5 years from the date of their arrival, with the final families' support ending in March 2025.

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

Charnwood will continue to support families resettled under the VPRS and will coordinate the new UK Resettlement Scheme on behalf of the participating Local Authorities.

An extension to the VPRS Coordinator and Resettlement Worker posts is required to ensure sufficient capacity to continue to provide an effective support service to families resettled under the VPRS whilst supporting newly resettled families.

**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

10th July 2020

**Background:**

The Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme is a voluntary scheme and the local authority determines the number of refugees that can be assisted through the scheme in their local authority area.

Cabinet endorsed the recommendations of the Syrian Vulnerable Person Resettlement Scheme Working Group to agree to the provision of two properties (up to ten people) from the Private Rented Sector for five years to support the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

The Districts and Boroughs Chief Executives agreed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 that Charnwood would take the lead and coordination role for Leicestershire and Rutland for the Resettlement Scheme.

On 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

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

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.

The introduction of the new UK Resettlement Scheme was postponed due to the coronavirus situation, however UNHCR announced the resumption of resettlement travel for refugees on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2020.

### Summary of Advice Provided by HR:

HR Adviser: Anna Cairns (1/7/20)

Comments: Variation eforms will need to be completed for these employees.

Please note that employees who have over 2 years' service at the end of their Fixed Term contracts are entitled to a Redundancy payment.

### Financial Implications:

The posts will be fully funded by the Home Office funding for the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme.

The cost of extending the VPRS Coordinator for 8 months, including the essential car user allowance is: £31,414 (salaries) + £933 (car user allowance) + £3,130 (out of hours allowance) = £35,477.

The cost of extended 3 FTE VPRS Resettlement Workers for 15 months, including the essential car user allowances, is: £120,702 (salaries) + £6,650 (car user allowance) = £127,352

Total costs: £162,829

The table below shows the projected income and expenditure for the VPRS until March 2025 including the costs of extending these posts.

Post will be in Cost Centre F313.

VPRS YEAR 2-5 Funding					
	Income	Total spend	Totals	Cumulative Totals	
2016-18	£0.00	£26,054.00	£26,054.00	£26,054.00	Actuals
2018-19	-£185,000.00	£56,141.92	-£128,858.08	-£102,804.08	Actuals
2019-20	-£326,900.00	£180,985.05	-£145,914.95	-£248,719.03	Actuals
2020-21	-£412,800.00	£231,840.04	-£180,959.96	-£429,678.99	Estimated
2021-22	-£397,500.00	£373,953.75	-£23,546.25	-£453,225.24	Estimated
2022-23	-£223,600.00	£284,440.59	£60,840.59	-£392,384.66	Estimated
2023-24	-£101,100.00	£191,703.02	£90,603.02	-£301,781.64	Estimated
2024-25	-£27,000.00	£161,531.05	£134,531.05	-£167,250.59	Estimated
	£1,673,900.00	£1,506,649.41	-£167,250.59	-£167,250.59	

### Risk Management:

There are no risks associated with this decision.

Key Decision: No

Background Papers: No