

Maternity Stream of Sanctuary Quick Reference Guide

Asylum-seeker: A person who has entered the UK legally, has requested asylum (due to fears for their safety in their home country) and is waiting for the Home Office to make a decision on their application.

Refugee: Someone whose application for asylum has been accepted by the Home Office.

People Seeking Sanctuary: Anyone who has been forced to travel internationally to seek safety from the threat of violence or persecution, regardless of their stage in the legal process.

Dispersal: Home Office enforced movement of families or individuals who are seeking sanctuary.

Detention: The deprivation of liberty or confinement of an asylum seeking in a closed place which can include purpose-built detention centres, holding centres or prisons.

Deportation: The return of people seeking sanctuary to their country of origin against their will.

Trafficking: The process of trapping people through the use of violence, deception or coercion and exploiting them for financial or personal gain.

Resettlement: Refugees living outside their country of origin can apply for resettlement and if successful are brought to a new country with leave to remain.



When maternity care incurs a charge..

- Maternity care and treatment related to gender-based violence (e.g FGM) is free at the point of access.
- Uncertainty and fear around charging can cause a lot of anxiety for pregnant people seeking-sanctuary which may impact motivation to access care.

What is there to help me?

Baby banks: Research the nearest baby bank in your area to help provide the family with necessities for a newborn.

Local volunteer doula services:

Research whether any doula services in your area offer volunteer services for women in need.

Local City of Sanctuary Group: Your local City of Sanctuary Group are experts on support in your locality. They can help build a support system for the woman which will extend beyond discharge.

Use **Maternity Action** resources to discover what financial support the woman is entitled to and the regulations surrounding charging for care.



Use the **Migrant Help** Asylum Service helpline



Use the **Unseen Helpline** for people you think may be at risk of modern day slavery



Maternity Stream of Sanctuary Resource Pack:

This provides comprehensive guidance about accommodation issues, financial support and what else health practitioners can do.



Use the **Right to Remain Toolkit** to find out more about asylum support

