

North West Gateway Resettlement Partnership

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Gateway Protection Programme

- Operated by the Home Office and UNHCR
- UK commitment to resettle 750 per year
- North West involvement since 2004
- Formal partnership since 2011

North West Gateway Resettlement Partnership

Lead Partners:

Bolton MBC Refugee Action

Bury MBC Manchester City Council

Delivery Partners:

Oldham MBC Salford City Council

Stockport MBC Tameside MBC

Phase III Gateway 2011 - 2015

- 1410 refugees
- Nationalities: Ethiopian, Eritrean,
 Bhutanese, Iraqi, Somali, Sudanese and
 Congolese
- Individuals to large families
- Accommodation and integration services for 12 months

Housing Model

- Accommodation for 12 months
- Portfolio of Gateway properties that are reused
- Majority of stock is social housing
- Limited use of private sector properties

"Move-on"

- Integration support provided by Refugee Action for the first 9 months
- Final 3 months of integration support is provided by the Local Authority and is focused on move-on
- Supported by LAs to apply for either private sector properties or social housing

Challenges

- Managing expectations
- Adapting to UK accommodation
- Sourcing accommodation for large families and for those cases requiring adaptations
- Welfare reform and ensuring equity across the system
- Community cohesion
- Loss of COMPASS

A model of good practice?

- Current model provides stability, choice and long-term development work in specific neighbourhoods
- History and reputation of delivering a humanitarian project that works in local communities and neighbourhoods
- One-size does not fit all

Wish list....

- Greater synergy between pre-arrival information and post-arrival support
- The true cost of resettlement to Local Authorities
- Greater consideration of wider policy context i.e. housing market and welfare reform
- Emphasis on pathways to employment