

## **LOCAL AUTHORITY COMMISSION ON ASYLUM AND MIGRATION (LACAM) – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Local Authority Commission on Asylum and Migration (LACAM) is made up of elected member representatives from each Local Authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region. Its focus is on the issues around the asylum, refugee and migration agenda from a regional local government perspective.

### **Membership**

There is a seat for a member representative from each local authority in Yorkshire and Humber. Officers may attend in a support capacity. The Chair is nominated by Local Government Yorkshire and Humber (LGYH) and other representatives are nominated by individual local authorities. Local authorities will be asked to confirm nominations annually at the time of annual meetings.

### **Purpose**

The group exists to:

- Influence and shape national policy around asylum and migration to make sure it meets the needs of local government in this region.
- Ensure that Government is properly and regularly informed of the implications of asylum policies on local authorities and to make representations accordingly.
- Continue to lobby to secure sufficient resources to cover local authorities' responsibilities.
- Provide a 'constituency' for the Chair who represents the region on the LGA Taskgroup on Asylum and Migration.
- Consider the impact of new migration as it affects specific local authority services and their community leadership role.
- Oversee the work of Migration Yorkshire, including contract development and delivery.

### **Areas of Interest**

LACAM will consider any issues where new migrant populations are impacting on local authorities. In 2011-12 there will be a particular focus on:

- Providing political oversight for discussions around any future contracting arrangements for LA's involved in the delivery of services to asylum seekers.
- Ensuring that Local Government positions itself to play a strong influencing role if other providers deliver this service in the future
- Developing a collective local authority position on unaccompanied children and the impact of post-18 care for local authorities – including lobbying for Government to cover the costs that this policy is having on local authorities.
- Developing regional understanding around local authority role at 'end of process', and the impact of No Recourse to Public Funds cases on localities.

- Developing regional local authority thinking on the way that migration impacts on local areas, and ensuring that policy and delivery reflects the presence of new communities.
- Considering the impact that migration is having on cohesion and ways to address this.

## **Reporting**

This group works on behalf of the LGYH Executive and reports back to them twice each year.