

# Focus on young refugees and asylum seekers

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**North Wales  
Regional Innovation Coordination Hub**

**[www.northwalescollaborative.wales](http://www.northwalescollaborative.wales)**

**December 2022**

# The plan

Today



# The structure of a community of enquiry

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- A stimulus (focus on refugee and asylum seekers presentation and video)
- Individual reflection
- Discussion pairs
- Working in small groups to identify themes and come up with a question
- Question airing
- Question selection
- Exploratory talk around the question
- Last words (ideally with a focus on implications or points for action)

An **asylum seeker** is someone who has applied for refugee status and is still waiting for a decision on that application

A **refugee** is someone who has already received a positive decision from the authorities on their asylum claim

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Welsh Government (2018)

# What we found out

## Unaccompanied children



**40**

aged under 18  
(Nov 2022)



**10**

care leavers age  
18 to 25  
(Nov 2022)

## Young refugees living with family\*



**130**

under 18s settled  
under the Homes for  
Ukraine scheme



**60**

under 18s settled with  
their families under  
other schemes

\*Based on data from Wrexham and Gwynedd



Albania

Ukraine

Iran

Afghanistan

Morocco

Pakistan

Egypt

Vietnam

Iraq

Syria

Sudan

Eritrea

Ethiopia

“There are very nice people in hospitals, but when you’re waiting there, there is not a lot to do. If there are activities, there when you’re bored so you could be more patient. My mum and dad do not understand English, so I have to talk to the doctors but sometimes they do not talk to me. A translator would be good for my mum and dad if me or my brother or sisters are ill.”

“People should be nice; they should learn we are good; they should stop bullying. They should be kind; they should be friendly, and everyone should play kind and should not be mean. Bullying is bad, be kind.”

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## Feedback from refugee and asylum seeking children

# What support is needed?

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## Issues faced by young unaccompanied asylum seekers

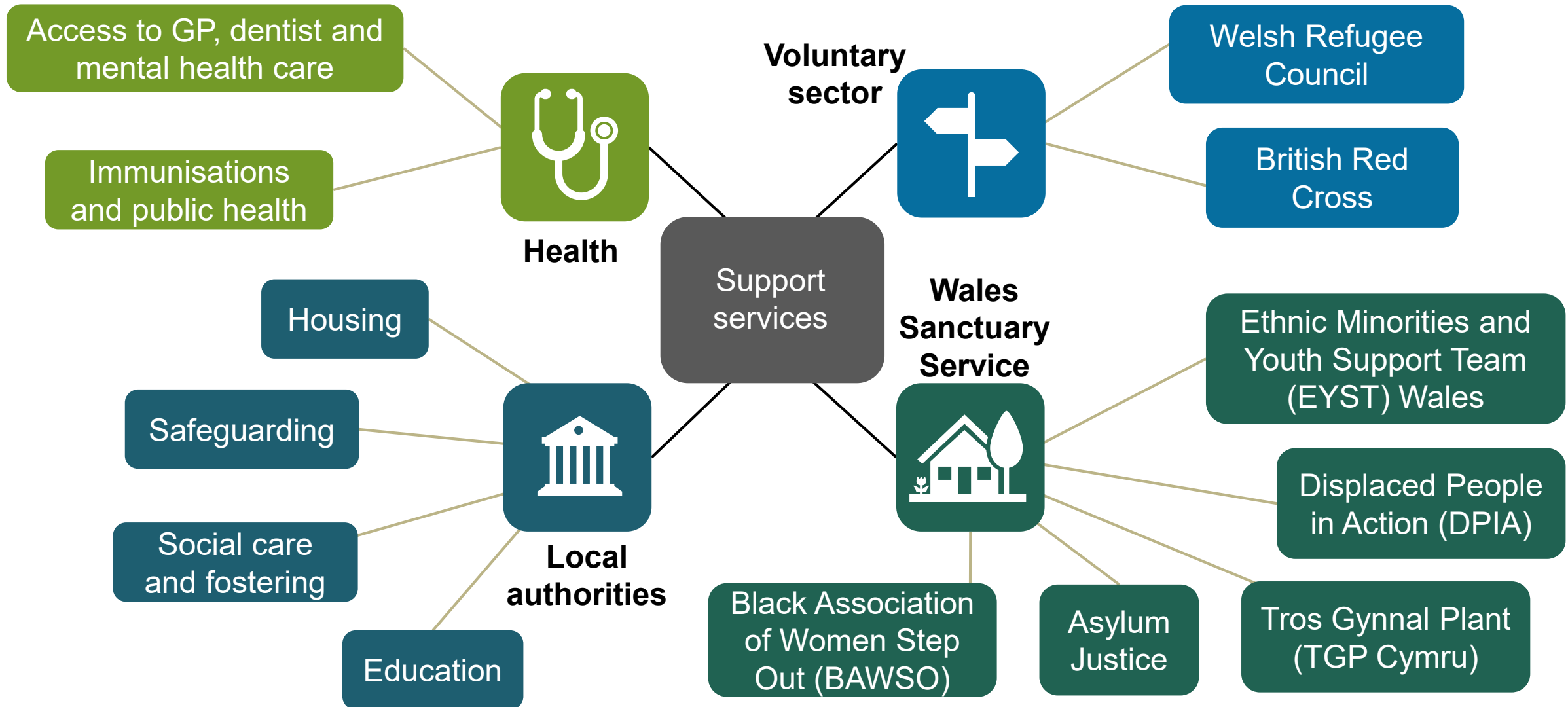
- Increased vulnerability to exploitation
- Increased risk of going missing
- Trauma of separation from family
- More likely to have experienced additional trauma
- Increased risk of severe mental health issues

## Support needed

- Increased awareness of trauma and treatment for trauma
- Mental health support, counselling, psychological needs met
- Be safe and have somewhere appropriate to live.
- Make friends, trusted relationships, belonging, community
- Life skills
- Family reunion including legal advice
- Education including support from schools with mental health, peer support and learning English
- Improved immigration procedures
- Equality and inclusion
- To be asked what they need, think and feel and to be listened to and kept informed.



# Across North Wales





# Guardians video

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Watch here:

<https://youtu.be/MiYTtjdmlAA>

**The  
Children's  
Society**