



Syrian Resettlement Scheme - Funding Process

Year 1

The principle is that first year costs are covered. To make the scheme workable for 20,000 refugees rather than a few hundred, as well as multiple local authority hosts, we have done some detailed work to move to a unit cost approach. The costs are based on data drawn from all the current resettlement schemes we operate – Gateway, the VPR, and our Afghan resettlement programme. However, these are significantly smaller than the proposed extension to the VPR and do not always provide helpful data to allow us to set a unit cost at a level which gives us confidence that partner organisations are reimbursed appropriately for specific costs. This is particularly true for additional medical and educational requirements and for social care costs. We are therefore proposing a) that local authorities can be flexible between elements of the unit cost and to pool them (i.e. to offset overspends in one area with underspends in another, and b) while a uniform approach is needed to deliver the scheme as quickly and effectively as possible, there will be instances where further discussion may be necessary and some costs effectively topped up.

The working unit costs per refugee are:

Children under the age of 3	Unit cost = £10,720
Children aged 3-4	Unit cost = £13,970
Children aged 5-18	Unit cost = £16,220
Adults in receipt of mainstream benefits	Unit cost = £23,420
Other adults	Unit cost = £10,720

This is broken down as follows:

UNIT COST FOR SYRIA VPR SCHEME					
	Adult Benefit Claimant	Other Adults	Children 5-18	Children 3-4	Children U-3
	£	£	£	£	£
Local Authority Costs	8,520	8,520	8,520	8,520	8,520
Education	0	0	4,500	2,250	0
Special Educational Needs	0	0	1,000	1,000	0
DWP Benefits	12,700	0	0	0	0
Primary medical care	200	200	200	200	200
Secondary medical care	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
TOTALS	23,420	10,720	16,220	13,970	10,720

Local authorities will therefore receive the following unit costs:

Children under the age of 3	Unit cost = £8,520
Children aged 3-4	Unit cost = £11,770
Children aged 5-18	Unit cost = £14,020
Adults in receipt of mainstream benefits	Unit cost = £8,520
Other adults	Unit cost = £8,520

Some points to note:

- Local authority costs cover management of the scheme, housing, and cultural integration including English language provision as per the current scheme
- There is an element included in the local authority costs for social care also – any cases where social care costs cannot be accommodated within this figure would need to be topped up separately
- For SEN, the provision is expected to cover an assessment, and any specific needs identified would then need topping up separately per child
- Medical care costs are split into two – the cost of registering a new arrival with a GP, which is minimal, and secondary medical costs for refugees with more serious medical needs, which are potentially more expensive. Legitimate costs above this would be covered
- Benefits are paid directly by us to the DWP and health costs are paid directly to Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Year 2 onwards

You will I hope have seen the Minister's letter to Chief Executives confirming that we will also provide additional funding to assist with costs incurred in future years, and that these arrangements will be applied to all cases since the 20,000 expansion was announced. The detail of this is still being worked through.