



The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 358, 11 August 2022

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Black Lives Matter

Confronting injustice: racism and the environmental emergency

Full report: https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Confronting-Injustice-Report_2022.pdf

Summary: <https://www.greenpeace.org.uk/news/environmental-racism-report-summary/>

(Source: City of Sanctuary *Newsletter*, Jul 2022)

Very important new report:

“Black people, Indigenous Peoples and people of colour across the globe bear the brunt of an environmental emergency that, for the most part, they did not create. Yet their struggles have repeatedly been ignored by those in positions of power [...]

Many groups in the UK – including Greenpeace and others within the environmental sector – acknowledge they have not done enough to recognise the links between systemic racism and climate change. This report is therefore intended as a resource that will help to consolidate anti-racist thinking and provide an overview of the role that systemic racism plays in the environmental emergency today. Throughout this report, we seek to show the role that British colonialism, the British state and UK supply chains have in this.

We provide analysis of the situation across Nigeria, Brazil, Turkey, Senegal and Mauritania to describe how global extractive economies – with their links to the UK – have caused huge damage to the lives and livelihoods of people of colour, and the role that racism has in the marginalisation of those communities. Closer to home, we demonstrate how environmental harm in the UK is concentrated in more deprived areas, and also disproportionately impacts people of colour in working class communities.” [Full report, pp11-12]

Consultations

“Developing a national framework for social prescribing”

<https://gov.wales/developing-national-framework-social-prescribing>

(Source: email from Carys Dawson to lis-wales@jiscmail.ac.uk, 28 Jul 2022)

The Welsh Government is “[...] consulting on a suitable model for social prescribing across Wales.”

Consultation closes: **20 Oct 2022**.

Climate emergency – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

Museums Association “Museums for Climate Justice” case studies

https://www.museumsassociation.org/campaigns/museums-for-climate-justice/mfcj-case-studies/#msdyntrid=qi2uAIM_TecbFe2Ch6jmFsggeZQTQgYthNN0D4B6z48

(Source: email from the Museums Association, 26 Jul 2022)

The MA has published a “selection of case studies showing how museums across the UK are taking action to address the climate crisis”.

Press release: “Announcement of the 2022 Green Libraries Grants Winners”

https://www.cilip.org.uk/news/613498/Announcement-of-the-2022-Green-Libraries-Grants-Winners.htm?utm_campaign=403574_Fortnightly%20email%2010%20Aug%202022%20-%20MEMBER&utm_medium=email&utm_source=The%20Chartered%20Institute%20of%20Library%20and%20Information%20Professionals&dm_i=6WFS,8NEE,9VBO9,1133H,1

(Source: *News from CILIP*, 10 Aug 2022)

“The Green Libraries Partnership with support from Arts Council England and in partnership with British Library, Libraries Connected and Julie’s Bicycle has announced its 15 winning public library projects under the £40,000 grant fund to support environmental activity.” [Taken from CILIP *News* email]

Climate emergency – Other Agencies

“Are we on track for net zero? The RSPB reflects on the Climate Change Committee’s 2022 Progress Report”

<https://community.rspb.org.uk/ourwork/b/nature-s-advocates/posts/are-we-on-track-for-net-zero-the-rspb-reflects-on-the-climate-change-committee-s-2022-progress-report>

(Source: *RSPB Campaigns Update*, Jul 2022)

“In this blog, Melanie Coath, Principal Policy Officer – Climate Change, reflects on the Climate Change Committee’s latest report on the UK’s progress in reducing emissions and its implications for nature.”

Very useful briefing on current position.

Cost of living crisis – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Our statement on the cost of living crisis”

https://www.museumsassociation.org/campaigns/advocacy/our-statement-on-the-cost-of-living-crisis/#msdyntrid=SepJKTzJAKYNAMBn5ikt-uF_iMHySZ51iC216znx-mM

(Source: email from the Museums Association, 26 Jul 2022)

“The Museums Association (MA) is deeply concerned about the impact of the cost of living crisis on museums across the UK. The rapidly increasing rate of inflation is causing severe problems for our institutional and individual members and for the wider sector. We set out below some of the main impacts [...]”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

How council library services can support children and families in the earliest years

<https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/how-council-library-services-can-support-children-and-families-earliest-years>

(Source: post to LinkedIn from Kathryn Boothroyd, Jul 2022)

New report from the LGA:

“The work carried out within the mini peer reviews by the LGA peer consultants highlighted excellent practice and close working between many library services and early years services. This is extremely beneficial in the development and delivery of family hubs and can be developed further going forwards.

A range of cross cutting themes were identified through the mini reviews and they have been described in detail. The funding of 75 councils to develop family hubs provides an opportunity to work more closely with libraries, councils, health and voluntary sector partners for the benefit of children and families across the country.”

NB Fuller assessment to appear in *The Network Newsletter*.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

State of the Nation 2022: a fresh approach to social mobility

Full report:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1084566/State_of_the_Nation_2022_A_fresh_approach_to_social_mobility.pdf

Executive summary: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-of-the-nation-2022-a-fresh-approach-to-social-mobility/state-of-the-nation-2022-executive-summary>

Brief summary + links to the report:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/state-of-the-nation-2022-a-fresh-approach-to-social->

[mobility?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=f39f9348cd-Newsletter+July+2+2022&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-f39f9348cd-120687778](https://www.equallyours.org/newsletter/2022/07/28/equally-ours-newsletter-july-2022)

(Source: Equally Ours *Newsletter*, 28 Jul 2022)

New report:

“It highlights that the picture for social mobility is not as negative as thought, especially when mobility is reviewed over the long term [...]

However, significant gaps remain. In the 2020 to 2021 academic year, only 31.7% of disadvantaged pupils achieved a grade 5 or above in GCSE English and Maths compared with 59.2% of all other pupils. This also means that two-thirds of disadvantaged pupils and more than a third of all other pupils fail to achieve a strong pass in both English and Maths at GCSE.” [Taken from brief summary]

Press release: “Leading think tank: ‘Levelling up was business as usual, but that has to change’”

<https://www.ippr.org/news-and-media/press-releases/leading-think-tank-levelling-up-was-business-as-usual-but-that-has-to-change>

(Source: New Philanthropy Capital *Weekly Update*, 1 Aug 2022)

“The leading think tank for the north of England has published analysis showing that despite the rhetoric of the levelling up agenda, public spending on the North is lower, and has grown less since 2019, than in other parts of the country.”

Going without: deepening poverty in the UK

https://www.jrf.org.uk/report/going-without-deepening-poverty-uk?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=FINAL%20JRF%20Newsletter%20July%202022%20ma&utm_content=FINAL%20JRF%20Newsletter%20July%202022%20ma+CID_db1a2ccbe5993a156d4bbcf158359064&utm_source=Email%20marketing%20software&utm_term=Read%20more%20about%20the%20report

(Source: JRF *Round-up*, 1 Aug 2022)

“You don’t need to look far in Britain in 2022 to see signs of deepening poverty and growing deprivation – whether it’s people forced to sleep rough in our towns and cities, or families having to choose between eating or heating their homes. The pressure of the pandemic, and the spiralling cost of living, have made things worse. But the truth is, the UK came into this series of crises in bad shape, as this paper shows. Too many households were already struggling to meet the cost of essentials [...]” [p2]

Important new report from JRF, which sets out some of the work that JRF and partners will be developing to:

“[...] begin to look at what it would take to ‘design-out’ destitution and deep poverty in the UK. This analysis indicates social security, work, household formation, ethnicity, ill health and disability, and additional costs will all be key areas to dig into deeper.” [p4]

“Sex and Power Index 2022”

https://www.fawcettsociety.org.uk/sex-power-2022?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=f39f9348cd-Newsletter+July+2+2022&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-f39f9348cd-120687778

(Source: Equally Ours *Newsletter*, 28 Jul 2022)

This is a:

“[...] biennial report which charts the progress towards equal representation for women in top jobs across the UK. Yet again, the report reveals the pace of change is glacial in the majority of sectors and shows that women are outnumbered by men 2:1 in positions of power.

Women of colour are vastly under-represented at the highest levels of many sectors and alarmingly, they are missing altogether from senior roles such as Supreme Court Justices, Metro Mayors, Police and Crime Commissioners and FTSE 100 CEOs.”

Prison: the facts

<https://prisonreformtrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Prison-the-facts-2022.pdf>

The latest “Bromley Briefings” for Summer 2022:

“Facts and figures provide a better basis than opinion for policy and practice change. Drawn largely from government sources, these facts chart the extraordinary rise in prison numbers over the last twenty years, inflation in sentencing and the social and economic consequences of overuse of custody. They reveal the state of our overcrowded prisons and the state of people in them, the impact of deep budget cuts, the pace and scale of change in the justice system and the scope for community solutions to crime.” [p1]

Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

Caring for a person with dementia: a practical guide

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/sites/default/files/2022-07/Caring-for-a-person-with-dementia-a-practical-guide.pdf>

(Source: email from Alzheimer’s Society, 9 Aug 2022)

Updated version of this important guide.

Disability issues – Other Agencies

“I have to plan for if I am stranded, if I am dropped, if my chair is damaged’: the perils of travelling while disabled”

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/aug/02/i-have-to-plan-for-if-i-am-stranded-if-i-am-dropped-if-my-chair-is-damaged-the-perils-of-travelling-while-disabled>

Just in case you didn’t see this timely reminder from Lucy Webster of the barriers facing disabled people trying to travel by public transport.

Looked-after children & young people

“Cumberland Council votes to make care experience a protected characteristic”

<https://www.cypnow.co.uk/news/article/cumberland-council-votes-to-make-care-experience-a-protected-characteristic>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Update*, 1 Aug 2022)

Just in case you didn't see this news ...

“Cumberland Council – a new unitary authority that will take over running the western part of Cumbria from 1 April next year – unanimously voted to make care experience a protected characteristic within its constituency.”

Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“Channel crossings, migration and asylum – Report Summary”

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5803/cmselect/cmhaff/199/summary.html>

Full report:

<https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/23102/documents/169178/default/>

(Source: *City of Sanctuary Newsletter*, Jul 2022)

Home Affairs Committee report:

“There are safe and legal migration routes to the UK, involving visas and applications for residency, but they do not exist for people travelling from all countries. Exceptionally, refugees from particular troubled countries are provided with particular routes to safe resettlement in the UK: specific schemes are in place, for example, since western troops withdrew from Afghanistan and since Russia invaded Ukraine.

Asylum seekers from other parts of the world face a different challenge. Asylum can be claimed only when a person is in the United Kingdom. Some asylum seekers may arrive on tourist or other visas before making their claims and being assessed to remain or to be returned to their own countries; for others, irregular routes of entry may be the only means of making the journey to enable a claim to be made. Not everyone who arrives across the English Channel on a small boat will seek or successfully claim asylum; the vast majority will, however, claim it and need to be assessed.

There is no magical single solution to dealing with irregular migration. Detailed, evidence-driven, fully costed and fully tested policy initiatives are by far most likely to achieve sustainable incremental change that deters journeys such as dangerous Channel crossings. Close co-operation with international partners, particularly those in France, is equally essential, but has not always proved mutually forthcoming from across the Channel as this has become a very ‘political’ issue post-Brexit. Provision of safe and legal routes for refugees, recognition that the United Kingdom is neither the least nor the most generous host in

Europe or in the wider world, and a willingness to co-operate fully with our nearest neighbours by sharing intelligence and equipment to identify and undermine people-smuggling criminal organisations may not offer eye-catching headlines but are most likely to work.” [Taken from report summary]

“Independent Commission of Inquiry into Asylum Provision in Scotland – with particular reference to failings in the provision of care to New Scots during the Covid pandemic”

<https://www.asyluminquiryscotland.com/>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 755, 25 Jul 2022)

“The focus of this Inquiry is events that occurred in April 2020, in Glasgow, at the beginning of the first major COVID-19 lockdown, when 321 people seeking asylum were removed from their homes.

In May 2020, Adnan Elbi died due to suspected suicide in one of the hotels. One month later, in June 2020, what has become known as ‘the Park Inn tragedy’ took place.

Badreddin Abdalla Adam, who had sought help 72 times due to his deteriorating mental health, was shot dead by police during a stabbing attack; six people including three asylum seekers, one police officer, and two staff members were injured; many were traumatised.”

New Plan for Immigration: legal migration and border control

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1092488/CCS204_CCS0722436296-001_Plan_for_Immigration_E-Laying.pdf

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 755, 25 Jul 2022)

The Home Secretary introduced her new Plan into Parliament:

“I am pleased to introduce this document setting out the vision for our border and legal migration system of the future. Since this Government ended freedom of movement, we have implemented a global points-based system which has gone from strength to strength, with visa application numbers above those of pre-pandemic levels.

Over the next few years, we are bringing in more improvements to ensure we continue to have a world-leading border and legal migration system. These range from visible changes such as improved customer service before you apply to invisible changes such as better targeting and watchlisting [sic] at the border.”

Migration issues – Other Agencies

Supporting care leavers with insecure immigration status: learning on effective support, collaboration and influence – an evaluation delivered by the National Children’s Bureau, commissioned by Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Executive summary:

<https://www.ncb.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/files/Insecure%20Immigration%20Status%20Executive%20Summary%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

Full report:

<https://www.ncb.org.uk/sites/default/files/uploads/files/Insecure%20Immigration%20Status%20Report%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Update*, 28 Jul 2022)

Important report which identifies the major challenges faced by young care leavers and looks at ways in which local authorities and other organisations can provide support.

“People Move”

<https://www.instagram.com/peoplemove/>

(Source: City of Sanctuary *Newsletter*, Jul 2022)

“#PeopleMove project by [@dailymirror](https://www.dailymirror.com/) telling human stories behind the refugee crisis.”

Lives on hold: experiences of people living in hotel asylum accommodation: a follow-up report

<https://media.refugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/21080057/Lives-on-hold-research-report.-July-2022.pdf>

(Source: City of Sanctuary *Newsletter*, Jul 2022)

Last year, the Refugee Council published a research report, *I sat watching life go by my window for so long* [see Ebulletin 332, 30 Jun 2021, <https://www.seapn.org.uk/uploads/files/Networkebulletin-no-332.pdf>, p4] which looked at the experiences of people seeking asylum living in hotel accommodation in England.

“This report provides an update on the situation for people living in hotels, with new information and evidence. It does not look at the experiences of unaccompanied children [...] as there are separate specific issues that relate to the use of hotels which impact them.

Unfortunately, a year on, the report findings confirm that people seeking asylum continue to experience the same issues whilst living in hotel accommodation [...]” [p1]

“Children of migrants in the UK”

<https://migrationobservatory.ox.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/MigObs-Briefing-Children-of-migrants-in-the-UK.pdf>

New “Briefing” from The Migration Observatory:

“This briefing examines what we know about children of migrants living in the UK. It looks at numbers and shares of foreign-born children and those who are non-UK citizens, what immigration statuses children hold, their pathways to citizenship, economic circumstances and academic performance.” [p2]

“Indigenous peoples and the anti-trafficking sector's blind spot”

https://www.freedomunited.org/indigenous-peoples-anti-trafficking-sectors-blind-spot/?trk_msg=C65E7GC9K9AKT8GNV2DDM98MRK&trk_contact=UEILK0CHEUMSBUJNJ9JKNB13O&trk_sid=9PQRKHKJI247BA7111CL02J3CK&trk_link=6U32JIMRS2S4N56IJP7AT65DH4&utm_source=Listrak&utm_medium=email&utm_term=Download+the+report&utm_campaign=FU-EN-AUG9-2022-INDIGENOUS-PEOPLES-DAY&utm_content=FU-EN-AUG9-2022-INDIGENOUS-PEOPLES-DAY

(Source: email from Freedom United, 9 Aug 2022)

Updated blogpost from Freedom United:

“Indigenous communities are usually overlooked when it comes to institutional reporting and data collection on forced labor and trafficking due to problematic definitions of trafficking coupled with the usually remote living arrangements of indigenous communities and their relationships with state authorities.

However, in some cases, inflation of incidence is misattributed to indigenous communities, particularly women and girls, due to the legal status and criminalization of sex work and the equating of sex work with trafficking. The overall result is that hard figures capturing an accurate scale of the issue as well as appropriate prevention measures tailored to these indigenous populations are scarce.”

“Meet the brave transgender refugee staging the ‘world’s first’ LGBTQ+ Afghan protest”

https://www.pinknews.co.uk/2022/08/10/afghanistan-refugee-trans-ozlam-nemat-sadat-lgbtq-afghan/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=57ZpGi1DMrkVwefQqTK4CZCI5B2xVYZmdPXjx.c3tQ9mVop9ggL_f3jm6kp3ziJBneecECRjtQ

(Source: *PinkNews Daily Newsletter*, 10 Aug 2022)

News story which also looks at the UK’s response to people seeking sanctuary from Afghanistan.

LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies

“Trans rights and political backlash: five key moments in history”

https://theconversation.com/trans-rights-and-political-backlash-five-key-moments-in-history-187476?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2011%202022%20-%202371323666&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2011%202022%20-

https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/07/13/202371323666+CID_213c23ca6c7beefcd228cb6c53b9224f&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Trans%20rights%20and%20political%20backlash%20five%20key%20moments%20in%20history

(Source: *The Conversation*, 11 Aug 2022)

Important background to the current backlash.

“Ohio leaders 'are twisting parents' fears into fodder for political gain”

<https://eu.dispatch.com/story/opinion/columns/guest/2022/08/09/opinion-anti-lgbtq-bills-lack-empathy-put-young-people-risk/10211952002/>

(Source: email from It Gets Better Project, 10 Aug 2022)

“Opinion” column piece by Brian Wenke (executive director of the “It Gets Better Project”), looking at some of the recent legislative and other changes in the US:

“Book bans, restricting curriculum, denying trans athletes the opportunity to play, denying healthcare for trans youth, and ‘don’t say gay’ bills are solutions in search of a problem. They are fabulous tools for stirring up controversy and directing attention away from the more salient issues our society is facing [...]

The real threat to our world is a collective inability to empathize with people who are different.

It is a bias politicians have been leveraging for decades. Fear-mongering may get people to the polls, but it does nothing to create a better, more equitable world. It’s selfish and dangerous.”

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Meet the Gadgeteers – science and reading are perfect partners”

<https://dcmslibraries.blog.gov.uk/2022/08/09/meet-the-gadgeteers-science-and-reading-are-perfect-partners/>

Just in case you haven’t seen this DCMS blogpost about the Summer Reading Challenge.