



## The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 381, 29 August 2023

### Events

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

### Black Lives Matter/Anti-racism

**“The MA hasn’t got everything right – but we’re committed to making lasting change”**

<https://www.museumsassociation.org/campaigns/decolonising-museums/blog-august-2023/#msdyntrid=fNy5BJe1YgjFzZHfFsguMURp5bfqR84nhagh3QjRUM>

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 8 Aug 2023)

Blogpost by Sharon Heal (Director, Museums Association):

“It is over three years since the murder of George Floyd sent a visceral shock around the globe. At the time, many museums in the UK published statements of support for the Black Lives Matter movement and committed to becoming anti-racist organisations, as did the MA.

At the Museums Association we were part way through our work to support the creation of guidance on decolonisation, and we doubled down on our efforts to support the wider sector to address the legacy of empire, including racism, in museums.”

The post reflects on what has been learned ...

### Climate emergency/the environment – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

**“Majority say museums should take a stance on the climate crisis”**

[https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2023/08/majority-say-museums-should-take-a-stance-on-the-climate-crisis/#msdyntrid=ciniAenhnpfmRpLuZhn\\_JhnEoc5yNwUJUrd-XII4HAJ](https://www.museumsassociation.org/museums-journal/news/2023/08/majority-say-museums-should-take-a-stance-on-the-climate-crisis/#msdyntrid=ciniAenhnpfmRpLuZhn_JhnEoc5yNwUJUrd-XII4HAJ)

(Source: Museums Association email updates, 10 Aug 2023)

“A majority of people believe that museums, galleries and heritage sites should take a stance on the climate crisis, according to new research.

In an online survey by the Audience Agency, 51% of people agreed with the statement that these venues ‘should take a stance’ on climate change.

Forty-seven per cent of people took this view in relation to live cultural venues, and 53% about visitor attractions.

Large proportions of people also believe that cultural organisations should take a stance on other social issues, according to the research – with just under half saying this about each of the three categories of venue.”

### **Climate emergency/the environment – Other Agencies**

**“Equally Ours blog: Embedding equality and human rights into climate action”**

[https://www.equallyours.org.uk/equally-ours-blog-embedding-equality-and-human-rights-into-climate-action/?utm\\_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm\\_campaign=26a18d63cb-Newsletter+August+1+2023&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_93cf2d2bcb-26a18d63cb-120687778](https://www.equallyours.org.uk/equally-ours-blog-embedding-equality-and-human-rights-into-climate-action/?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=26a18d63cb-Newsletter+August+1+2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-26a18d63cb-120687778)

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 10 Aug 2023)

Important blogpost:

“While climate breakdown and extreme weather events affect all of us, their impacts are not felt equally. Climate change disproportionately impacts people who are socially, economically, politically, institutionally or otherwise marginalised. And in doing so, it deepens existing structural inequalities and creates new forms of injustices. Yet, it is these communities, those who are most affected, who tend to have the least say in decisions around policies and measures to address climate change.”

### **Cost of living crisis – Other Agencies**

**Press release: “Class of 2023 more likely to be 'stay-at-home' students”**

<https://cosmostudy.uk/latest/class-of-2023-more-likely-to-be-stay-at-home-students>

(Source: *Children & Young People Now Update*, 11 Aug 2023)

“Up to 34% of A-level students are considering living at home if they get into their preferred university next week [...]

Disadvantaged students are particularly impacted, as families facing financial challenges expect to struggle to support a child living away from home. Young people from families who used a foodbank in the last year were much less likely to apply for university at all, and those that did apply for university were much more likely to plan on living at home (31% vs 19% for those that did not use a foodbank). The same was true for those from families who are behind with their housing payments (33% vs 17%).”

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

**“Exploring loneliness stigma through qualitative interviews and focus groups”**

[https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-exploring-the-stigma-associated-with-loneliness/exploring-loneliness-stigma-through-qualitative-interviews-and-focus-groups?utm\\_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm\\_campaign=26a18d63cb-Newsletter+August+1+2023&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_93cf2d2bcb-26a18d63cb-120687778](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-exploring-the-stigma-associated-with-loneliness/exploring-loneliness-stigma-through-qualitative-interviews-and-focus-groups?utm_source=Equally+Ours+Newsletter+2022&utm_campaign=26a18d63cb-Newsletter+August+1+2023&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_93cf2d2bcb-26a18d63cb-120687778)

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 10 Aug 2023)

Actually published in June, this report looks at ways of overcoming the stigma attached to loneliness.

## Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

**Good Things Foundation. *Impact review***

[https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/insights/annual-impact-report/?utm\\_source=Good+Things+Foundation+Newsletter&utm\\_campaign=596a03c18b-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2019\\_04\\_05\\_08\\_12\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_874c1dbcc0-596a03c18b-110066901](https://www.goodthingsfoundation.org/insights/annual-impact-report/?utm_source=Good+Things+Foundation+Newsletter&utm_campaign=596a03c18b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_04_05_08_12_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_874c1dbcc0-596a03c18b-110066901)

(Source: *Good Things Foundation News*, Aug 2023)

Good Things Foundation *Impact review* for Apr 2022-Jun 2023 has just been published. As well as a timely reminder of just what digital exclusion involves, the review also has some good news:

“We have taken great strides towards getting digital inclusion on the national agenda. Our advocacy and influencing work has ramped up - highlighting why now is the time to act on digital exclusion. We will continue to shine a light on our community partners, and in 2023, we were able to showcase the work of digital inclusion hubs to the House of Lords Communications and Digital Committee for their report exploring digital exclusion and the cost of living crisis.

We’ll continue this awareness raising over the next year, alongside delivering the services and support to enable digital inclusion in communities.” [p3]

## Equality, Equity, Diversity & Inclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

***Preventing and combating antigypsyism and discrimination against Roma and Travellers: factsheet***

<https://rm.coe.int/ecri-factsheet-on-roma-and-travellers-28072023-en/1680ac16b0>

(Source: *MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview]*, 800, 7 Aug 2023)

Important new factsheet which, amongst other recommendations, includes, for example:

“12. Any racist material or material that encourages stereotypes or prejudice against Roma and other groups of concern to ECRI should be removed from textbooks [...]

13. The authorities should monitor and evaluate to what extent pupils learn about diversity, different cultures and the history of Roma and other minorities and to what extent teachers promote intercultural understanding [...]

14. The authorities should ensure that all schools are encouraged to put in place a policy to prevent, monitor and respond to racist incidents, including bullying, with guidelines for pupils, teachers and parents. The authorities should move on from general anti-bullying activities to developing and implementing group-specific modules against the bullying of Roma children and young people [...]” [p10]

### Health & Wellbeing issues – Other Agencies

**“Britons living in deprived areas have poorer sleep quality, study finds”**

<https://www.theguardian.com/lifeandstyle/2023/aug/07/britons-deprived-areas-poorer-sleep-quality-study>

Just in case you didn't see this *Guardian* article, reporting on a recent study – the research article is at: <https://www.mdpi.com/2624-5175/5/3/30>.

### Disability issues – Other Agencies

**“Disabled people are disproportionately affected by homelessness – and getting support feels ‘nearly impossible’”**

[https://theconversation.com/disabled-people-are-disproportionately-affected-by-homelessness-and-getting-support-feels-nearly-impossible-209286?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2023%202023%20-%202716227449&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2023%202023%20-%202716227449+CID\\_0f46967f7af8ee34e3c5bf6daa7142b5&utm\\_source=campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Disabled%20people%20are%20disproportionately%20affected%20by%20homelessness%20%20and%20getting%20support%20feels%20nearly%20impossible](https://theconversation.com/disabled-people-are-disproportionately-affected-by-homelessness-and-getting-support-feels-nearly-impossible-209286?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2023%202023%20-%202716227449&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2023%202023%20-%202716227449+CID_0f46967f7af8ee34e3c5bf6daa7142b5&utm_source=campaign_monitor_uk&utm_term=Disabled%20people%20are%20disproportionately%20affected%20by%20homelessness%20%20and%20getting%20support%20feels%20nearly%20impossible)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 23 Aug 2023)

“Homelessness is reaching record highs in the UK. The latest statistics on statutory homelessness show that in March 2023, 104,510 households – including over 131,000 children – were living in hotels, hostels, B&Bs and the like. But disabled people are particularly affected by homelessness, as our new report, commissioned by the Centre for Homelessness Impact, explores.”

The report, *Homelessness and disability in the UK*, is at: [https://assets-global.website-files.com/59f07e67422cdf0001904c14/645a76da097c6dad33fcc423\\_CHI-disabilities-homelessness23.pdf](https://assets-global.website-files.com/59f07e67422cdf0001904c14/645a76da097c6dad33fcc423_CHI-disabilities-homelessness23.pdf).

## Neurodiversity issues – Other Agencies

### “RNIB building first in UK to meet neurodiversity standard”

<https://www.theconstructionindex.co.uk/news/view/rnib-building-first-in-uk-to-meet-neurodiversity-standard>

(Source: LinkedIn)

“The new London office of the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) is said to be the first building in the UK to fully adopt a new BSI neurodiversity standard [...]

The building brings together several RNIB services, including: The Low Vision Service assessment clinics; Products for Life store; usability lab space designed to imitate an ordinary ‘living room’ showcasing adaptations; heritage area; ‘Talking Books’ recording studios; RNIB Connect Radio broadcast studio; a multi-faith room; serenity space for people experiencing sensory overload or stress; and amenities for guide dogs.”

## Migration issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

### ***Accommodation and integration support for resettled Afghans***

<https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-9804/CBP-9804.pdf>

(Source: MEMO [Minority Ethnic Matters Overview], 800, 7 Aug 2023)

New HOC Library “Research Briefing” looking at the withdrawal of ‘bridging’ accommodation:

“There is broad agreement that prolonged stays in bridging accommodation are undesirable. But local government representatives have said it will be challenging to find accommodation for everyone and are worried that some households will become homeless following the withdrawal of bridging accommodation.” [p5]

## Migration issues – Other Agencies

### ***Towards a National Refugee Strategy: our vision for a fair and humane asylum system***

<https://www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Towards-a-National-Refugee-Strategy.pdf>

(Source: *Equally Ours Newsletter*, 10 Aug 2023)

“There is no one solution that will stop people taking dangerous journeys overnight. But there are practical and tangible actions that will make an impact, unlike the empty rhetoric of the Government’s current approach. This paper sets out an alternative pathway to reducing the number of people taking dangerous journeys to reach the UK. It focuses on expanding the safe routes available to people who would wish to seek safety in our country, on meaningful partnerships with the French Government and EU partners, and on running a fair and efficient domestic asylum system.

This pathway should be part of an overall cross-government National Refugee Strategy that marks an end to the cost and chaos of the current system that has resulted in over 170,000 people waiting for an initial decision and people being accommodated in expensive and inappropriate hotels. Such a strategy would include the types of international cooperation set out in this paper, recognise the role of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office in increasing stability for people around the world, ensure the domestic asylum system makes fair and efficient decisions while providing the right support to people throughout the process, and give the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities responsibility for the integration of refugees.”  
[p1]

### **“What next for evacuated Sudanese nationals?”**

[https://freemovement.org.uk/what-next-for-evacuated-sudanese-nationals/?utm\\_source=Free+Movement&utm\\_campaign=ca055e02a3-Asylum+updates&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_792133aa40-ca055e02a3-116428530&mc\\_cid=ca055e02a3&mc\\_eid=7d8713d645](https://freemovement.org.uk/what-next-for-evacuated-sudanese-nationals/?utm_source=Free+Movement&utm_campaign=ca055e02a3-Asylum+updates&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_792133aa40-ca055e02a3-116428530&mc_cid=ca055e02a3&mc_eid=7d8713d645)

(Source: *Free Movement Refugee and Asylum Update*, 24 Aug 2023)

Useful update:

“Following the outbreak of the conflict in Sudan earlier this year the UK government evacuated thousands of people. This included a number of Sudanese nationals, some of whom were single parents accompanying their British children. What their current entitlements and next steps are is unclear.

There is no published information on the numbers of Sudanese evacuated, but we know of counties including Oxfordshire and West Midlands where families have been placed. Several organisations have stepped in with support including Central England Law Centre, West Midlands Immigration Network, Asylum Welcome and Refugee Action.

Those evacuated were granted six months leave to enter on entry to the UK, via passport stamps only. This group were not issued with grant letters explaining the basis on which leave was granted, or the conditions attached to it. The lack of clarity around the grant of leave and associated entitlements has caused more than a small headache for families.”

### **“Hotels and employment aren’t major ‘pull factors’ for refugees – here’s what really draws people to move”**

[https://theconversation.com/hotels-and-employment-arent-major-pull-factors-for-refugees-heres-what-really-draws-people-to-move-211796?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2029%202023%20-%202719927501&utm\\_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2029%202023%20-%202719927501+CID\\_856801dbee8b687172632b7ae764ddc0&utm\\_source=c](https://theconversation.com/hotels-and-employment-arent-major-pull-factors-for-refugees-heres-what-really-draws-people-to-move-211796?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2029%202023%20-%202719927501&utm_content=Latest%20from%20The%20Conversation%20for%20August%2029%202023%20-%202719927501+CID_856801dbee8b687172632b7ae764ddc0&utm_source=c)

[campaign\\_monitor\\_uk&utm\\_term=Hotels%20and%20employment%20arent%20major%20pull%20factors%20for%20refugees%20%20heres%20what%20really%20draws%20people%20to%20move](https://www.thepinknews.com/2023/08/11/yougov-lgbt-attitudes-trans/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=qL5_BT9eJr0D06mZ9mmsFs7Wuh2pUMt4NujkzfU08BRmGoDr8VOAUFmyW7_ImoPrAIKtJmycpQ)

(Source: *The Conversation*, 29 Aug 2023)

Interesting intro to some new research findings that show that “the strongest pull factor for asylum seekers to a destination is social networks” – the article looks at current deterrents and considers whether they are effective.

### **LGBTQ+ issues – Other Agencies**

**“Growing number of Brits view trans people negatively, YouGov study finds”**

[https://www.thepinknews.com/2023/08/11/yougov-lgbt-attitudes-trans/?utm\\_source=piano&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=qL5\\_BT9eJr0D06mZ9mmsFs7Wuh2pUMt4NujkzfU08BRmGoDr8VOAUFmyW7\\_ImoPrAIKtJmycpQ](https://www.thepinknews.com/2023/08/11/yougov-lgbt-attitudes-trans/?utm_source=piano&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mypinknews&pnespid=qL5_BT9eJr0D06mZ9mmsFs7Wuh2pUMt4NujkzfU08BRmGoDr8VOAUFmyW7_ImoPrAIKtJmycpQ)

(Source: *PinkNews*, 11 Aug 2023)

Useful article, putting these findings into some context:

“The research, published on Friday (11 August), found that 39 per cent of Brits ‘personally view’ trans people in a positive light, with 33 per cent saying their feelings are neutral and four per cent saying they ‘don’t know’.

The remaining 25 per cent had negative feelings towards the community. This is up from 16 per cent in 2021, and follows YouGov research in 2022 which found that Britons had become less likely to support trans rights.

In last year’s survey, almost half (49 per cent) said discrimination against trans people is a significant problem in society.

This shift in attitudes comes amid ever-increasing attacks on the community from politicians and the media.”

### **Broader issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government**

#### ***The reading framework***

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1168960/The\\_Reading\\_Framework\\_July\\_2023.pdf?dm\\_i=5KYK,U5UE,43HQVX,3P9I6,1](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1168960/The_Reading_Framework_July_2023.pdf?dm_i=5KYK,U5UE,43HQVX,3P9I6,1)

Info about this was included in the previous *Ebulletin* (see:

<https://www.seapn.org.uk/uploads/files/Networkebulletin-no-380.pdf>, p5)

The latest mailing from SLG (Source: CILIP School Libraries Group *SLG Connect*, 11 Aug 2023) includes some helpful links:

- Barbara Band’s blogpost, “The DfE Reading Framework - how relevant is it to school librarians?”,

<https://barbara567band.blogspot.com/2023/08/the-dfe-reading-framework-how-relevant.html>

- Cathi Woods and Elizabeth Hutchinson's blogpost, "Unpacking the DfE Reading Framework for School Librarians",  
<https://www.elizabethahutchinson.com/post/unpacking-the-dfe-reading-framework-for-school-librarians>