

Appendix B – Overview of Refugee Resettlement Schemes & Data for Resettled Families Across Districts in Kent (as at 30th July 2024)

- **Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme (VPRS) (2015 – 2021).** In early 2021 the number of individuals resettled under the VPRS nationally exceeded 20,000, the original target for 2020. Although the VPRS officially ended in 2021, it merged seamlessly into the UKRS, an almost identical scheme to the VPRS but which resettles refugees from anywhere in the world. Legacy cases still being supported by the programme.
- **United Kingdom Resettlement Scheme (UKRS) (2021-).** This scheme has global reach and has resettled over 2508 individuals¹ to the UK primarily from Syria, Iraq, Somalia, Sudan and Yemen. This scheme replaced the Vulnerable Persons Resettlement Scheme and was intended for use by any refugee group identified by UNHCR requiring resettlement and fulfilling the criteria of the scheme.
- **Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy (ARAP) (2021-).** This Scheme offers relocation and assistance to Afghan citizens who worked for or with the UK Government in Afghanistan in exposed or meaningful roles (such as interpreters and embassy staff). The Scheme launched in April 2021 and remains open. 15,592 individuals¹ have been relocated to the UK under the scheme (up to 23rd May 2024)
- **Afghan Citizens Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) (2022-).** The UK formally opened this scheme in January 2022 following the rapid withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan and the subsequent evacuation of ‘vulnerable’ individuals. The scheme has resettled 10,573 individuals¹ to the UK so far (up to 23rd May 2024).
- **Other similar refugee resettlement schemes** as may be introduced by government.
- **Community Sponsorship Scheme (2016-)** KCC’s Refugee Resettlement Team give approval, advice, and guidance only.

¹ *Afghan Resettlement Programme: operational data - GOV.UK* (www.gov.uk)

