

Scottish Refugee Council Press Release



23rd October 2006

Giving young asylum seekers a helping hand

A new information pack that aims to help unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) deal with life in Scotland is launched on 24 October.

Scottish Refugee Council, in cooperation with the Big Step, are launching a new information pack – “Welcome” - to help young asylum seekers cope with life in Scotland.

“Welcome” is aimed at youngsters aged 13 to 18, whose first language is not English. The pack covers a wide range of issues, from guidance on the complexities of making an asylum claim, to advice on where to find help and support. The pack also explains aspects of Scottish life and culture and the rights and responsibilities of young people living in Scotland.

Scottish Refugee Council spokesperson, Laura Dargie, said:

*“Young asylum seekers from the **Young Survivors Steps to the Future Group** helped design the pack. We felt that it was important for it to reflect their views and interests as well as offering useful advice. Their participation has been central to ensuring that the pack meets the needs of the people it is intended to help. It’s very much their creation”.*

“Welcome” which can be purchased from Scottish Refugee Council, is priced £15.00, but is distributed free to young asylum seekers.

For Further information please contact Andrew Dougal, Scottish Refugee Council Press & Communications Officer on 0141-223-7927, mobile 07734-030-763, or email andrew.dougal@scottishrefugeecouncil.org.uk

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