



Calderdale

Valley of Sanctuary

Experts By Experience Strategy

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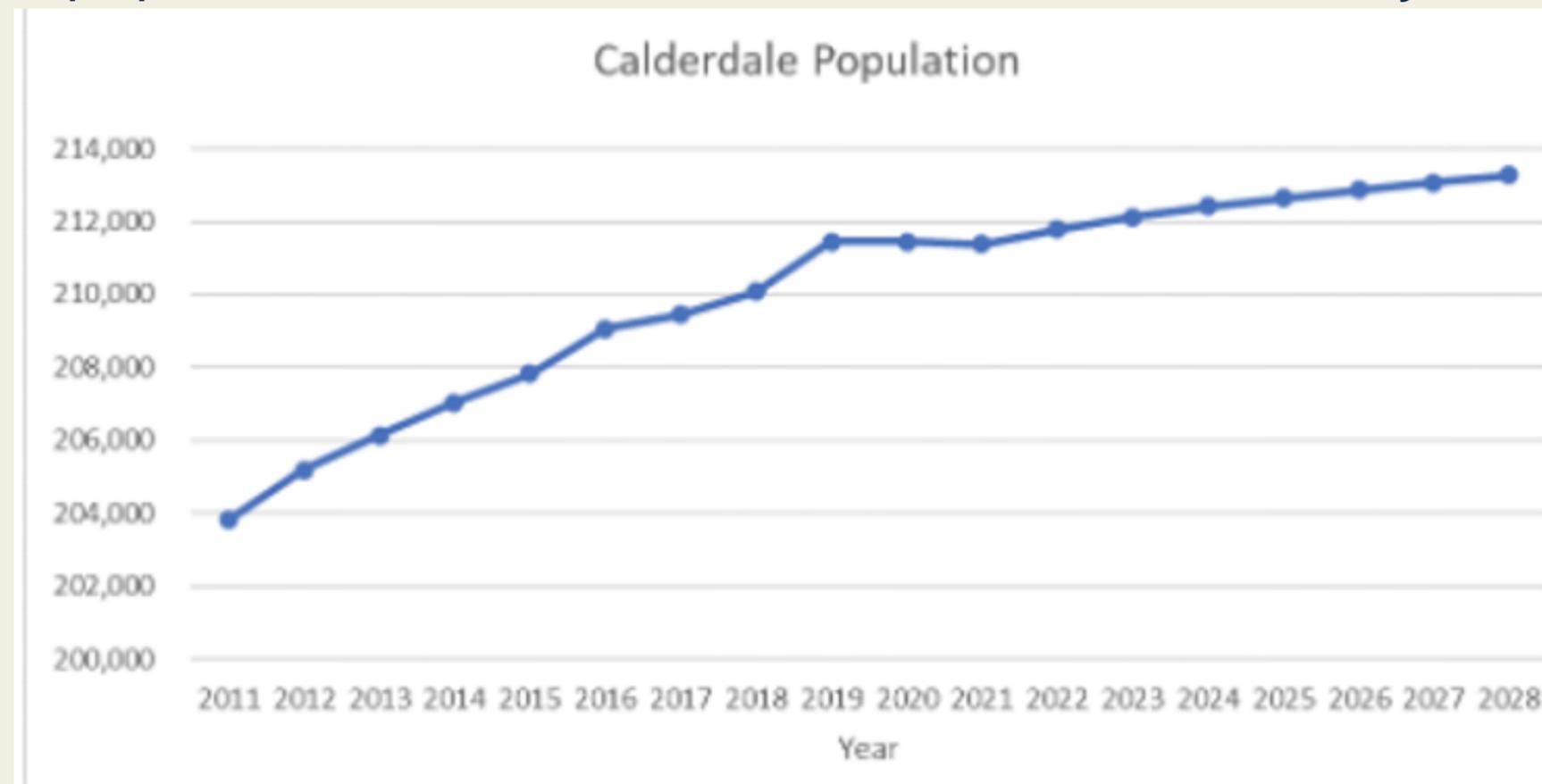
Introduction

People seeking sanctuary faces many challenges and difficulties.

Diversity regarding the culture, linguistic, race, ethnicity, religion, and experiences aspects are widely found in them.

Their need is significantly varied ranging from physical, psychological, safety, directional, belongingness, and identity types.

It is projected that the population of Calderdale will increase further in the year 2028.



Source: (Calderdale Valley of Sanctuary demographic information, 2021).

The aim is to highlight the efforts needed to work collectively for improving the approach to involve EbE in development, leadership, campaigning, and service delivery as well as sharing good practices.

Objectives

- 1) To promote a narrative through EbE about the skills and contribution asylum seekers as well as refugees make to our community.
- 2) To enable EbE to fully participate in a range of local organisations and be recognised for their contributions.
- 3) To monitor and evaluate the impact of this strategy and share lessons learned.
- 4) Engaging people seeking sanctuary in designing, planning, and developing various programs.
- 5) To empower people seeking sanctuary to establish their own body (formal or informal).
- 6) Involving people in campaigning and advocacy.

Methodology

The first step towards developing the strategy was to design and distribute a survey amongst a diverse range of people seeking sanctuary therefore the study summarizes the key points of each question outlined in the survey. The survey form was based on open-ended questions and participants with diverse geographical backgrounds were considered in the study.



SAMPLE SIZE

- The sample of participants was randomly selected.
- It was undertaken between 1st – 20th August 2021.
- 50 hard copies were distributed amongst people seeking sanctuary in different places and events. 27 were completed during face-to-face conversations.
- 60 people received the survey by WhatsApp and 6 were returned.
- The total number is of participants within this research was that of 33.



AGE GROUPE

- | | |
|-------------|------|
| • Under 18. | 3 |
| • 18-24. | 2 |
| • 25-34 | 9 |
| • 35-44 | 10 |
| • 45-54 | 8 |
| • 55-64 | 1 |
| • 65+ | none |



GENDER

Male	14
Female	19
prefer not to say	none



Difficulties

- People were reluctant to talk and share their thoughts.
- Some people refused to engage as they don't speak English.
- WhatsApp groups did not prove a useful method. 3 groups with more than 20 people in each group were circulated with only 6 positive responses mainly from women.
- Engaging people with special needs require more attention.
- Three responses from underage participants (under 18 - asylums) were also taken, but this number is not a good representation of this group to understand their needs.
- We avoid asking status as it is a sensitive question (Refugee or asylum?)

Opportunities



- Summer activities and open days are good chances to meet people.
- It was easy to complete the survey with men during walking activity. It was a relaxed time for them while walking.
- All the people engaged with face-to-face felt that they finally got someone to ask them specific questions concerning their issues.
- Efforts were made to get a diverse group.
- Doing this survey identified other people and new arrivals who are in desperate need to talk to someone and share their fears.
- Targeted participants can be easily found in the right place and the right time for organizations to carry out more needs assessments.

Findings and Recommendations

THEME	FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS
experts by experience	most of the people haven't heard about the EbE terminology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• spreading awareness among people about what these people are what they have to offer to society• Encourage EbE to tell their stories and experience to change their peers' image.
Involvement with the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- They would like to be involved by any means, helping others, sharing their own experiences, by talking, joining activities, or taking voluntary work.- They need is a window of opportunities to encourage them to be integrated with community and organisations.- They are facing challenges and difficulties that can't enable them to engage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Buddy support• Organisations should amend policies and strategies and recruit more and more experts by experience to volunteer or as employees to provide the best support to people seeking sanctuary

THEME	FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS
<p>Barriers and difficulties</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Home office - Pandemic - Language/culture/health policies - Lack of trust 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitate classes, cultural training, and scholarship programs • campaigns to motivate the general public and policymakers. • enhance welcome and inclusiveness by eliminating social, language, and cultural barriers
<p>Designing the service and support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EbE wants services that prepare them for the marketplace. -To improve organizational communication for info accessibility. - start community groups to socialize. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EbE can support their peers. • More EbE contribution to the organisation's planning, decision and strategy making and discussions • match skills, abilities, knowledge, education and experiences with the requirement of the refugee's group

THEME

FINDINGS

RECOMMENDATIONS

Motivations

- Having a right to work and live in UK.
- Making friendship/ relations
- Getting financial incentives
- To have a place to identify us as important people and get to feel that we are appreciated.

- hold workshops and activities to boost the motivation and enthusiasm level of these people.
- involve them in decision making, face to face conversations and leadership activities.
- the organisations should treat them as subjects instead of dealing with them as objects

Empowering EbE

- Sharing their skills and experience
- Full English time study programme
- Building their confidence
- a chance for them to help in small projects

- Language classes
- make old refuges to help new people to help them in their daily needs and works.
- coordinate with other sectors (health, schools, arts...etc) to link EbE to their programmes.
- locating the talent in the refugees and should use it for the growth of EbE

Short Summary

1

KEY MESSAGE

Coordinating within the refugee sector and beyond to tackle EbE issues

2

KEY FINDINGS

EbE has many skills and they want to be engaged with the local community.
Barriers should be reduced

3

ACTIONS

Recommendations can be a starting point towards taking actions for better services.

4

EBE

EbE are willing to be involved and be empowered, so they must take part in finding out info, talking to the community or organisations on where they can find such chances. They need to overcome their fears and start feeling at home. Organizations would change and provide chances if they see demands and lots of voices requesting support.

5

TIMELINES

There is no good or bad timeline as long as organizations are willing to adopt measures.

EbE wants education and a peaceful place to live

Next Steps

**WHAT ACTIONS AND
COMMITTMENTS
WILL
ORGANIZATIONS
TAKE?**

**HOW THEY CAN
WORK TOGETHER
AND COORDINATE
EFFORS?**

**WHAT ARE THE
BARRIERS
ORGANISATIONS
FACE INVOLVING
EBE?**



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Calderdale
Valley of Sanctuary

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