



# **New Scots: integrating refugees in Scotland's communities**

**Summer Academy**

**Tuesday 08 September 2015**

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***Scottish Refugee Council***

# New Scots: integrating refugees in Scotland's communities



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# Aim of today



- An overview of the context (policy and legal)
- A picture of asylum seekers/refugees in Scotland
- An understanding of communities
- A sense of integration in Scotland
- An insight into policy and practice issues
- Inform our work too!

# Scottish Refugee Council



- Human rights NGO established 1985
- Response to the Scottish dimension i.e. independent health, housing, education, social work, community etc. legislation and policy
- largest organisation in Scotland providing independent advice and assistance to refugees and asylum seekers
- capacity building – development - campaigning



# Our World



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# Our Work



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***Empowerment is a core value of SRC***

# Floods, swarms or people?



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## Asylum Seekers (April 2015)

- **3,106** asylum seekers receive accommodation and financial support in Glasgow
- **12.5%** of all asylum seekers in the UK
- **0.5%** of Glasgow's overall population

## Refugees (April 2015)

- Between **500 – 800** claims granted pa
- Around **2/3 of refugees stay** in Glasgow 3 years after refugee status
- Estimated **20-25,000** in Scotland
- No-one exactly knows how many in Glasgow!?!

# 1999



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# Towers of Babel



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# Community Planning

## 2000-02



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- Lack of planning
- Very limited work on the ground
- Isolated communities and individuals
- Many agencies uncertain of asylum issues
- Limited resources available
- The death of Firsat Dagg

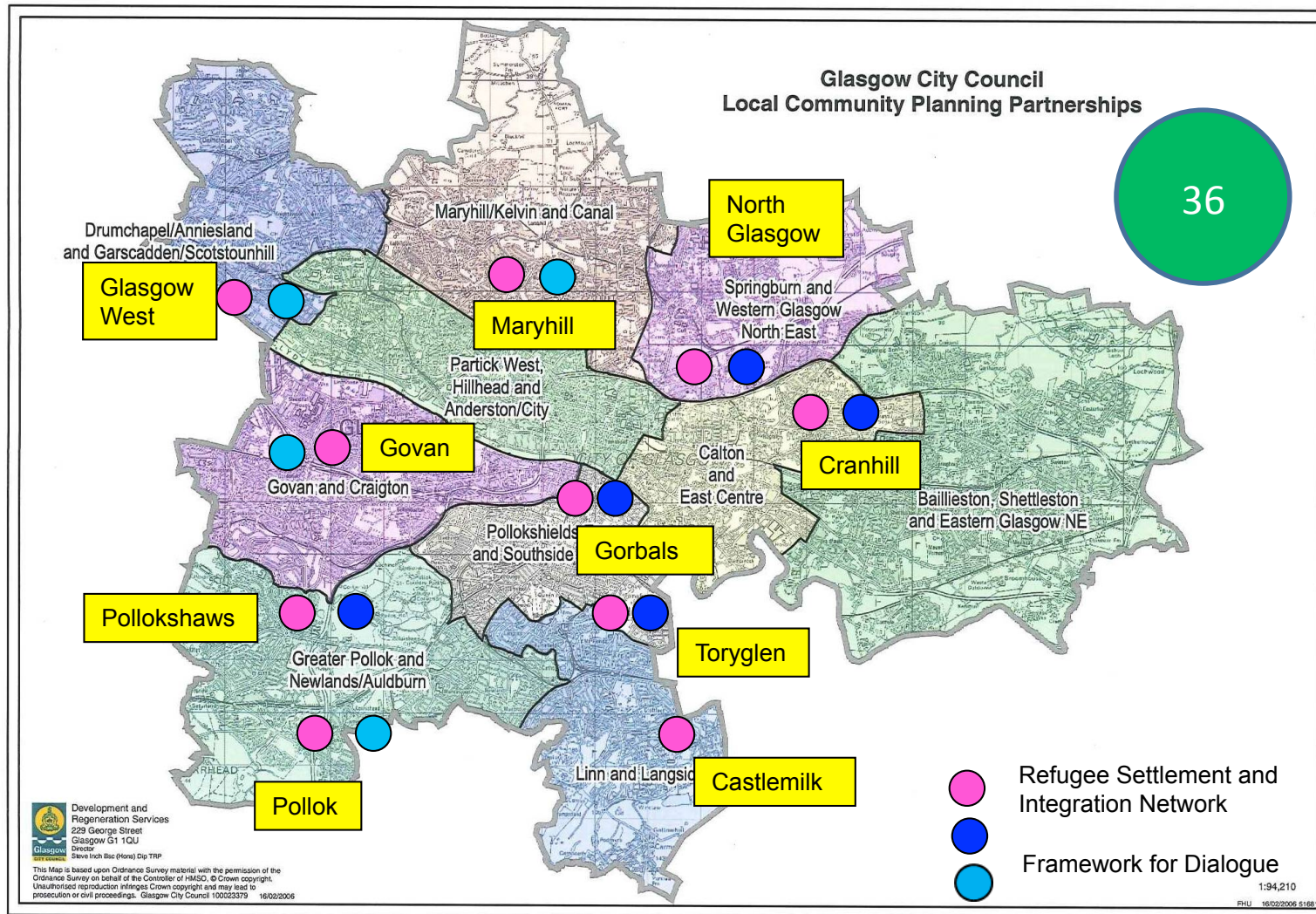




# Community Work 2002-09



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# Community responses



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# Working with communities



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# Glasgow's minority ethnic population



2001 – 41,854 (7.2% population)

2011 – 91,622 (15.4% population)

119% growth

And increasing....in the long term...

# Comparing populations



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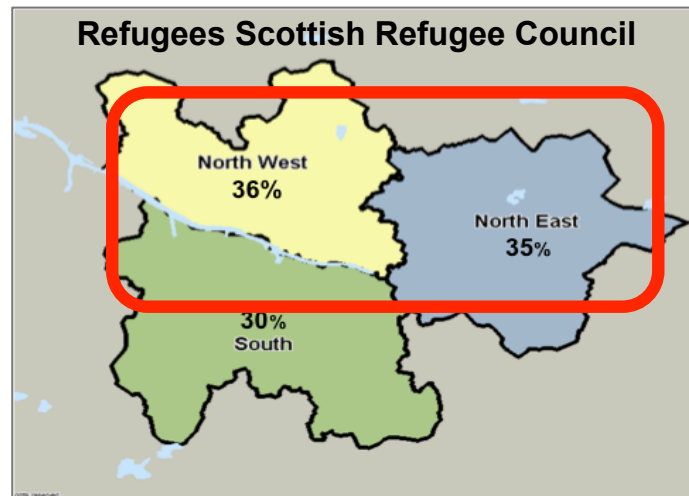
**Ethnic Minority Population**



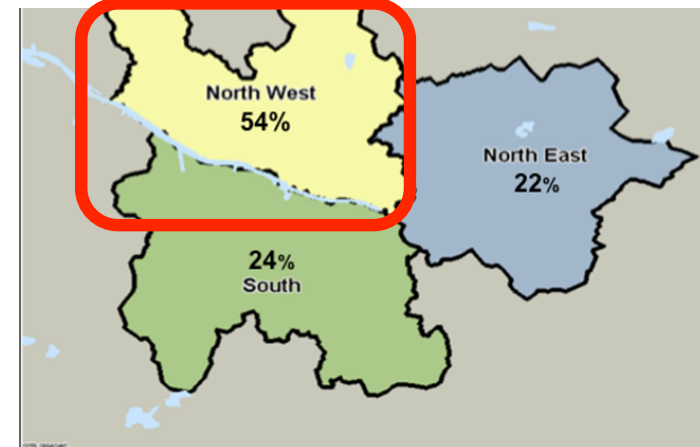
**Asylum seekers**



**Refugees Scottish Refugee Council**



**Refugee Support Team services**



# Legislative Context



- A raft of legislation (and policy) since 1970s
- Increasing in frequency since mid 90s
- Successively limiting rights to rights and entitlements
- 1999 – NASS: dispersal and section 4
- 2002 – section 55: requirement to claim asylum as soon as reasonably practicable
- 2004 – section 9: withdrawal of support to families
- 2005 – 5 Year Strategy
- 2008/09 – *Simplification Bill...*
- 2013 – Immigration Act
- 2014 – Independence Referendum....

# “Its different in...England”



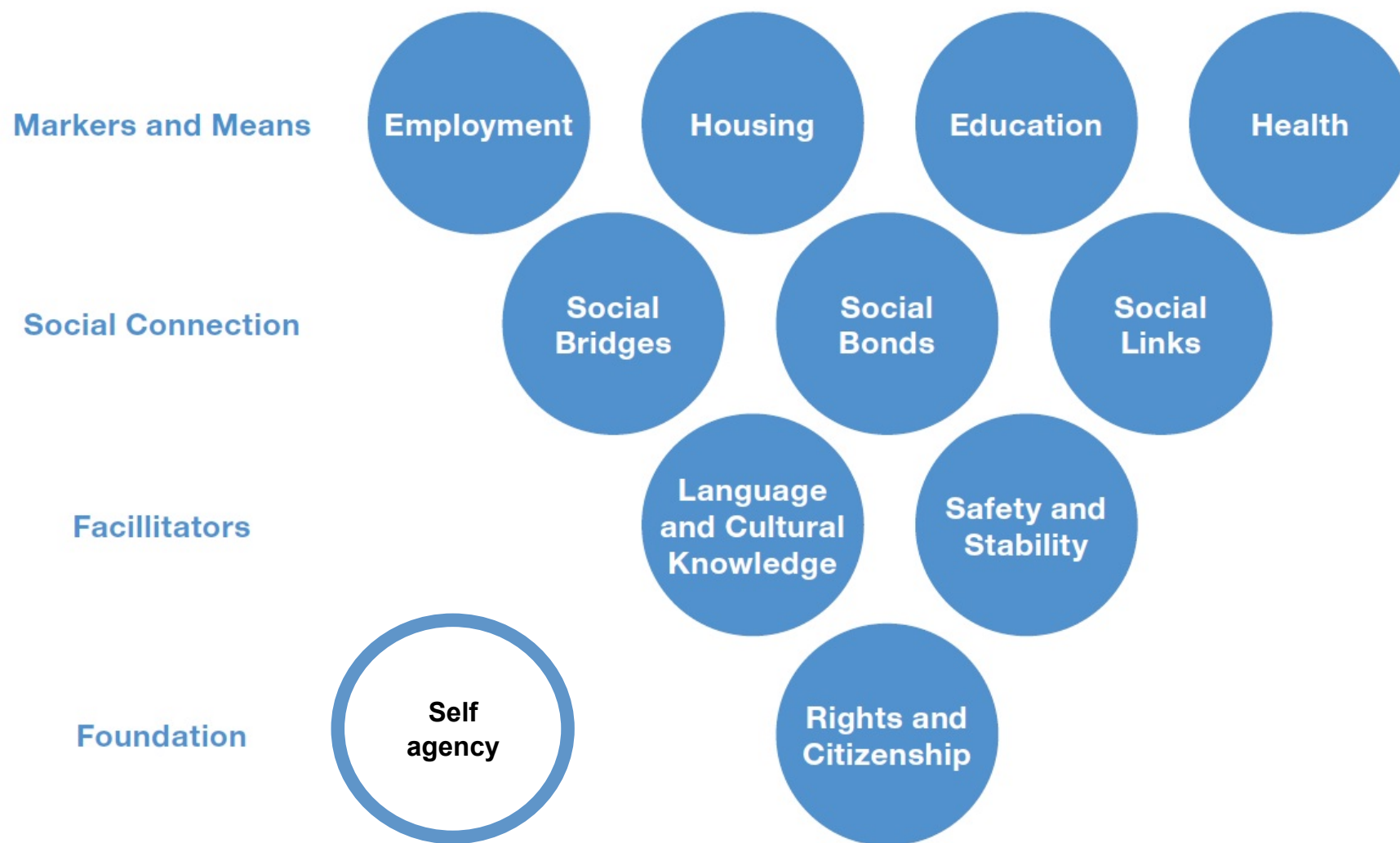
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- Integration
  - begins from arrival
  - Is a two process
  - Is a *dynamic*

# Indicators of Integration



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# Strategy Co-production

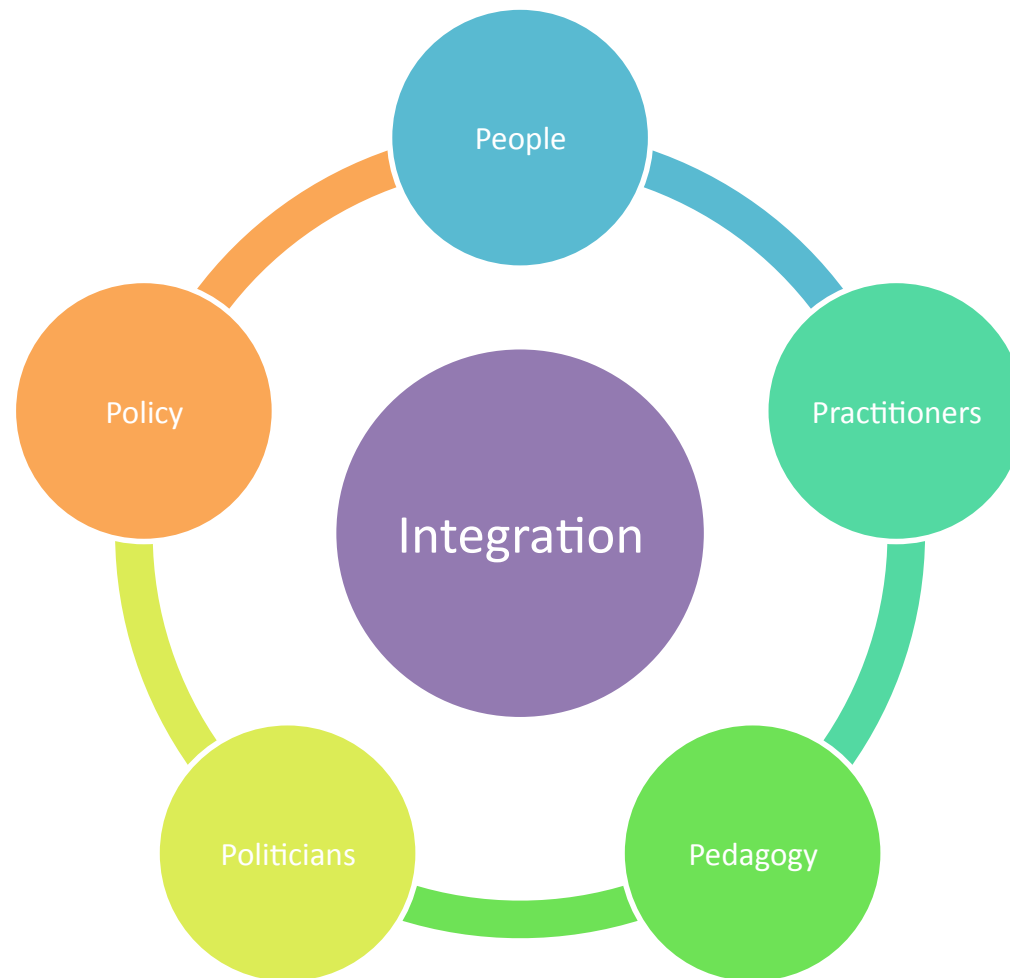


- [Scottish Refugee Integration Forum and action plan 2003](#)
- SRIF 2: 2006 – 2007
- New Scots: Integrating Refugees in Scotland's Communities
  - Participatory approach and shared power
  - Inter-active tools
  - Stakeholders encouraged to make connections
  - Implementation is shared

# New Scots: Production



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# New Scots: implementation



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# Strategic tools



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Legend	
Strength/Asset	Challenge
New Ideas/Possibilities/Opportunities	Future Goal
Comments	Yes!
Lovely	hmmm

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## Workshop results

Refugee Week Scotland	
Events	
<p><b>Brown</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Huge range of community events</li> <li>Theatre!</li> <li>Lots of free events</li> <li>Track record of quality, innovative drama</li> <li>Opportunities for people to participate and perform</li> <li>Events all over Glasgow</li> <li>Music!</li> <li>Huge number of events</li> <li>Food!</li> <li>High profile events</li> <li>Organising large scale events</li> <li>City and Scotland wide</li> <li>Community Celebrations are unique and vibrant</li> <li>Known celebrities returning year after year e.g. Kevin Bridges</li> <li>Communication across partners</li> <li>Experience in evaluating events</li> <li>Great performances</li> <li>Good event planning</li> <li>Diversity of events</li> <li>Great mix of different services – coms, retail, schools etc.</li> <li>Knowledge of RCO's</li> <li>Academic network Glasgow Uni</li> <li>Training and facilitation skills</li> <li>Flexible group of speakers</li> <li>Project Management Qualification</li> <li>Background in advertising</li> <li>Links to schools</li> <li>Networking within BRC</li> <li>Links to record labels</li> </ul>	<p><b>Grey</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clashing of big events</li> <li>Competition for venue space</li> <li>Weather??</li> <li>Capacity to organise</li> <li>Staff capacity – 1 x ACDO</li> <li>Competing priorities</li> </ul>
<p><b>Green</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Performances in busy city centre areas </li> </ul>	<p><b>Yellow</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Radio, TV, Film – more of these</li> <li>RWS Roadshow – Highlands &amp;</li> </ul>

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09:20  
14/02/2014

# New Scots: education



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# Outcomes for Education



1. Refugees and asylum seekers are able to achieve the English Language skills they need to successfully integrate with Scotland's communities
2. Refugees and asylum seekers access appropriate education opportunities and increase their qualifications/knowledge/experience as a result
3. Refugees and asylum seekers are supported to use pre-existing qualifications and access appropriate employment/additional education opportunities as a result
4. Scotland's linguistic diversity is promoted and as a result is valued, enabling refugees to contribute fully/effectively to Scottish society

# New Scots



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## New Scots: Integrating Refugees in Scotland's Communities

2014 - 2017





# Politicians



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# Policy & Practice



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# Learning



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# People



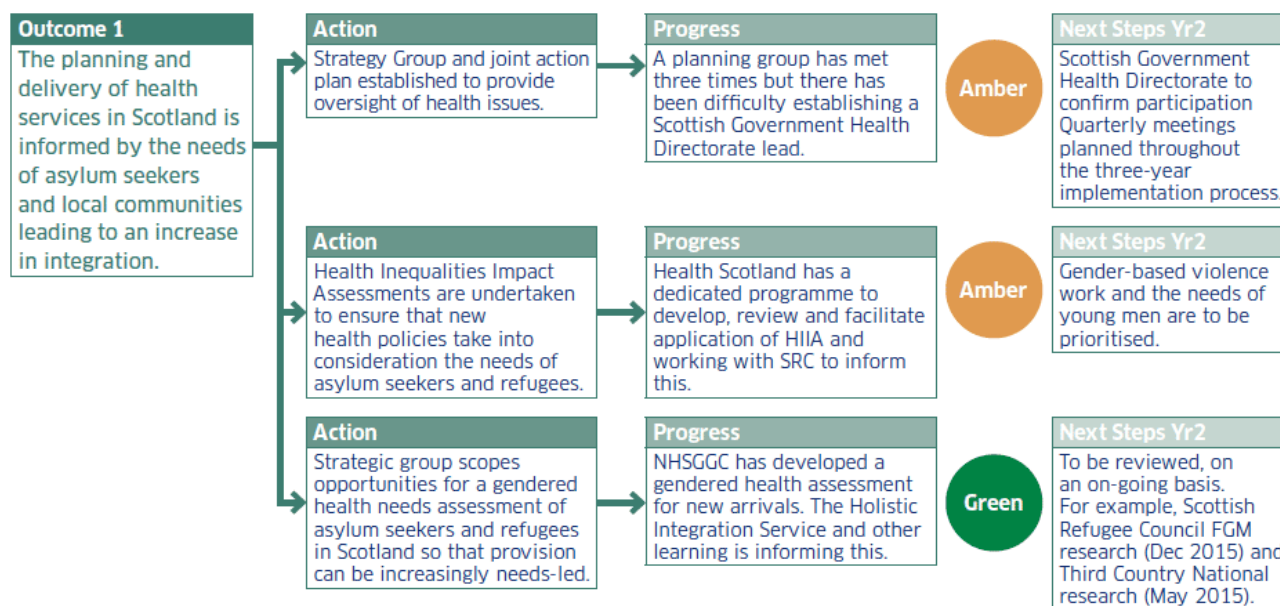
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# New ScotsProgress report



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# Peers



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# Participatory



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# Where powers lie?



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2014



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**SCOTLAND'S  
FUTURE  
IS IN OUR  
HANDS**

REFERENDUM 2014

# What do New Scots look like?



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Here We Stay



# What do New Scots look like?



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# Exercise



- How can sub state bodies develop and deliver autonomous strategies
- How do we share power?
- How do we measure integration?

How many Syrian refugees should/could your country accommodate, whereas the total number of refugees is currently 4,1 million?

What could be the solution to the Aegean Sea crossings and people losing their lives?