**INFORMATION FOR AFGHANS SEEKING ASYLUM IN THE UK**

Introduction

Anyone who has claimed asylum in the UK but has been refused can submit a new application to the Home Office if there is new evidence which is significantly different from their original claim. In addition, those Afghans who are waiting for a decision from the Home Office can submit new evidence at any time before a decision is taken.

For Afghan citizens in the UK, new evidence can be the recent change in Afghanistan itself with the withdrawal of NATO troops and the takeover by the Taliban. The Home Office has withdrawn the guidance that it gave to its caseworkers because of these developments. It is no longer able to say, for example, that Kabul is safe.

It does not matter if the Home Office or a Tribunal Judge has previously said that they do not believe what you have told them before. As long as they have accepted that you are an Afghan citizen with no right to live in any other country, then the changes in Afghanistan apply to you. The Home Office must decide whether it is safe **now** to send you back to Afghanistan.

The information below is for any Afghan citizen that does not have an application with the Home Office or for those who have made an asylum application or a ‘fresh claim’ but do not yet have a decision from the Home Office. Hope Projects has prepared information about what is happening in Afghanistan now which can be submitted in support of a new or existing application. There are various versions of this information depending, for example, whether the person claiming asylum is from a particular community or profession or of a particular gender or sexual orientation. It will be updated from time to time as the situation develops.

The rest of this leaflet explains how to use this new country information.

Submitting a new asylum application

Any second or even third asylum claim (since 2 August 2021) must be submitted to the Home Office in Liverpool in person.

An appointment has to be made by phoning the following number: 0300 123 7377

You will need to have the following information available to give to the person who answers your call:

* Your full name, date of birth and nationality
* Your Home Office reference number
* Your new information is ready to submit – this will be country information and anything that is personal to you (e.g. medical letters, details of length of time or family members in the UK, etc.)
* Your current address
* Details of any identity documents that you hold such as your Application Registration Card (ARC)

You will be given an appointment on the phone and this will be confirmed in an email or letter that is sent to you. That letter will contain additional information about what you must take to the appointment, for example, photos and proof of address (if not already known to the Home Office).

With the appointment letter, the Home Office also send a form known as a *Further Submissions Pro Forma* and ask you to complete it and take it to your appointment. **It is not necessary to complete and submit this form**. However, you will need to take a copy of the following:

* Any previous decisions by the Home Office
* Any previous decisions by a Tribunal Judge

Hope Projects legal@hope-projects.org.uk can assist in advising those without a legal representative about any other documents that might be useful in addition to the country information that is being prepared. These will be through separate appointments to be offered at a later date. Or you can submit it yourself to the following Home Office address:

Refused Case Management Further Submissions Unit
Level 7
The Capital Building
Old Hall Street
Liverpool
L3 9PP

You must quote your Home Office reference number and preferably give the date that you made your last application so that they can link it with your file.

If you have a legal representative, you could pass the country information to them to submit as your new asylum claim.

Once you have been to Liverpool to submit a new application, you will be able to apply for Asylum Support (Section 4) care@refugee-action.org.uk if you cannot support and accommodate yourself.

Existing asylum claims and ‘fresh claims’

If you are still waiting for a decision on your initial asylum claim or have already made a new asylum application (often known as a ‘fresh claim’), you can submit new country information to the Home Office at any time.

This can be done directly or through your legal representative if you have one. It would need to be directed to the particular part of the Home Office that is dealing with your claim. If you are still waiting for a decision on your first asylum claim this might be, for example, to the following address:

Solihull Asylum Team

Home Office

41 Homer Road

Solihull

B91 3QJ

*The leaflet is for information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice* **

legal@hope-projects.org.uk 07748193864