**Response from Calderdale CCG/Calderdale Council**

***15/03/19***

*The CCG has used the £2,600 per person for those coming to Calderdale through the Syrian Vulnerable Persons Resettlement programme for the following:*

* *Contribution towards primary care costs (paid to the GP and dental practices that each individual registers with)*
* *Contribution towards secondary care costs (put into the funding from which the CCG pays its secondary care providers under the NHS standard contract)*
* *Commissioning of a specialist mental health service for refugees and asylum seekers affected by trauma/torture/sexual violence (commissioned from Solace)*
* *Provision of backfill to enable a representative of the main Calderdale GP practice at which the Syrian Refugees are registered to attend a course on engaging with survivors of torture*

*Interpreting services in primary care are commissioned by NHS England, and all costs are recharged to the CCG. Primary care providers make the actual arrangements if an interpreter if required. For Calderdale, there is no specific contract for these services – they are spot purchased when required.*

*The exception is the Solace service referred to above which includes interpreting in its scope. The spot purchase arrangement has caused problems for local people including the Syrian refugees, with required services not being available when required or being cancelled at the last minute.*

*I understand that in response to these problems, the CCG has decided to commission a specific service for local people, to be in place later in 2019. The CCG will be undertaking work with partners to inform the development of the specification for that service.*

*Interpreting services in secondary care are organised and paid for by healthcare providers as part of their obligations under the NHS standard contract. I hope that the above provides clarity on the local position. If you have any further queries I will be happy to help.*