**Eligibility Criteria**

BRR members are people who want protection in the UK because they feel that they are at risk; this could be at risk of persecution under the Refugee Convention or as a victim of trafficking. We aim to treat all reasons for claiming protection in a non-judgemental way.

**These people are currently eligible to join the Welcome Centre as members:**

1. Everyone who is still waiting for a decision on an asylum claim,
2. Anyone who has made a claim but has been refused;
3. Victims of trafficking who may/may not present themselves as in a situation which is different from other asylum seekers/refused asylum seekers
4. People who wish to make a claim for asylum but have not yet done so
5. Everyone who has had refugee status or leave to remain within the past year (when they first come to the Centre)
6. If new to Bristol (here less than six months), those who have had refugee status for up to two years
7. Those whose leave to remain has expired/been revoked but still have protection needs and want to make a fresh claim
8. Unaccompanied minors aged 16 or above, (or younger if foster carer agrees to stay on site or signs a disclaimer)
9. Wives or husbands of refugees, who were married in their country of origin and have arrived under family reunion within the last year (or two years if new Bristol, i.e. here less than 6 months)

**Notes:** Unfortunately we not have capacity to support those coming *in order* to marry a person already settled here – i.e. spouse visa; these are not eligible. We also cannot offer membership to those joining a person who got their refugee status in another EEA country as their status will be as a family member of an EEA national and not family reunion. If someone has an EU passport they are not eligible for our services.

***BRR membership does not expire. This means that there are many members who come who have had their leave to remain for longer than 1 or 2 years, but they were eligible when they first came. This is something that BRR is reviewing.***

Discretion: Co-ordinators can agree with another member of the team to make exceptions on the basis of vulnerability/health needs but the priority should be to signpost to where someone can receive support from specialist agencies.