

Welcome to Landmark Chambers'

**How and why the 'No Recourse to Public Funds' policy
has been held to be unlawful (R (W) v SSHD) webinar**

The recording may be accessed [here](#).

Your speakers today are...

「Landmark
Chambers」



Caz Hattam



Alex Goodman



Adam Hundt



Fiona Bawdon

Working with destitute people



Caz Hattam



caz@unity-project.org.uk



www.unity-project.org.uk



@TUPLDN





‘A Lifeline for All’
The Children’s Society
May 2020



‘Access Denied’
The Unity Project
June 2019

Some key findings

- Over 1/2 of people affected (mostly women and children) had been forced to **sleep on the floor or a chair.**
- 3/4 had to **go without a hot meal** for at least a day.
- Over 1/3 of **children’s education** had been disrupted.
- 1/3 of children had to **sleep in the same room as non-family members.**
- **Tens of thousands** of people affected, estimates of over 1 million.

The application process

- People don't know it exists
- People can't make the application alone
- Lack of advice
- Application form
- Onerous evidence
- Proving a negative
- Requests for further information
- Delays
- Applications are online



The campaign



Fiona Bawdon

Fiona Bawdon

Director

IMPACT
LAW FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE



@IMPACTstratlit

www.impactsocialjustice.org

Michael J Klarman:

From the Closet to the Altar



COURTS, BACKLASH,
AND THE STRUGGLE FOR
SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Michael J. Klarman

“

A political backlash is

"....especially likely when the court decision not only contravenes public opinion but has supporters who are less intensely committed than are its opponents."

”

Home Office faces high court challenge over legality of 'no recourse to public funds' policy

5/5/20

On Wednesday 6 May, an 8-year-old British boy – supported by his mother - will take the UK Home Office to court over its policy of denying families like his access to the welfare safety net.

The 'no recourse to public funds' policy, as it is known, was introduced in 2012 as part of the 'hostile environment', and has led to thousands of children growing up in abject poverty, because their migrant mothers are denied the same state support that other low-income families can claim.

The family bringing the challenge – who are not being named – are supported by The Unity Project, a charity set up three years ago to support those facing destitution as a result of NRPF.

Project co-ordinator Caz Hattam says:

'Since The Unity Project was set up three years ago, we've seen how the policy traps families in poverty. People are forced into debt as they try to keep themselves afloat, and left living in overcrowded, unsafe and insecure housing. The people we work with are mainly single mums with young children, doing low paid but essential jobs, like carework and cleaning. The covid-19 outbreak has only made their situations more urgent and desperate.'

This week's high court case is just the latest in a series of legal challenges brought by public law firm [Deighton Pierce Glynn \(DPG\)](#) over NRPF. MPs and children's and other charities have also added their voices to calls for it to be scrapped.

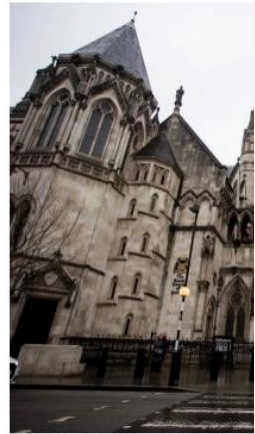


News > UK > Home News

Eight-year-old boy left street home with his mother because of unlawful refusal of benefits

Judgment expected to provide lifeline to people currently blocked from accessing state support

May Bulman Social Affairs Correspondent | @maybulman
Thursday 7 May 2020 11:15 | 23 comments



The court heard that the British child, known in court as W, had lived

An eight-year-old British boy was left street home with his mother because of the **Home Office** unlawful refusal of benefits, the **High Court** has ruled.

The judgment is expected to provide a lifeline to people currently blocked from accessing state support.

The court heard that the child, known in court as W, had lived in extreme poverty because his mother was not allowed to claim state benefits.



UK immigration + Add to myFT

UK benefits ban leaves migrants struggling for food during lockdown | Free to read

Immigration policy leaves families without access to state aid as unemployment soars



David Mann of the Bonny Downs Community Association in East Ham says whole families are so hungry they rush to the door when food deliveries arrive © Charlie Bibby/FT

Robert Wright in East Ham MAY 18 2020

Be the first to know about every new Coronavirus story

Get instant email alerts

When Shabana Aslam's husband, Irfan, was made redundant from his marketing job at a multinational entertainment company last month as a result of the coronavirus lockdown, the loss of the main household income left her wondering how the family would eat.

The decision by Mr Aslam's employer not to put him on to the UK's job retention scheme meant the family's monthly take-home pay fell 75 per cent, leaving the couple and their 11- and 13-year-old daughters to rely on Ms Aslam's £1,300 monthly income as a teaching assistant. But rent alone comes to £1,400 a month and the couple are barred from claiming state benefits.

Education Society Science Tech Global development Obituaries

Denial of benefits to migrants unlawful, court rules

to high court, arguing NRP policy



A decision by senior judges is expected to provide a lifeline to people currently blocked from accessing state support. Photograph: Anadolu Agency via Getty Images

British boy have won a ruling that a **Home Office** policy like his access to the welfare safety net is unlawful.

The court argued that the Home Office's no recourse to public funds (NRP) policy increased the risk of families like his being driven to the streets.

The judgment is expected to provide a lifeline to people currently blocked from accessing state support.

The court heard that the boy, known in court as W, had lived in extreme poverty because his mother was not allowed to claim state benefits.

Thank you for listening

© Copyright Landmark Chambers 2020

Disclaimer: The contents of this presentation do not constitute legal advice and should not be relied upon as a substitute for legal counsel.

London

180 Fleet Street
London, EC4A 2HG
+44 (0)20 7430 1221

Birmingham

4th Floor, 2 Cornwall Street
Birmingham, B3 2DL
+44 (0)121 752 0800

Contact us

✉ clerks@landmarkchambers.co.uk
🌐 www.landmarkchambers.co.uk

Follow us

🐦 @Landmark_LC
📘 Landmark Chambers