Sarah Spain Principal Social Worker for Unaccompanied Migrant Children, South East England Councils
What is my role?

- Co-ordination of the National Transfer Scheme across the South East of England
- Working in partnership with all 19 local authorities.
- To identify and overcome the pressures/barriers to engagement.
- Working across all agencies voluntary and statutory to support engagement.
So What is the National Transfer Scheme?

- **What** - The National Transfer Scheme (NTS) is the conduit by which the government ensures the equal dispersal of unaccompanied asylum seeking children throughout England.

- **When** - It was created and introduced on 1\(^{st}\) July 2016 to enable the safe transfer of unaccompanied children from one UK local authority to another.

- **Why** - In response to the increasing pressures on port authorities who were managing disproportionate numbers of unaccompanied children to ensure those children’s needs are met.
How Does it Work?

- Based on 0.07% UASC to entire child population.
- The percentage of 0.07% is not a target but is used to indicate when a local authority has reached the point where they would not be expected to receive any more unaccompanied children.
- Children arriving in LA’s over the 0.07% threshold can be transferred ‘in region’ to another LA below threshold.
- If the entire region is over 0.07% a child can be transferred ‘out of region’.
There are three additional government schemes that co-ordinate the transfer of children internationally.

- Vulnerable Children’s Resettlement Scheme (VCRS)
- Dubs
- Dublin III
Vulnerable Children’s Resettlement Scheme

- Announced in April 2016
- Open to all groups in Middle East
- For both Unaccompanied Children and their Families
Dubs

- Children transferred under Section 67 IA (2016)
- UK commitment to 480 children
- 208 children remain in France, Italy & Greece
Dublin III

- Children with Family in the UK
- Reunification with Parents, Siblings, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles.
Data March 2018

The NTS has transferred 737 children since 2016 excluding Dubs, VCRS & Dublin III

- South East transfers to date
  - NTS 101
  - Dubs 20
  - VCRS 1
  - Dublin III 2
Thanks for listening 😊

- South East
- Strategic
- Partnership for
- Migration