A MIGRATION POLICY SCOTLAND EVENT

HONG KONGERS IN SCOTLAND

FRIDAY 10 MARCH

COSLA Conference Centre, Edinburgh

MIGRATION POLICY SCOTLAND

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Hong Kongers in Scotland

Friday 10 March 2023, 10:00am – 1:00pm

10:00 am: Welcome

10:15 am: What do we know about Hong Kongers in Scotland

Chair: Grace McGill, Trustee, Migration Policy Scotland

Panel:

- Augustijn Van Gaalen, Cosla Welcome Hub
- Lucy Mort, Institute for Public Policy Research
- Gregory Lee, University of St Andrews

11:00 am: Q&A

11:25 am: Break – coffee and conversation

11:45 am: Hong Kongers' Experiences and Concerns

Chair: Sarah Kyambi, Director, Migration Policy Scotland

Panel:

- Timothy Cheung, Hong Kongers in Britain
- Mina Ko, UKHK Welcome Churches
- Kimi Jolly, Protection Approaches

12:30 pm: Q& A

12:50 pm: Concluding remarks

1:00 pm: Event ends

This event was funded by the Scottish Government

Speaker Biographies

Timothy Cheung

Timothy Cheung is the Outreach Coordinator (Scotland) for Hongkongers in Britain, an organisation which helps Hong Kong migrants to better integrate into society by organising cultural exchanges, workshops and community forums. Since 2022, he has organised over thirty events and reached out to more than 1,000 Hongkongers in Scotland.

Augustijn van Gaalen

Augustijn van Gaalen is a Policy & Participation Officer working in COSLA's Migration, Population, and Diversity team. He leads on the Hong Kong BN(O) Welcome Hub in Scotland, which is currently in its second year of delivery. Funded through the Department for Levelling up, Housing, and Communities (DLUHC), the project supports Hong Kong BN(O) migrants arriving in Scotland through digital resources and a suite of integration projects, while also working closely with local authorities supporting Hongkongers.

Kimi Jolly

Kimi works at Protection Approaches as a Project Coordinator for the'On Your Side' project - a culturally competent support and reporting service offered to East and Southeast Asian communities in the UK including HongKong BNO status holders. Kimi's past work involves community organising within Diaspora and migrant communities. Kimi co-founded East and Southeast Asian Scotland (ESA Scotland), which advocates for the diverse East and Southeast Asian (ESEA) communities subjected to racial violence, gender-based violence, unlawful discrimination and social exclusion in the UK.

Mina Ko

Mina Ko works on communications for UKHK, a Welcome Churches project providing support to, creating resources for, and connecting Hongkongers with local churches and communities. She moved to Scotland under the BN(O) scheme in 2021, and had simply decided to stay in Scotland ever since.

Sarah Kyambi

Sarah Kyambi founded Migration Policy Scotland in 2020, having become increasingly aware of the need for greater policy capacity on migration in Scotland. She is an expert on UK immigration policy and has worked for thinktanks in Brussels, London and Edinburgh, providing high level policy research,

This event was funded by the Scottish Government

analysis and advice for government, funders and NGOs. She holds a PhD in Law and Social Theory from Birkbeck College, University of London.

Gregory Lee

Professor of Chinese Studies at the University of St Andrews, Gregory Lee specialises in the culture and cultural history of China and its diaspora from the nineteenth-century imagining of China the nation-state to today. His areas of interest include collective memory, censorship, the technical/technological society, the Anthopocene, and the ideology and representation of work. He is particularly interested in the contribution premodern, pre-Chinese thought — as found in the Zhuangzi 莊子 — may make to the resolution of contemporary problems.

Grace McGill

Grace McGill is a Partner and head of Immigration at Burness Paull. She is an accredited Specialist by the Law Society of Scotland and has practised in the field for almost 30 years. Prior to joining Burness Paull last year, she was the founder and Senior Partner of McGill & Co, specialist Immigration & Nationality law firm in Scotland. She is a Trustee of the UK's Immigration Law Practitioners Association and also of Migration Policy Scotland.

Lucy Mort

Lucy Mort is a senior research fellow at the Institute for Public Policy Research. Working on diverse immigration and integration related policy research, she has recently been part of a team conducting research on the experiences of migrants in accessing support in Scotland, with a particular focus on the experiences of BN(O) migrants from Hong Kong.

This event was funded by the Scottish Government

Hong Kong BN(O) Migration to Scotland: What do we know so far?

Augustijn van Gaalen
Policy and Participation Officer
Hong Kong Welcome Hub

Welcome Hub

- Funded by Department for Levelling up, Housing, and Communities (DLUHC)
- Currently in Year 2 of delivery, with Year 3 starting in August 2023.
- Two main audiences: BNOs and the LAs who support them.
- Key consideration: LAs are not provided with funding to facilitate BNO integration, and work does not sit neatly within resettlement teams.
- Challenging times for LAs, with a variety of other pressures that make a BNO-specific response difficult (council budget cuts, pressures around Ukraine, emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic).

Overview of BN(O) Cohort in Scotland

- Based on the working estimate of 6% of all BN(O)s coming to Scotland (DLUHC estimate), **8,400 people have moved to Scotland from Hong Kong since January 2021**. Recent update: 140,000 BNO visas issued.
- Different demographics based on when people are arriving (first wave: families, older cohort; second wave: younger, also those applying independently from their parents).
- Varied cohort – makes a singular response difficult

Locations Data

- Difficult to build an accurate picture of where people are settling
- Lack of data remains a challenge
- Broadly, there are Hongkongers settling throughout Scotland, mostly around major cities, and surrounding suburbs, but some are also choosing to move to rural local authorities.
- We estimate: •
  - Around 1 in 3 BNOs choosing to settle in Edinburgh
  - Around 1 in 5 choosing Glasgow
  - Midlothian, East Renfrewshire, West Lothian, Aberdeen, and Fife also popular.

Local Authority	2020	2021	YoY Change	Previous 10 years AvG Growth Rate
Aberdeen City	54	79	32%	-4%
Aberdeenshire	21	17	-24%	0%
Angus	11	11	0%	1%
Argyll & Bute	6	6	0%	-11%
Clackmannanshire	c	c	#VALUE!	#VALUE!
Dumfries & Galloway	12	12	0%	-14%
Dundee City	28	28	0%	-4%
East Ayrshire	15	15	0%	-9%
East Dunbartonshire	82	92	11%	0%
East Lothian	c	7	#VALUE!	#VALUE!
East Renfrewshire	37	95	61%	-6%
Edinburgh City	178	386	54%	-3%
Eilean Siar	5	5	0%	#VALUE!
Falkirk	12	16	25%	-8%
Fife	36	38	5%	-3%
Glasgow City	242	279	13%	-2%
Grant aided	c	7	#VALUE!	#VALUE!
Highland	24	27	11%	1%
Inverclyde	10	8	-25%	-10%
Midlothian	17	24	29%	#VALUE!
Moray	7	6	-17%	-10%
North Ayrshire	14	16	13%	-11%
North Lanarkshire	53	58	9%	-6%
Orkney Islands	7	7	0%	#VALUE!
Perth & Kinross	19	20	5%	-1%
Renfrewshire	22	20	-10%	-4%
Scottish Borders	11	10	-10%	-6%
Shetland Islands	6	5	-20%	3%
South Ayrshire	13	11	-18%	-13%
South Lanarkshire	35	34	-3%	-16%
Stirling	10	10	0%	-8%
West Dunbartonshire	12	15	20%	6%
West Lothian	19	54	65%	-5%
Total	1018	1418	28%	-5%

COSLA

From pupil census data, showing pupils who listed Cantonese (Traditional Chinese) as their main language.

The data covers September 2020 (right before the BNO visa was launched) and September 2021 (after just over half a year of the policy).

NOTE: this data merely provides an indication and will not include all BN(O) schoolchildren, and may also include those living in Scotland before the visa route opened.

Drivers of Migration to Scotland

- Why are people choosing Scotland?
    1. Cost of living
    2. Housing or accommodation
    3. Job opportunities
    4. Scottish Culture
    5. Schools

Integration Challenges

- What do BNOs find challenging when arriving in Scotland?
    1. Finding suitable housing
    2. Finding a Job
    3. Understanding what benefits they are entitled to
    4. Accessing Support
    5. Contacting your LA
- What are people most concerned about?
    1. Living costs and paying bills
    2. English Language skills
    3. Visa status and route to citizenship
    4. Discrimination or race hatred
- Many of the requests we receive revolve around two things (often mentioned together): ESOL & Employment
- Current LA provision – especially in major cities – has long waiting lists
- Recently, queries around further education, as BN(O)s are classed as international students and subject to high fees.

Addressing These Challenges

COSLA

ESOL & Employment Pilot Scheme

- Edinburgh, Glasgow, East Ren
- 200 BNOs will benefit from targeted and bespoke support
- High demand, looking to expand to other areas
- Reducing pressures on LA provision
- Culturally sensitive approach – caseworkers for certain projects are BNOs and have good community links.

General Welcome Hub Support

- Digital Welcome Hub Resource (over 10,000 visitors since launching)
- Direct Queries (over 200 since launch)
- Newsletter with Integration Support
- IOM casework support for those destitute or at risk of destitution.
- Upcoming resource about BNO Rights and Entitlements, NRPF, and Change of Conditions

Deepening Understanding & Engagement

- Commissioned research looking into BNO experiences of support systems and potential barriers
- Setting up an Engagement Group of BNOs to learn more about migrant experiences and increase cultural competence of the Welcome Hub.

Potential projects for Year 3: support for young BNOs around education options / funding, supporting Hong Kong culture and Cantonese language, historical and cultural resources, and embedding more local support options.

Opportunities

- Many Hongkongers bring skills Scotland needs, often in shortage occupations.
- According to UKHK survey in 2022, they are mostly looking to pursue careers in:
  - IT and information management (9%)
  - Administrative and clerical work (8%)
  - Education and training (7%)
  - Accountancy, banking and finance (7%)
  - Transport and logistics (6%)
  - Medicine and healthcare (5%)
  - Catering and hospitality (4%)
  - Service sector (4%)
  - Engineering and manufacturing (3%)
- Opportunity to address population challenges in certain areas of Scotland
- Diversity and culturally enriching Scotland – upcoming events in the Barras to showcase Hong Kong culture, streetfood, etc.
- Build on our knowledge of past integration work and embed those learnings
- Ending on a positive note: vast majority of people who took our survey said they were ‘happy’ about their move to Scotland.

Hong Kong Welcome Hub

- https://hongkongwelcomehub.migrationscotland.org.uk/
  - Both migrant-facing and council officer-facing components.
- Please contact us at hongkongBNO@cosla.gov.uk

Hong Kongers in Scotland: what do we know?

Lucy Mort
Senior Research Fellow, IPPR

Our research

- Funded by COSLA to explore the barriers faced by migrants in accessing benefits and other forms of support in Scotland and the role of Scottish local authorities in navigating these challenges

- Stakeholder interviews with people working in local authorities and civil society / third sector to understand the current picture of support available for migrants in Scotland

- Following interviews with people with lived experience, case studies will depict how different groups navigate systems of support depending on their immigration status. There will be an enhanced case study of Hong Kongers on the British National (Overseas) visa route

- Outputs:
  - briefing to support local authority and third sector to help migrants
  - BN(O) facing resource explaining support pathways
  - final report for policymakers with findings and recommendations to improve support for migrant groups
  - BN(O) focused summary bringing insights together from the above outputs

BN(O) visa holders in Scotland

- The total number of applications for the BN(O) route since first introduced and as of end of Dec 2022 was **160,700.** The total number of out-of-country grants of BN(O) visas was **129,415.** The total number of arrivals in the UK was **105,200.**

- **While there is no Scotland breakdown for this Home Office data, we can gain insights into Scotland's experience through other sources.** Data from the Scotland pupil census suggests a significant increase in pupils (by around two fifths) whose main home language is Chinese Traditional (Cantonese) between 2020 and 2021, likely as a result of the BN(O) visa. The total numbers are largest in Edinburgh and Glasgow, while the greatest increases were in Edinburgh, East Renfrewshire, and West Lothian.

- The number of applications for NRPF 'change of conditions' from people of BN(O) or Hong Kong Special Administrative Region nationality in 2022 was 39. While this is low, it is an increase from the total number of applications in 2020 (before the BN(O) route was introduced), which totalled three.

Finances (1)

- **BN(O) visa holders do not appear to be at immediate risk of severe financial difficulties, with stakeholders perceiving that this is a fairly self-sufficient group.**

  "I would say the Hongkongers here in Scotland are a rather fortunate group of people. I haven't encountered any cases of destitution or any kind of really severe financial situations that they are facing." (Local authority stakeholder)

- **Savings are finite, and some fear that they will run out. For those who are unable to work (eg single parents), such savings – their only source of income - can restrict their access to a social safety net. This can leave people feeling insecure, even if on paper they look secure.**

  "Having that kind of money in her account makes her unable to apply for any kind of scheme that would help her to improve her situation, but on the other hand, with that kind of money, she dare not spend any extra penny on anything unnecessary because she can really foresee that after one year or two, she might be in a difficult situation." (Civil society stakeholder)

Finances (2)

- **Though most appear to be "getting by", the cost-of-living crisis remains a concern, as for most people, and it will be important to ensure that advice and support reaches those Hong Kongers that require it.**

  "We have to tell them a way to efficiently use energy and how they can save up some money from the bills and those kinds of things. For some extreme cases, they have a really tight budget for food and for utility bills, but even so, many times, if the members of that family are relatively young, in their forties or maybe in their late thirties, they still can find a job in a warehouse or at Amazon warehouse, or something like that. They can support themselves; they are relatively okay in terms of finance." (Third sector stakeholder)

Employment

- **Some perceived that Hong Kongers were working in low skilled jobs, with their qualifications under-utilised, while others found that many were in professional roles.**

  "They also all seem to be working, either one or both of the adults seem to have gone straight into work, but not in their chosen profession or what they have been trained for, almost all, so they are cleaning, doing factory jobs, etc." (Suburban local authority stakeholder)

  "Interestingly, they were told if they wanted to move to Scotland they wouldn't be able to get anything other than a blue collar job, and if they wanted to stick in their profession they'd have to move to an English city. [however] most of them here are not blue collar workers... [We did a survey and found that people work in] IT, finance, marketing - they're all the professions that people are recording. There's not actually that many low-skilled people here." (Urban local authority stakeholder)

Language and ESOL (1)

- **Language barriers prevent people from finding work, getting to know the local community, and accessing support or information about their rights and entitlements.**

  "They are not that confident in expressing themselves, and the language barrier is quite an issue that they have to get over." (Third sector stakeholder)

  "If you want to wait for the majority of us to be able to read English communications you would probably have to wait for years or even… hopefully not, but decades maybe. So, [translating] information, especially basic information… into Chinese – traditional Chinese – would also be helpful." (Civil society stakeholder)

Language and ESOL (2)

- **Learning English appears to be the prevailing issue for most Hong Kongers, but provision needs to be designed so that parents can access ESOL classes.**

  "I think the demand still far outweighs the supply at this point... if you look at the make-up of the Hong Kong diaspora, over half of them will be parents coming over with young children... So, some of the timings of the ESOL classes are obviously not going to be very helpful. For example, weekdays afternoon at around four, because you're asking the parents to choose whether to go pick up their kids or to attend class. So, this is small things that may be for those people designing ESOL classes will also have to give into consideration as well." (Civil society stakeholder)

Final thoughts

- While the support needs of Hong Kongers in Scotland do not appear to be critical, as compared to some other migrant groups, this does not mean that there are no needs or that issues are not bubbling beneath the surface. While the majority may be relatively secure, there is evidence to suggest some individuals and families require greater support to settle in Scotland.

- Speaking with the Hong Kong community to understand what issues are coming to the fore, and to mitigate against challenges and barriers before they reach crisis point.

- Community networks, places of workshop and online forums and groups have been flagged as crucial sources of support for the Hong Kong community in Scotland – building relationships and trust is going to be important for long-term engagement.

Gregory Lee, Professor of Chinese Studies University of St Andrews

NOTE ON CHINESE LANGUAGES IN HONG KONG AND SCOTLAND

NOTE ON CHINESE LANGUAGES IN HONG KONG AND SCOTLAND

The purpose of the note is to explain the languages used in Hong Kong and by people from Hong Kong. It incidentally explains the different Chinese languages spoken in Chinese British communities in Scotland. To the non-Chinese reader, to the non-speaker of Chinese languages, the linguistic landscape of modern-day Hong Kong may seem difficult to fathom. So, this note aims to unravel this linguistic complexity.

The language spoken in Hong Kong is Cantonese. Cantonese as an oral language differs enormously from the "national language" or modern standard Chinese (Guoyu國語, Hanyu 汉语, Putonghua 普通话), often known to the "outside world" as Mandarin. The "national language" is known as Putonghua in the People's Republic of China, and Guoyu on Taiwan. The "national language" (Mandarin) is spoken in Scotland mainly by students from the People's Republic of China and Taiwan.

Chinese languages are tonal, with different tones serving to distinguish between the numerous homophones present in these languages. But whereas modern standard Chinese ("Mandarin") has only four tones, Cantonese has six (or 9 taking into account "checked syllables"). The two languages' vowels and consonants are dissimilar and there are substantial lexical distinctions. Cantonese syntax is very different to Mandarin's. Orally, the two languages are mutually incomprehensible; Cantonese is further from Mandarin than Portuguese is from Spanish. In writing, both languages share a large number of Chinese characters, except that there are characters that exist in Cantonese that do not exist in standard written Chinese, thus necessitating the need for a "supplementary character set" for printing, word processing and electronic communication.

However, the written Chinese that is taught in schools and used in “serious” journalism and literature is based on the written form of the national language and follows mainland Chinese grammar and characters. It is known as shumianyu 書面語, or syu1 min6 jyu5 in Cantonese, literally “book surface language”. When this written language is pronounced by Cantonese speakers, Cantonese values are given to the characters. There is little or no carry-over from living, everyday language in Hong Kong into this official written language. In popular culture, especially in the domain of popular music what may sound like Cantonese, is in fact this “book surface language” but pronounced in Cantonese. In other words, it obeys the syntactical and lexical norms of standard Chinese. Thus, the reality is, and was, that Cantopop has floated in a sort of halfway house. In Cantopop songs it has been almost exclusively this language that no-one speaks that has been used to write and sing songs.

It is only in recent years that the idea of writing in Cantonese has spread beyond the popular press and comic books. However, in recent years it has been increasingly used for poetry, fiction, and academic work. It is perfectly feasible to use written Cantonese to produce leaflets and booklets.

A further remark needs to be made. The written language that is shumianyu/syu1 min6 jyu5 書面語 is a modern language, whether it is read out in Cantonese, Mandarin or another Chinese language. For well over two thousand years the written language of elite culture and administration, in the space we now call China, was wenyanwen 文言文. Whichever modern language a Chinese person speaks, in order to access pre-modern texts they must learn wenyanwen, just as a European must learn Latin to access Cicero in the original. Mandarin is no closer to wenyan than Cantonese is, arguably less so. So, not speaking Mandarin does not

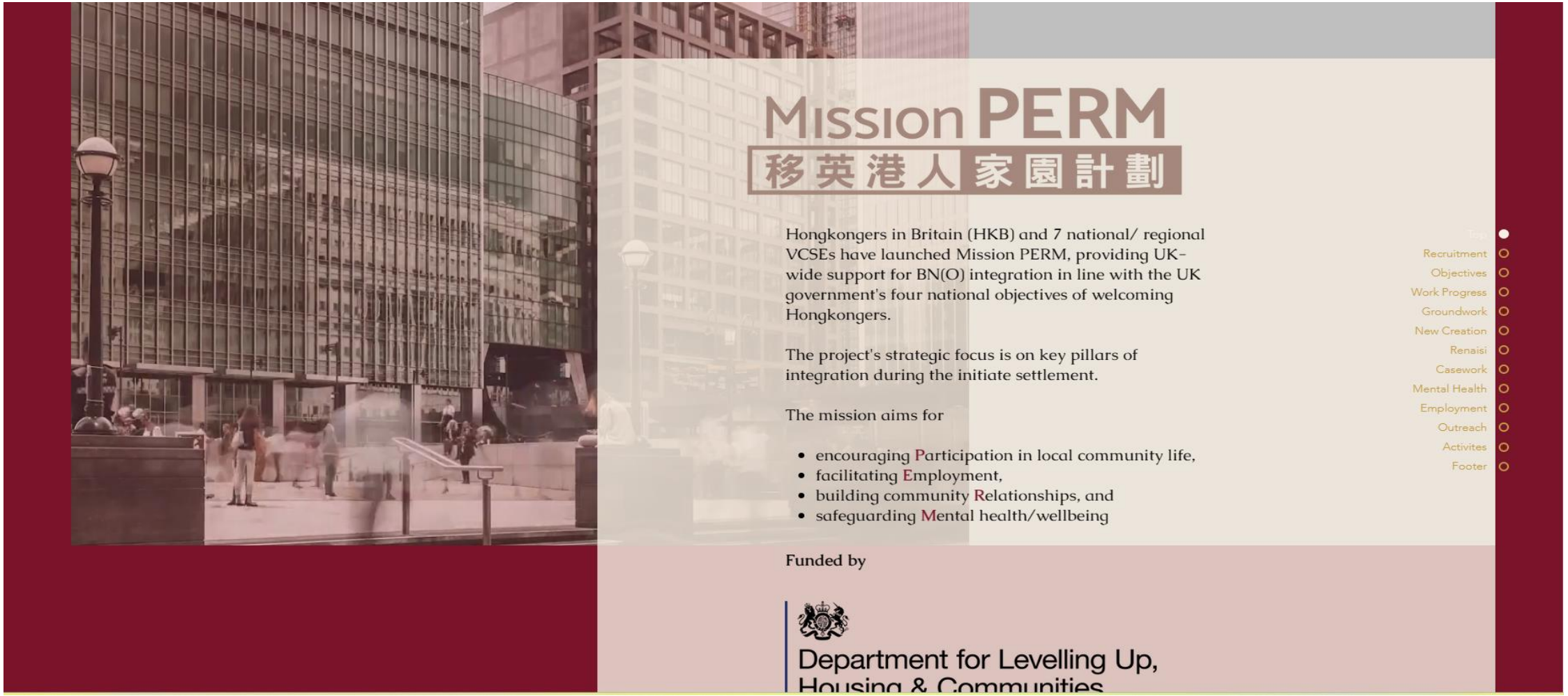
cut off a Chinese person from the pre-modern tradition, it is a lack of knowledge of 文言文 wenyanwen that does so.

However, what does make it more difficult to access the pre-modern language is the abandonment of full-form characters for the PRC's simplified characters. Cantonese, just as modern Chinese on Taiwan, uses zhengtizi 正體字 also known as "traditional characters" or fantizi 繁體字. So, another linguistic battle in today's Hong Kong is the defence of the teaching of traditional characters in schools. In the UK, although some examining boards permit the use of full-form characters in examinations, most high schools teaching Chinese only teach simplified characters as used in mainland China. At the University of St Andrews all incoming students must learn full-form students; students who have already learned Chinese in high-school follow a conversion course.

Gregory B. Lee

Professor of Chinese Studies
09.03.202

Timothy Cheung, Hong Kongers in Britain
You can find information at: [Mission PERM | Hongkongers in Britain]



government's four national objectives of welcoming Hongkongers.

The project's strategic focus is on key pillars of integration during the initiate settlement.

The mission aims for

- encouraging Participation in local community life,
- facilitating Employment,
- building community Relationships, and
- safeguarding Mental health/wellbeing

Funded by

Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities

(UK government's press release)

Consortium Partners:

- Hackney Chinese Community Services (London)
- Hong Kong Assistance and Resettlement Community (UK-wide)
- New Creation (Scotland)
- Northern Ireland Council for Racial Equality (Northern Ireland)
- Renaisi (UK-wide)
- Trafford Hongkongers CIC (Greater Manchester)
- Volunteer Centre Sutton (Sutton Borough Volunteer Bureau)

Top
Recruitment
Objectives
Work Progress
Groundwork
New Creation
Renaisi
Casework
Mental Health
Employment
Outreach
Activites
Footer

歡迎
ukhk.org

Some Observations on HKers' Social Integration in Scotland

through HKer participations in Christian Church Communities

Mina Ko (UKHK / Welcome Churches)

Disclaimer

- This is not a systematic research
- This is a collection of stories and observations
- UKHK does not have the latest (and most concrete) figures on the population of HKers in Scotland

Where are These Church Communities?

- Edinburgh*
  - HKer churches (est. after 2019): HKCCE (~120 families), Corstorphine Community Church HK Circle (~100 or more);
  - CCC (COCM churches): ECCC
  - “Local” English-speaking churches: Carrubbers, Ps & Gs
- Glasgow*
  - HKer churches: HKCCG (~70),
  - CCC: GCCC
  - “Local”: Newton Mearns Baptist Church (~80)

- Dundee
  - A new HKer church

- St. Andrew’s
  - New Cantonese fellowship

Types of Church Communities

- **“Local” / English-speaking churches**
  - Usually with preexisting international student / community ministries / services. Multicultural and diversified

- **HKer churches**
  - Established after 2019, “yellow”, headed by pastors recently moved to the UK from HK, and composed mostly of recently moved HKers. Some follows the CCC (Chinese Christian Churches) model in “borrowing venues”, some adapts a more integrated / partnership approach

HKer Church as Social Networks and Communities

1. "HKer churches"
    a. "Yellow" politically, and has an emphasis to "preserve HK culture and language"
    b. Security needs (the fear of Chinese infiltration through established "Chinese communities" like CCCs)
    c. Not everyone joining is Christian, and for the Christians, some were not churchgoers back in HK

2. Models of integration and relatively non-integration (case studies)
    a. HKer church #1: borrows venue from local church. Services and activities in Cantonese.
    b. HKer church #2: established as a Cantonese congregation of a Scottish church. Bilingual worship, with Cantonese activities but also invite Scottish congregation to take part (and vice versa), holds missional outreach activities to local residents

Churches as Social/Support Networks, and Needs

Stages	Needs
Immediately upon arrival (HKer churches)	Cantonese (in-person) support and personal and contextualised know-hows for rental, school placements, employment
	Emotional support, a sense of HKer identity and community
After 3-6 months of arrival (local churches, or stop going to HKer churches regularly)	Integration: increase in confidence / feeling of "settled" / desire in developing more (local) social networks
	Resources and support: more exposure to English language and support (international cafes and English Sunday Schools)
	Convenience: local churches in the neighbourhood
	Feeling secured in the established networks (returning for festivals and celebrations, like Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn)

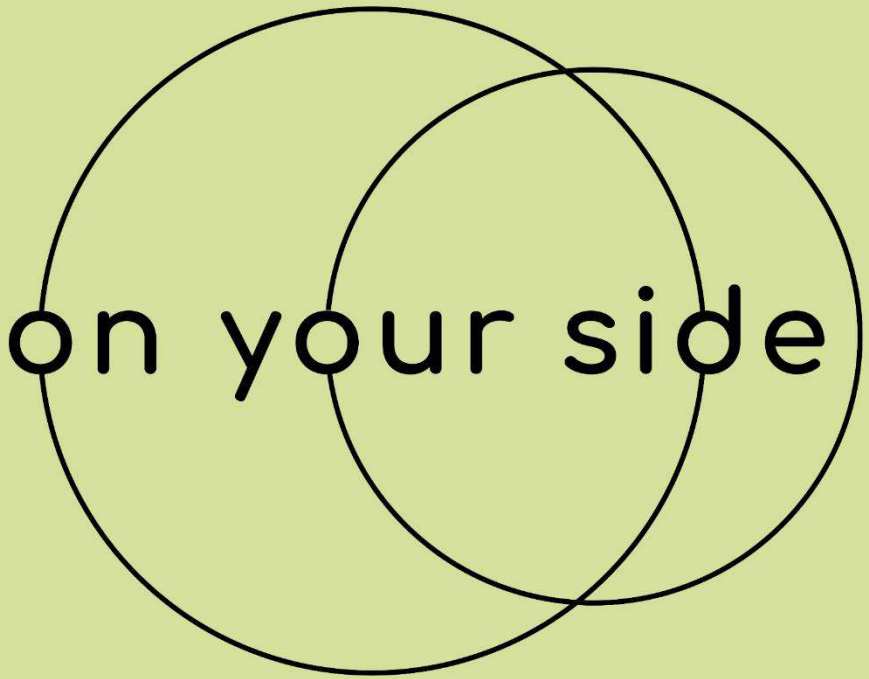
So...

- What can Scotland do to attract this migrant group?
- And what do Hong Kongers need to flourish in Scotland?

Thank you!

ukhk.org

P A Protection Approaches

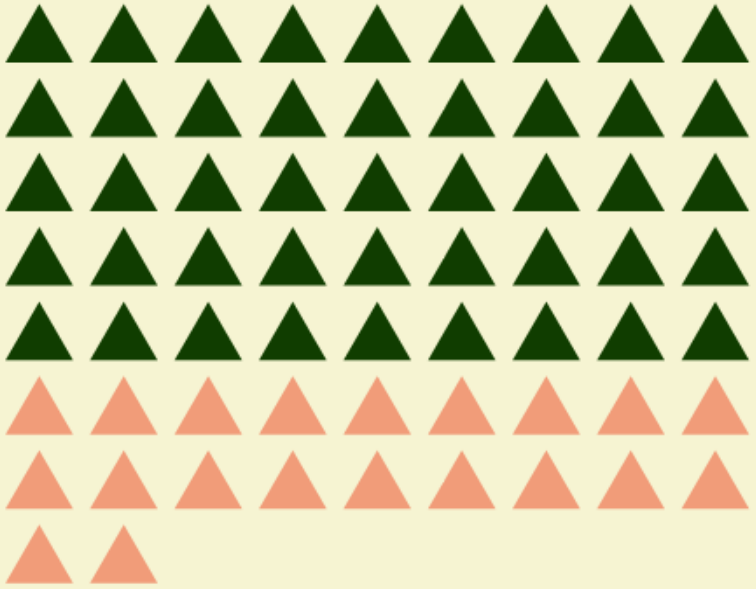


A support and reporting service for East and Southeast Asian communities who experience racism or any forms of hate

Data:

on your side
On Your Side incident reports
Aug 2022 - Jan 2023
This report gives anonymised, aggregated information on the incidents reported to the On Your Side support and reporting service from 9 August 2022 - 31 January 2023. Numbers are rounded to the nearest 5 due to our data anonymisation process.

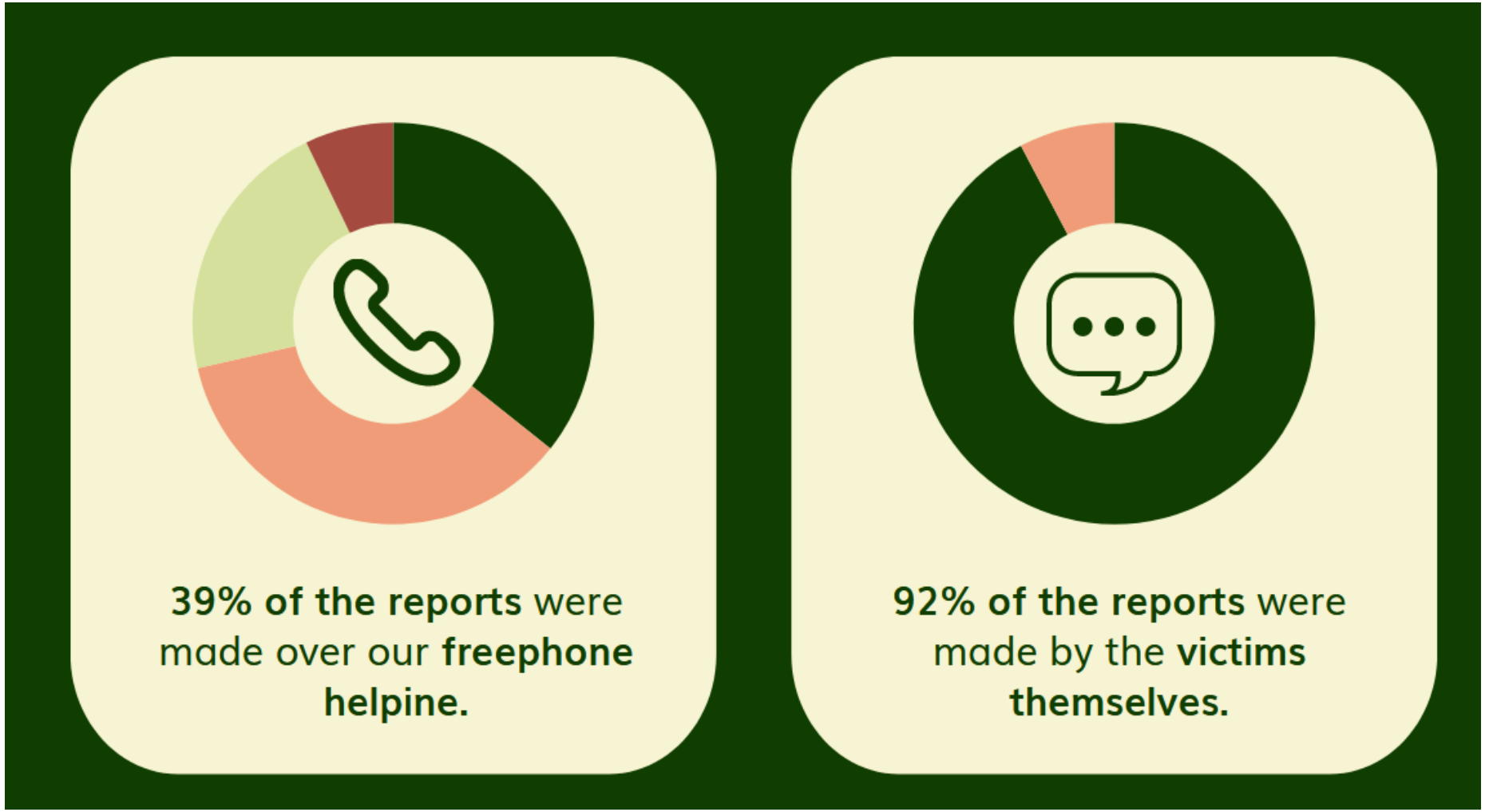
Data:



During this period we received reports of **65 incidents**. Of those reports, 45 met our simple verification threshold.

For a report to meet the "verification" threshold the person reporting needs to speak with a helpline operator (over the phone or webchat) and provide their name, the incident location, the incident time and date, and a description of the incident.

Data:


39% of the reports were made over our freephone helpine.
92% of the reports were made by the victims themselves.

Data:

15 reports were passed to the police for investigation at request of the person reporting.

20 individuals were referred to partners for follow-up support from our trained casework advocates. 15 of those cases have been closed with the individual having recieved the support they requested.

For other reports no follow up action or advice was requested or the reporting individual was signposted to external support.

Data:

Protection Approaches

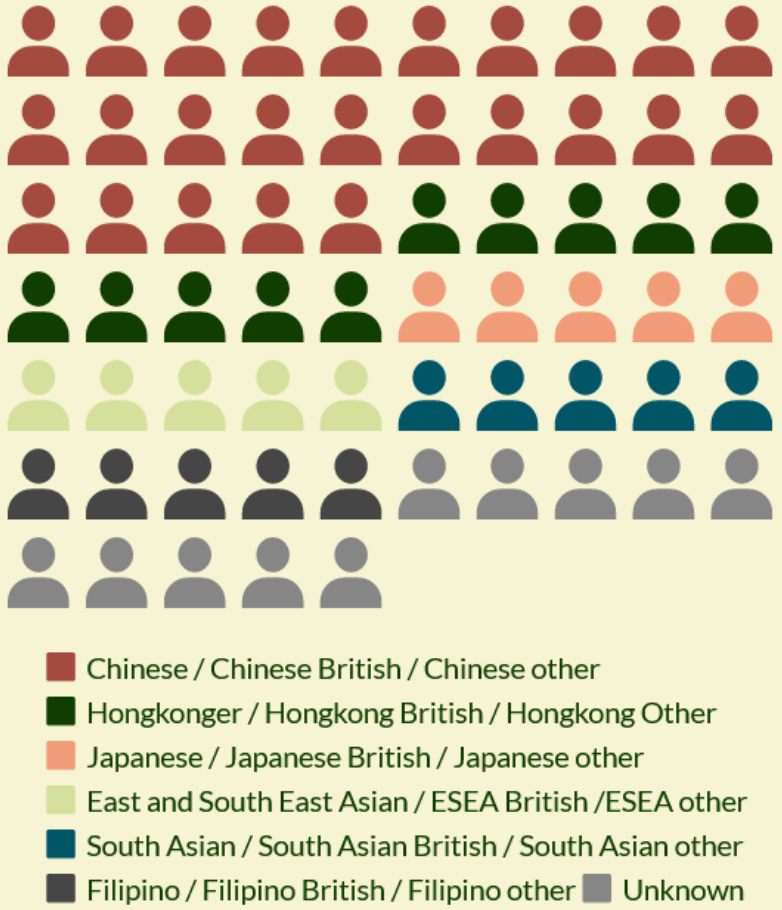
on your side

In 25 incidents the victim/s identified as or were reported to be **Chinese, Chinese British or Chinese other.**

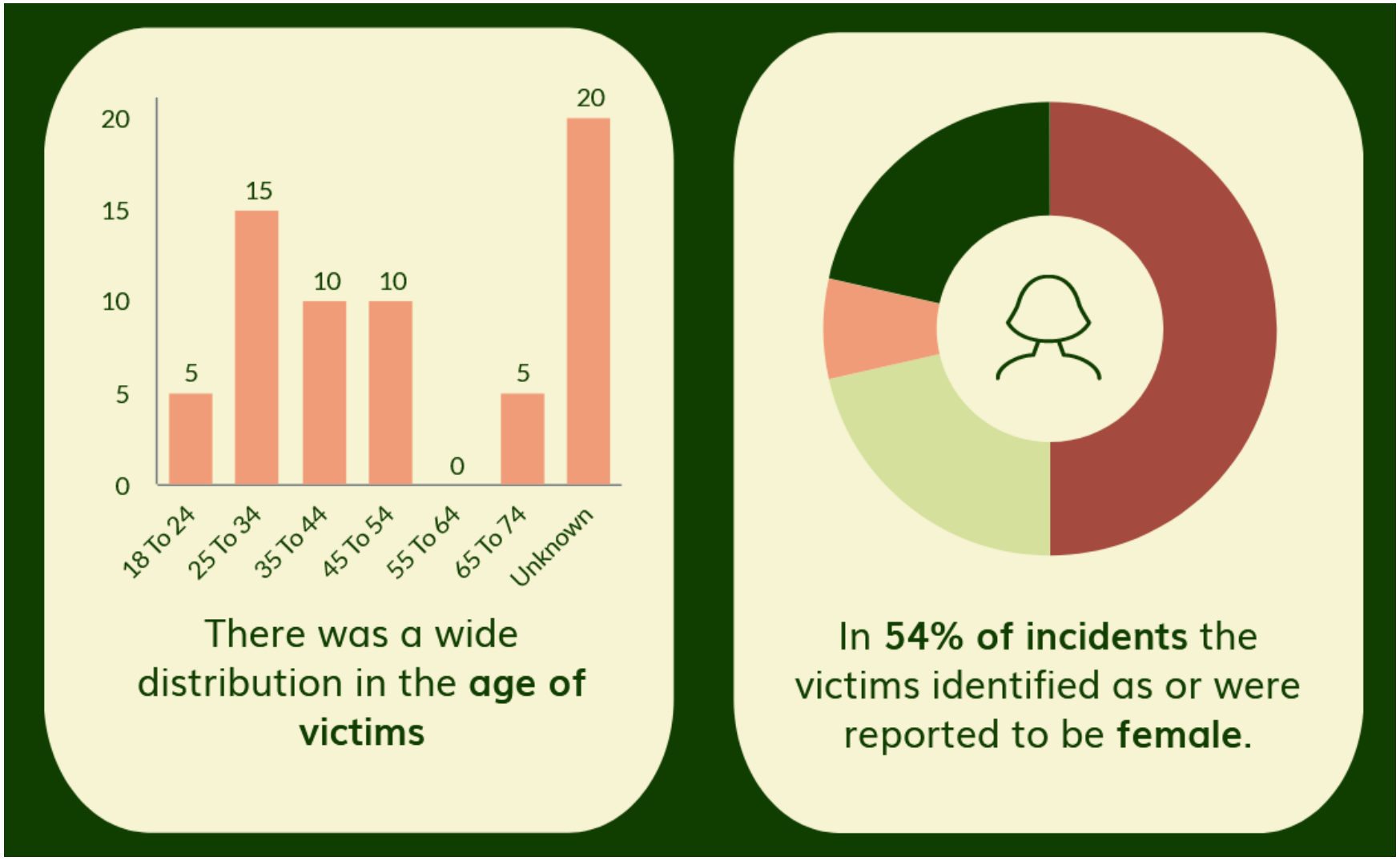
In 10 incidents the victim/s identified as or were reported to be **Hongkonger, Hongkong British, or Hongkong other.**

In 5 incidents the victim/s identified as or were reported to be **East and Southeast Asian, ESEA British or ESEA other**

* people can identify with multiple ethnicities



Data:


20
15
10
5
0
5
15
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0
5
20
18 To 24
25 To 34
35 To 44
45 To 54
55 To 64
65 To 74
Unknown
There was a wide distribution in the **age of victims**
In **54% of incidents** the victims identified as or were reported to be **female**.

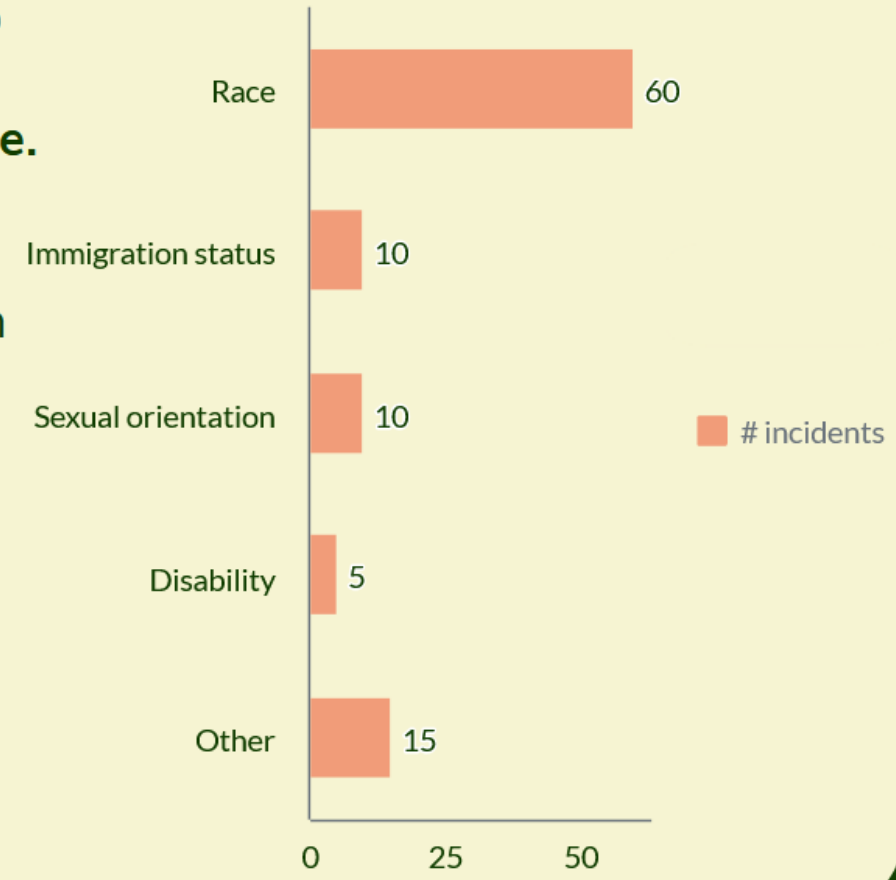
Data:

60 incidents were perceived to be motivated by prejudice or hostility against a person's race.

10 by prejudice or hostility against a person's immigration status.

10 by prejudice or hostility against a person's sexual orientation.

* each incident could have multiple hate motivations.



Data:

Of the incidents reported 50 included in-person verbal abuse or offensive language.

25 included discrimination, 15 threatening behaviour, and 5 included a physical attack.

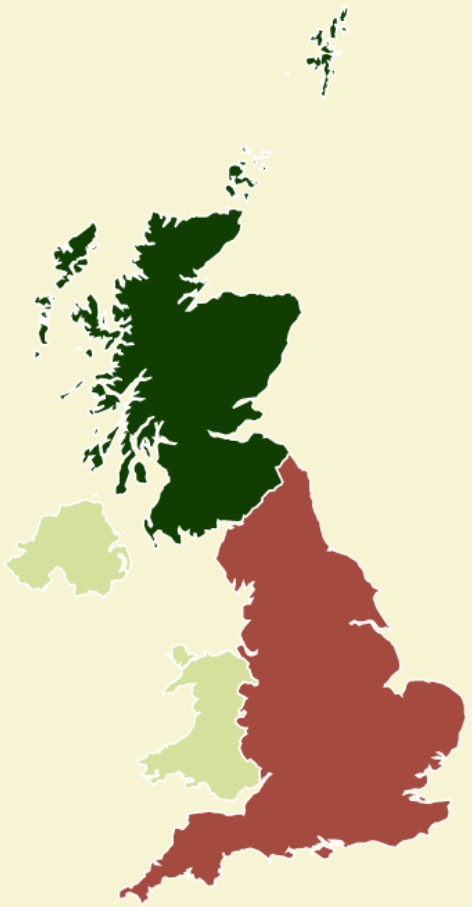
* each incident can have multiple criminal types.

Data:

45 incidents occurred in England.

10 occurred in Scotland, and 5 in Wales.

For 10 incidents the location was unknown or elsewhere in the UK.



The service:

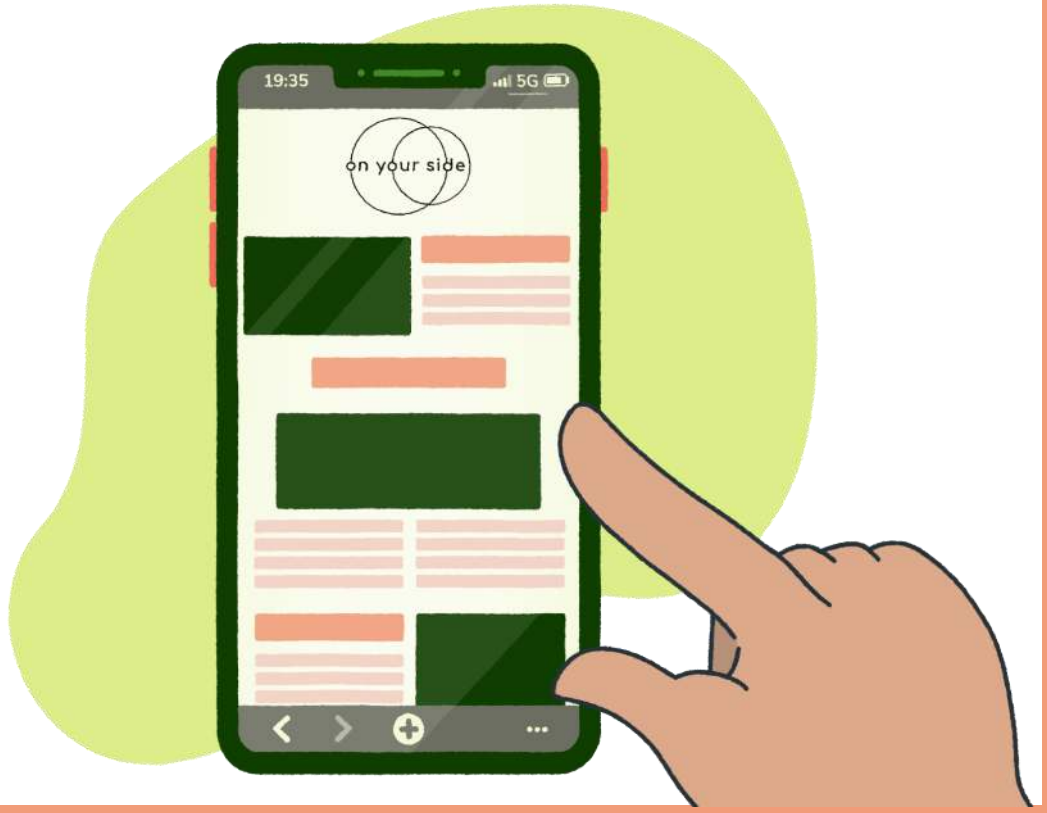
- On Your Side is a UK-wide support and reporting service for East and Southeast Asian communities who experience **racism and/or any forms of hate.**
- The service is for anyone in the UK who identifies as East and Southeast Asian, including people with mixed heritage. It is also for anyone who is perceived by others to be East and Southeast Asian and witnesses of hate towards East and Southeast Asians from any background.

The service: helpline 0808 801 0393

- 24/7 helpline, housed at Stop Hate UK with specially recruited helpline operators
- language coverage including: Japanese, Tagalog, Mandarin, Cantonese, Hakka, and Indonesian, but we can support victims in any language with support from trusted interpreters
- All Helpline Operators have received comprehensive training on how to listen to and support callers, including trauma-informed practice training from the Association of Psychological Therapies.

The service: website

- Website (www.onyoursideuk.org) with resources and reporting form and webchat
- Reporting form available in English, Traditional and Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Malay, Korean, Thai, Japanese

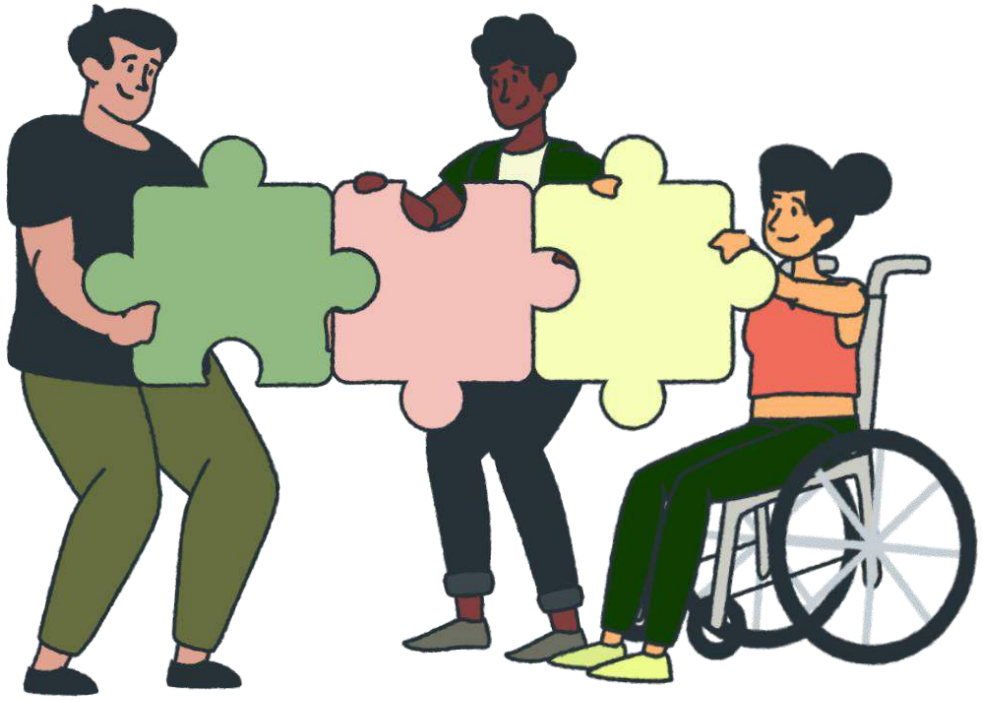


The service: casework advocacy support

- Offering short-term support to identify issues faced by the service user and signpost users to other support services
- Supporting service users to be aware of their rights and entitlement including support ensuring the police are dealing with a case appropriately
- Trained in advocacy, trauma-informed practice, safeguarding, cultural competency and hate crime awareness

The service: Data sharing and policy shaping

- Anonymised aggregated data to be shared publicly on a regular basis to build a more accurate understanding of the levels of racism and/or other forms of hate faced by East and Southeast Asian communities
- Data will provide policy makers, civil society and community groups with insights to shape better prevention and justice approaches



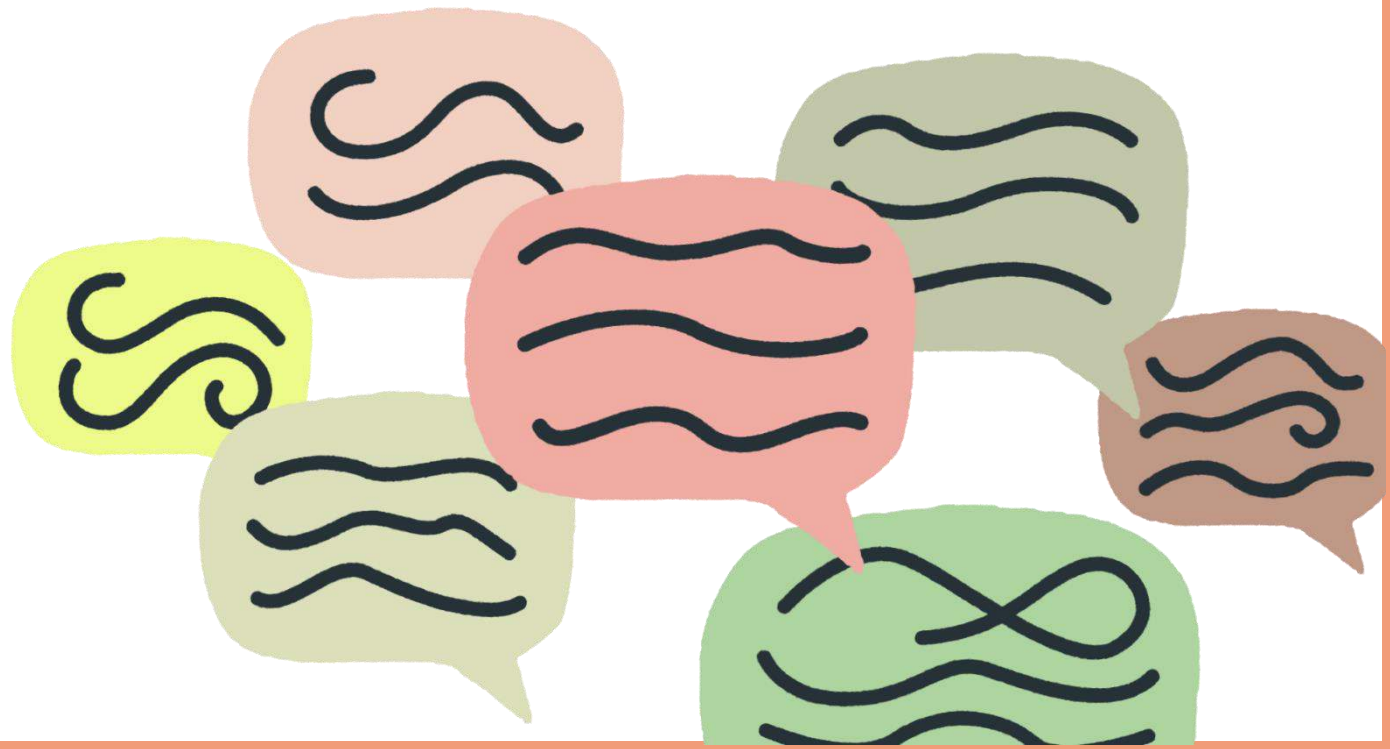
Consultation:

Protection Approaches

on your side

Community consultation to inform design including:

- a survey completed by over 150 East and Southeast Asian community members
- focus groups with staff and volunteers at 35 BN(O) and East and Southeast Asian community groups
- an external hate crime consultative group



Some challenges

- Difficult subject to broach amongst community members
- Not first on peoples list of worries – new migrants are here of hope that things are better but hate crime does exist
- Mental Health: being exposed to various stress factors which affect their mental health and well-being.
- Domestic Violence: Partner/Spouse.
- Intersectional vulnerabilities

Why survivors of identity based hate need culturally sensitive support

Protection Approaches

on your side

Some people may wish to have specific support interacting with police or the judicial system for many reasons such as:

- Negative past experiences leaving them feeling unheard or that and were made to believe that they “wasted police time”.
- Fear of re-traumatisation
- Having multiple protected characteristics that could exacerbate the level of discrimination that they are likely to encounter.
- Migrants with limited access to public services experience added precarity.

OYS Casework Study

A shop in Edinburgh owned by a HongKong arrival who is well known in the community has been repeatedly harassed, an attempted assault, intimidated, theft and shop vandalised.

OYS and other anti- racist groups in Scotland helped raise awareness.

Met with Community officers – Police Scotland to discuss how we can better protect the ESEA community.

Offering short-term support to identify issues faced by the service user and signpost users to other support services

Supporting service users to be aware of their rights and entitlement including support ensuring the police are dealing with a case appropriately