

- **The levels of trauma and mental health problems are up to 15 times higher amongst refugees than the wider UK population.**

#### Domestic Violence

- **Domestic abuse has been and continues to be a high profile issue**, both in the media and in parliament. Government help has been critical to raising awareness of the issue and ensuring support continues to be available. Helplines are however, beginning to report that they will need to begin scaling back their opening hours and capacity as the initial DCMS funding terminates around now.
- **With ongoing rolling local measures in place, there are concerns that there will continue to be pressures on victims of domestic abuse and increasing demand.** Ensuring avenues of support continue to be readily available when needed is therefore critical.

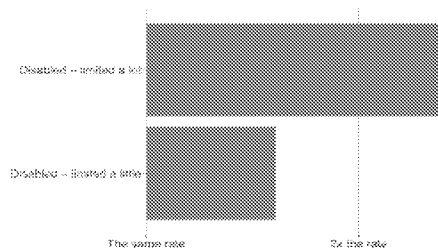
#### Funding of proposals

- **Both proposals have always been subject to funding and given the difficulty in securing the estimated £6 million (asylum) and £1.5 million (Domestic Violence) required, my department did not include them in the original submission.** I recognise, however, that the Prime Minister's view is that we should be ambitious and do more and so we have re-submitted our proposal with the initial understanding that funding for the initiatives would be available.
- I now understand, following discussions between my officials and Treasury, that funding cannot or is not likely be secured and to finance from within Home Office budgets would directly impact other Covid initiatives.
- **The Home Office has limited opportunity within service delivery to tackle disproportionate impacts, it is disappointing therefore that, despite the push for further initiatives, the necessary funding has not been allocated to support the ambitious proposals put forward.** I would, therefore, recommend that we not prioritise the asylum proposal further but would welcome further consideration on how we are able to fund crucial support for those we know are most at risk.

#### Security Industry

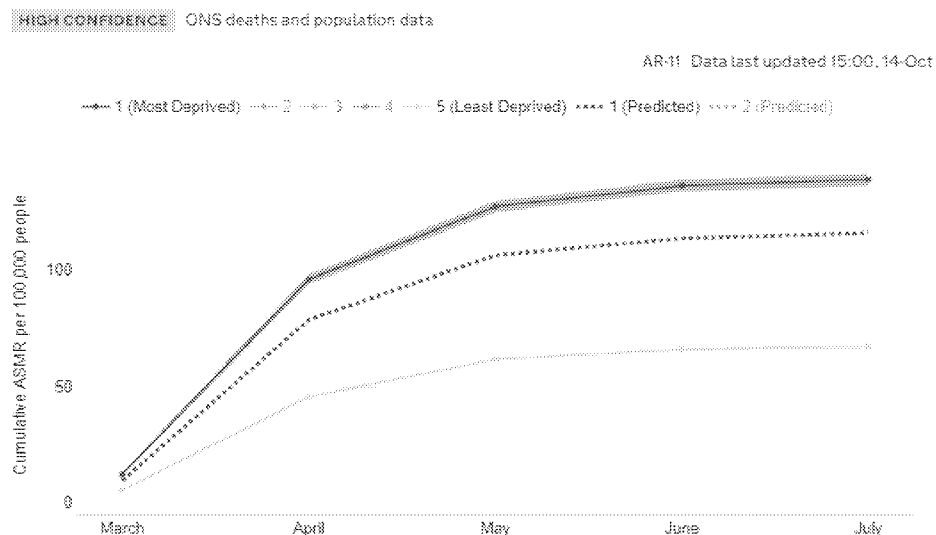
- **We may wish to consider further supporting measures to assist those sectors affected by the pandemic**, including the need to add to central government guidance in support of the private security sector. As the Department with responsibility for oversight of regulation of private security, we are conscious private security guards fall within the top ten adversely impacted occupations.

## Women



- Since March, on average, the rate of all-cause mortality was 1.9 times higher in the most deprived area than in the least deprived. This increased to 2.2 times higher when looking at deaths involving Covid-19.

**England: COVID-19 age-standardised mortality rates by deprivation quintile.** COVID-19 ASMR show a greater disparity between deprivation quintiles than comparatively seen in all-cause mortality rates averaged over 2015-2019. The dashed lines for Q1 (red) and Q2 (blue) show the predicted COVID-19 ASMRs if they had the same relationship with deprivation quintiles as all-cause mortality.



## Domestic Violence

- Early on in the pandemic (11 April) the HO provided £2m of funding to help bolster domestic abuse helplines and on line services. £1.2m of that was awarded to organisations. This was in addition to the emergency charities funding (£750m) announced by the government. Of this MHCLG allocated £9.2m for safe accommodation MoJ allocated £15m via PCC to local domestic abuse charities and the HO allocated £1.7m to national and regionally based domestic abuse organisations.

- A condition of the funding was that it was to be utilised by the end of October 2020. Because there were several rounds of bidding some leeway has been allowed to extend the spending period to the end of January for organisation that received funding in the second or third wave and which therefore had less time to spend the funding. However a significant proportion of the funding has already been utilised and as covid measures continue to apply and continued enhanced demand is expected by domestic abuse organisations, they have begun to enquire about additional funding.
- MoJ and MHCLG are reviewing continuing or new demand in their areas of spend and considering an approach to HMT which we would support for additional funding to continue the work supported earlier in the year. The suggested proposal is designed to flag this issue which is likely to gain some traction and potential publicity as more organisations exhaust additional funds.