



SWVG MAG (Christine Knight)

December 2016

Post Leave To Remain: policy for financial help with Renewal Fees (Home Office Fees and Health Charges)

Clients who obtain limited leave to remain need to apply to renew their right to remain, usually every 2 ½ years. A fee (currently £811) is payable for each family member. In addition a health services charge of £200 per annum per family member (ie £500 for a 2 ½ year renewal period) is also payable with the application.

If the application is refused the fee is not refundable but the health services charge will be repaid.

Policy:

1. We will only consider supporting regular clients who we have known for at least 6 months.
2. We will only support clients who have leave to remain on an NRPF basis.
3. We will only support clients for their first renewal.
4. We will provide a grant towards the client's costs. The guideline maximum amount will be £900 per family member. An additional contribution may be made, based on an assessment of the client's circumstances, particularly re children.
5. When clients first receive leave to remain, they will be encouraged to plan to save towards renewal costs. We will only tell the client that we may be able to provide them with some assistance towards the costs.
6. We will not provide loans to clients.

Southampton and Winchester Visitors Group *Working with asylum seekers and refugees*
Patrons: Miriam Margolyes OBE, John Pilkington, Dr Shirley Firth **Registered charity:** 1103093

SWVG P O Box 1615 Southampton, SO17 3WF

Email: admin@swvg-refugees.org.uk **Telephone:** 0750 317 6350 **Web:** www.swvg-refugees.org.uk



7. A temporary “visitor” will be arranged to support the client through the application process.

8. Legal advice regarding the renewal will be obtained from Leonards or another solicitor agreed with the client. The cost, expected to be around £100, will be met from the Legal Justice Fund. A visitor will accompany the client to the meeting.

9. The application form will be completed by the client with support from us.

SWVG MAG (Andrew White)

Adopted March 2017

Updated May 2017 (Christine Knight)

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