

# Children, Families and No Recourse to Public Funds

# Law and Social Work

- ✓ Law – about difference
- ✓ Social work – about similarities

# No Recourse to Public Funds?

- ✓ A legal meaning
- ✓ An everyday meaning

# Persons Subject to Immigration Control?

- ✓ May or may not be asylum seekers
- ✓ May or may not be settled here
- ✓ May or may not be lawfully present here
- ✓ Families may be of mixed composition

# Persons Not Subject to Immigration Control?

May still have no practical recourse to public funds:

- ✓ EEA nationals
- ✓ Sanctioned individuals
- ✓ Those considered not habitually resident

# Similarities

- ✓ Risk of significant harm
- ✓ Possibility of impaired physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development
- ✓ Effects of witnessing domestic violence

# Social Services and Immigration Control

“ ...One of the more important of the key issues central to the resolution of this case has been the matter of [her] immigration status and the impact that this had on the effective management of her case by the local authority...”

# Social Services and Immigration Control

“ ...There are two over-riding conclusions from this analysis. On the one hand there is a pressing need for a more proactive approach to the achievement of more effective practice and mutual understanding between local authority services and the Immigration service if the future welfare of children in a similar position [ ] is to be assured...”

# Voluntary Sector

- ✓ Differing experiences
- ✓ Better experience in respect of children than adults
- ✓ Overall, still a need for a holistic approach that
  - ✓ Recognises and does not overlook the experiences of those who are not subject to NRPF conditions; but
  - ✓ Still recognises that detailed understanding of immigration status is necessarily relevant to powers and duties owed