

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31



On 13 May we launched the agency's business plan, outlining our work between now and 2015; what we do, why we do it, how we do it and the values that underpin our work. It also explains our vision for what the agency will look like in 2015 and sets out our thinking and our plans for the future. ([page 3](#))

Whilst the agency as a whole has to play its part in reducing the public deficit we have taken careful account of both pressures and opportunities to reduce spending in particular areas in our planning. As a result we are confident that we can maintain and in some areas improve our performance over this period.

As part of our ongoing work to improve our services I hosted an event for Members of Parliament on Wednesday 30 March. This event included a question and answer session where MPs and their caseworkers were able to put questions directly to me and my senior officials. I am pleased that feedback showed the value of hosting such events and planning is already underway for the next. ([page 5](#))

We are also currently working to integrate our websites, which will bring all agency content under our control and create a single website; meeting the needs of both in country and out of country applicants. Once completed this will provide a seamless online journey through a single website to improve the customer experience and provide accurate, consistent and improved quality of information. ([page 4](#))

In April the immigration minister, Damian Green, visited our National Border Targeting Centre to see for himself the key role the centre is playing to secure the UK border. Since opening, the centre has used the e-Borders system to check movements into and out of the UK leading to over 3100 arrests for crimes such as murder, sexual and drug offences and facilitation. ([page 11](#))

This month the Independent Chief Inspector for the UK Border Agency, John Vine, has published his report of his thematic inspection of how the agency receives and uses intelligence. The inspection focused on how the agency collected, analysed and used intelligence in order to; protect the public, ensure compliance with the rules for entry of goods and people to the UK and to direct operations against those contravening the Immigration Rules. Work is already underway to support more coherent intelligence sharing arrangements

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

and we will also be reviewing our arrangements for enhanced engagement and data sharing with our intelligence partners at national, regional and local levels. ([page 7](#))

An ambitious reform programme is underway for Croydon's asylum screening unit to deliver a radical new approach to screening; the first significant contact between the agency and an applicant. This will support the asylum improvement project, tasked with exploring ways to further improve the asylum system and speed up the processing of applications. ([page 25](#))

Finally, I am pleased to announce that the agency has recovered almost £7million in civil penalties in the 2010/2011 financial year, compared with £4.3m in the preceding 12 months with our performance in recovering civil penalties being recognised by the Prime Minister in his recent speech on immigration. ([page 22](#)). Also a number of agency business areas have had recent success in achieving Customer Service Excellence (CSE) accreditation; demonstrating the agency's commitment to improving the experience of customers, learning how the agency can improve the services it delivers and ensuring we treat everyone with courtesy and respect. Providing exemplary customer services helps the agency deliver its strategic objectives, enforce the law and ultimately, protect the public. (pages [8](#) & [14](#))

We hope you continue to find this product both informative and accessible, and we welcome any further comments you might have. For general enquiries please contact the [Partnership & Engagement Team](#). For specific enquiries please see the contact details under the relevant article.

Jonathan Sedgwick
Acting Chief Executive
UK Border Agency

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Business plan

On 13 May we launched our business plan, outlining our work between now and 2015. Our objectives are – to secure the border and control migration while reducing costs and improving customer service - and in 2011-15 we will add to this a clear focus on quality and efficiency.

Our objectives flow directly from the Home Office's business plan objective to 'secure our border and reduce immigration'. This objective implements government undertakings to:

- Limit the number of non-EU economic migrants admitted into the UK to live and work.
- Create a new National Crime Agency, including a border policing command.
- Implement changes to speed up processing of asylum applications.
- Strengthen the system of granting student and spouse visas.
- End the detention of children for immigration purposes.
- Stop deporting asylum seekers whose sexual orientation or gender identification puts them at proven risk in specific countries.
- Develop e-Borders and reintroduce exit checks.
- Deliver the strategic defence and security review.
- Implement the new drugs strategy.

Our business plan sets out what we do, why we do it, how we do it and the values that underpin our work. It also explains our vision for what the agency will look like in 2015 and sets out our thinking and our plans for the future.

Like other government departments and businesses at present, we face huge tasks, challenging commitments in our work and a drive to cut our costs. Reducing the tax burden of the immigration system and border control is therefore a key element of our plans for the future. We believe that we are well placed to deliver our ambitious agenda while reducing our costs.

The full business plan can be found on our [website](#).



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Improvements to our online information

Currently our visa applicants face a complicated online journey through multiple websites. We are therefore working to integrate our visa services website, corporate website and the 200 country websites which contain local 'how to apply' visa information. This will bring all agency content under our control and create a single website to provide a seamless online journey; meeting the needs of both in country and out of country applicants.

Content is being rewritten, the homepage has been redesigned and the new navigational structure has been redeveloped on the bases of testing with users. New functionality is also being developed to help applicants apply for visas and extensions of stay.

Each country will have a 'microsite' on the new agency website, which will replace the local country websites currently run by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) and commercial partners. We will then integrate the Visa Services website into the agency website.

This important piece of work is being phased in over the next few months and is due to be completed by the end of summer 2011. Once completed this will provide a seamless online journey through a single website to

improve the customer experience and provide accurate, consistent and improved quality of information.

For further information please contact:
Diana Gittens on 0207 035 4418

Chief Inspector's reports

On 17 March the independent Chief Inspector, John Vine, published two reports:

- a short-notice inspection of decision making quality in the Istanbul visa section
- an inspection of the visa section in Amman, Jordan.

These reports and the agency responses can be found on the agency website.

[UK Border Agency | Chief Inspector of the UK Border Agency](#)

The Chief Inspector has also published his [Inspection Plan for 2011-12](#) which sets out the main areas of work for the year ahead. The inspection plan can be found on his [website](#).

For further information please contact:
Breesha Lowe 020 7035 0781



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Immigration & asylum biometric system

At the end of 2011 the Immigration and Asylum Biometric System (IABS) will replace the agency's current fingerprint system and will also support biometric capture at the Olympic and Paralympic Games. It will deliver:

- the latest biometric matching technology for the agency
- biometric capture at the border for the Olympics 2012
- One desktop – One Login – One helpline for users

IABS is currently being thoroughly tested before going live at the end of this year. It will enable the continuation of biometric capture, storage and matching with improved accuracy while providing additional advantages with its up to date technology, designed by the agency suppliers IBM. It will ensure that identity continues to be reliably established, whether at the border or within country.

Additionally it will capture the biometrics of all visa national Games Family Members (GFM) entering the United Kingdom for the Olympic and Paralympic Games 2012; including athletes, coaches, sponsors and accompanying media.

The programme is working closely with its suppliers IBM, Morpho, Home Office IT, Fujitsu and Atos to successfully deliver the latest biometric matching

technology for the agency. Staff will be able to access IABS and other IT systems through one desktop computer where previously two were required. One helpline will give support to all users.

IABS will go-live at the end of 2011 and the changes enabling biometric capture for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Family Members will go-live in March 2012. These will run throughout the whole period of the Games and will be decommissioned by October 2012.

For further information please contact:
Janis Maclennan on 0203 014 4297

Briefing for MPs

As part of our work to improve the service we provide to MPs, acting chief executive Jonathan Sedgwick, hosted an event for MPs on Wednesday 30 March. The event was attended by 9 MPs and 72 caseworkers.

The event included workshop sessions on asylum, controlling migration and securing our border. There was also a question and answer session with senior agency officials. A surgery session was also held so that MPs and caseworkers could discuss individual cases. Feedback from MPs showed they found the event important, relevant and very worthwhile.

Planning is already underway for our next event, which will be held in the House of Commons on 21 June.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities

The UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities sets out the duties on those states which have ratified it to promote, protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of rights and freedoms by people with disabilities, and to promote respect for their dignity.

When the UK ratified the convention in 2009 it lodged a reservation for immigration functions in order that this would not conflict with its duty to apply the immigration control. Due to concerns expressed at the time the previous administration agreed to review the reservation after ratification to assess whether there was a continuing need for it in practice.

This review has now commenced and the agency has launched a consultation to review the continuing need for this reservation. The government wants to hear the views of disabled people and of external partners with an interest in immigration issues as they affect disabled people, so it can take these views into account in reaching a decision about whether the reservation should be retained.

Full details of the consultation can be found on our website: [UK Border Agency | UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: review of immigration reservation \(March to June 2011\)](#). The closing date for responses is 13 June 2011. To contribute to the review, please email: UKBAUNCRPDRreservationReview@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

For further information please contact: Stephen Vail on 0208 760 2500



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Chief Inspector's report

On 13 May the Independent Chief Inspector for the UK Border Agency, John Vine, published the report of his thematic inspection of how the agency receives and uses intelligence. The agency accepts all 10 recommendations made in the report; eight in full and two in part.

The inspection focused on how the agency collected, analysed and used intelligence in order to, protect the public, ensure compliance with the rules for entry of goods and people to the UK and to direct operations against those contravening the Immigration Rules.

The report highlights the significant programme of work over recent years to build an effective intelligence service and support an intelligence-led agency. However, we agree with the Chief Inspector there is more to be done. We need greater consistency in how intelligence is recorded, assessed, developed and used throughout the agency. This will include establishing better and more robust flows of intelligence between intelligence units and members of the public, frontline staff, and other law enforcement agencies.

To be effective, the agency needs to share intelligence with partners at all levels from Serious Organised Crime Agency (SOCA) and government departments such as HMRC, DWP and DVLA, to local police forces and employers. At the local level particularly, we recognise that we should adopt a more consistent approach to engaging with a wider range of organisations, such as local authorities.

The full report and our response can be found on our website: [UK Border Agency | UK Border Agency response to the Chief Inspector's reports](#)

Work is already underway to support more coherent intelligence sharing arrangements, including a directory of agency intelligence contacts for the benefit of partnership working. We will also be reviewing our arrangements for enhanced engagement and data sharing with our intelligence partners at national, regional and local levels.

For further information please contact
Bal Sidhu – 0208 745 2415 or
Hannah Winfield – 0207 035 1749

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Libya

Due to the continuing security situation in Libya the UK visa application centre in Tripoli remains temporarily closed. We advise those applying in Libya to check our [local website](#) for details of the impact on visa services, alternative application arrangements and regular updates.

We are aware that due to the current situation in Libya the visas of some Libyans may expire before they are able to leave the UK. Travellers transiting through Libya to other countries may also be affected. We appreciate that this is due to exceptional circumstances and individuals affected should keep proof of original travel plans as evidence of their intention to comply with visa requirements. They should continue to monitor the situation regarding travel advice to Libya, making arrangements to return as soon as it is safe to do so.

For further information and updates on the current situation in Libya, customers should also visit the British Embassy Tripoli website: [UK in Libya](#). Libyans (or other nationals similarly affected by world events) who wish to apply to us for permission to remain in the UK should do so in the normal way. Any representations about exceptional circumstances will be carefully considered.

Customer Service Excellence award for New York

In April our New York visa section was accredited by the Customer Service Excellence (CSE), the government's gold standard for customer service in front line public services which was launched in March 2008.

New York has a proven background in customer service, having won and twice retained the previous government standard – the Charter Mark. CSE sets the bar higher than the Charter Mark. It imposes rigorous assessment criteria, including verbal testimony from a range of corporate partners and members of staff from tested teams. In total, 57 different elements were examined across five criteria of: customer insight - culture of the organisation - information and access - delivery- timeliness and quality of service.

In order to gather evidence New York ran an online satisfaction survey reaching 10,000 applicants. In parallel, surveys were run at partner biometric clinics throughout the US, at Department of Homeland Security locations and at commercial partner mobile facilities in South America and the Caribbean.

Providing exemplary customer services helps the agency deliver its strategic objectives, enforce the law, and ultimately protect the public. By improving and modernising customers' experiences, it will help save the agency money and also improve our reputation.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Mobile biometric enrolment centres

The agency has been pioneering the use of mobile enrolment centres in the Americas, allowing us to extend biometric enrolment coverage to more remote locations that we previously had been unable to reach. It has also helped retain coverage in existing locations that otherwise would have to be closed.

This flexibility means that we are now able to enrol biometrics in places like the Bahamas, the Cayman Islands and the east coast of Canada. It's beneficial for the customer because it does away with the need to travel to enrolment centres in other nearby countries or cities.

Ecuador has been the latest country to benefit from mobile biometric technology. In the first full day of operation some 40 appointments were booked and feedback from applicants was overwhelmingly positive with most very pleased to have the option of submitting biometrics locally rather than having to travel to Quito.

The launch event in Guayaquil, Ecuador hosted by the British Ambassador and Honorary Consul was attended by more than 100 partners including representatives of the business and education community and local media reported on the success of the event and the benefits of the new approach to biometric enrolment.

Value added services in China

The agency has introduced a range of additional services in China to cope with increasing demand for visas. These include the China business fast track scheme, which was re-launched in 2010 and now has around 65 members.

UKTI clients have been invited to a series of roadshows held at visa application centres (VACs) across China. Attendees were taken through the application process, given a master class on the different visa categories and the corresponding rules, offered the chance to join the fast track scheme and apply for long term visas. The roadshows are being repeated in major cities this spring to update companies on visa policy and to offer them a 10 minute surgery on case specific enquiries.

In December 2010 we opened a new flagship visa application centre (VAC) in Beijing, with significantly increased capacity; we have refurbished Shanghai to provide additional capacity and we now offer VIP services in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Network changes

Following the consideration of a number of different scenarios, applications submitted in Australia and New Zealand are now considered in Manila. The vast majority of applications submitted by non-visa nationals in the Asia-Pacific region will be processed in one hub, ensuring increased consistency of decision-making across the region.

The operational changes will not affect the way customers in Australian and New Zealand applying for visas, nor will it impact on our customer service standards. We will continue to process non-settlement visa applications within 3 weeks and settlement applications within 12 weeks.

Visa application forms – visitor guidance notes

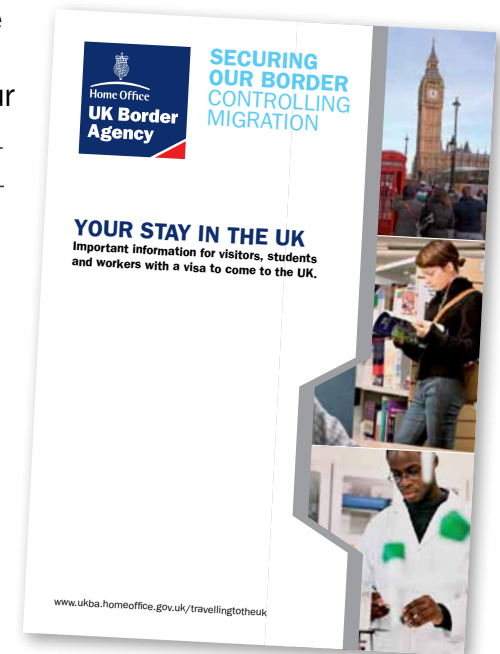
Translated guidance notes on completing visitor application forms, under reference VAF1A to 1K, are now available in the following languages; Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Turkish. You can access the relevant guidance notes by visiting our website:

[Visa application forms](#)

New guide for UK visa holders

The agency has launched an updated guide - **Your Stay in the UK** - for all travellers to the UK who have been issued with a UK visa. Your Stay in the UK contains information about the UK visa and what it permits visitors to do whilst they are in the UK. It also has a section containing information on UK regulations around illegal working, banned foods and other restricted goods. It is intended to help visitors comply with customs and immigration requirements, enabling them to enjoy a trouble free arrival and stay in the UK.

The Your Stay in the UK guide can be downloaded from our website: [UK Border Agency issues new guide for UK visa holders](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Damian Green visits the National Border Targeting Centre



The immigration minister, Damian Green, visited the National Border Targeting Centre (NBTC) in April to see for himself the key role the centre is playing to secure the UK border. The centre opened a year ago and over this period has used the e-Borders system to check movements into and out of the UK leading to over 3100 arrests for crimes such as murder, sexual and drug offences and facilitation.

Since the last edition, the e-Borders programme has successfully completed exit arrangements with Raytheon, following contract termination last year. Work has progressed on developing future capability, with potential suppliers, that will enable e-Borders to increase coverage and provide further security benefits to tackle terrorism, serious and organised crime, and illegal immigration. e-Borders is currently checking passenger and crew data from over 90% of flights from outside the EU and almost 60% from those within the EU.

We are also using e-Borders to conduct watchlist checks on passengers in advance of arrival on selected flights and coaches to expedite border crossing through Smart Zones. This stage of the trials will run from April to June and will include up to seven airports. The Smart Zone trial commenced at Gatwick South and Birmingham in April. At Gatwick a total of over 14,200 passengers from 66 flights have benefited from speedier processing in three weeks through Smart Zones and at Birmingham over 3,400 passengers from 19 flights in just over 7 days.

We will keep our partners up-to-date on all significant developments. If you have any queries on any of the above please contact e-Borders at: ebct@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

For further information please contact:
Nimisha Green on 07766 585 056.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

£1.4 million drugs find at Heathrow Airport

Cocaine, heroin and methamphetamines worth around £1.4 million have been found by agency officers at Heathrow, in one of the biggest drugs seizures of its kind at the airport so far this year. The drugs were discovered in wrapped packages, inside 2 suitcases, that had come off a flight from Amsterdam into Terminal 5 on the evening of Monday 4 April. In total approximately 33 kg of cocaine, 2 kg of heroin and 2 kg of methamphetamines were found.

A 47-year-old British man who had been a passenger on the flight was arrested, and later charged with attempting to import controlled drugs. The man, Adegboyega Ayobami Adeniji of Sandmere Close, Hemel Hempstead appeared before Uxbridge Magistrates on Tuesday 5 April.

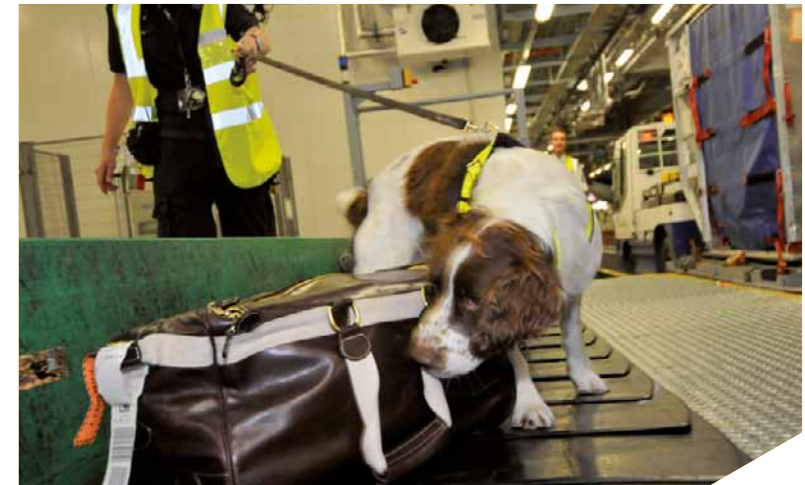
This was a significant seizure, and as this detection shows, our officers are on constant alert to keep class A drugs and other banned substances out of the UK. We are determined to prevent this trade which can have such a destructive impact on the lives of so many.

Anyone with information about activity they suspect may be linked to drug smuggling can call the smuggling hotline on 0800 59 5000.

Border dogs sniff out contraband at Birmingham airport

Dog-fighting DVDs, suspected dirty cash and shisha tobacco are among a range of illegal goods confiscated from passengers during a crackdown by the agency at Birmingham Airport. Specialist sniffer dogs have been on the scent of contraband carried by passengers on inward and outbound flights identified as carrying a significant risk of illegal goods. Although our officers and dogs are regularly on the lookout for suspect passengers and goods, they stepped up their search efforts at the beginning of March.

Full details of this story and agency's successes can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Border dogs sniff out contraband at Birmingham airport](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Agreement on the provision of a Regional Strategic Migration Partnership (RSMP)

The agency and the Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) have signed a grant agreement to establish and fund a Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership (NISMP). The partnership will facilitate the delivery of accommodation and support services to asylum seekers, refugees and more recently migrant workers in Northern Ireland.

Strategic Migration Partnerships are active throughout the UK working with a range of key partners to ensure that migrants successfully integrate into host communities. This includes migrants from the European Union (particularly the accession states), migrants entering the UK through the points based system, people seeking asylum, refugees, and victims of immigration crime, such as the victims of trafficking. This involves working in partnership with the agency, the devolved administrations, local authorities and a host of other stakeholders from the voluntary and private sector.

Northern Ireland has not had a partnership in the past as there were limited numbers of migrant communities in the province. This situation has rapidly changed and it has been recognised that Northern Ireland would benefit from such a partnership.

With the establishment of the Belfast Local Immigration Team, the agency entered into discussions with the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister (OFMDFM) to identify a suitable body to become the lead organisation. NILGA was identified as an appropriate and possibly willing body to become the lead organisation. After discussions, NILGA agreed to perform this role in Northern Ireland and the funding agreement was signed in March 2011.

We have had a successful first meeting where we agreed the way forward. This is an opportunity for NISMP in partnership with other regional partnerships, to be instrumental in assisting the agency in developing key strategies and policy objectives. We hope that, as the relationship with the agency continues to develop, so too will the NISMP stakeholder partnerships. It is recognised that this partnership will assist with the positive management of the asylum, refugee and migration agenda within Northern Ireland and contribute to that of the UK as a whole.

The first meeting between the agency and the NISMP following the signing of the agreement took place on 6th April 2011 in our Belfast office.

For further information please contact Alison Green on 0141 555 1232

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Public Enquiry Offices recognised for excellence

Hard working staff from our public enquiry offices (PEOs) in Glasgow, Solihull, Cardiff, Croydon, Belfast, Liverpool and Sheffield had cause for celebration in April 2011, as months of preparation resulted in Customer Service Excellence accreditation (CSE) being awarded in all seven units.

The standard was introduced by the Cabinet Office and tests units on the service they offer, with particular focus on delivery, timeliness, information, professionalism and staff attitude. These qualities are of particular importance to our PEOs who handle high volumes of applications from paying customers, including those paying premium fees for fast tracked services.

Gaining CSE accreditation across these offices is an outstanding achievement for immigration group staff.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Commencement of Section 19 of the UK Borders Act 2007

The agency commenced Section 19 of the UK Borders Act 2007 on 23 May 2011, which impacts appeals heard for the first time on or after 23 May 2011.

Appeals that have been part or fully-heard by the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber) by this date will not be affected.

Section 19 restricts the evidence an appellant can rely on at appeal to that which was provided to the original agency decision maker. It applies to appeals against immigration decision refusals under the Points Based System (PBS).

The Home Affairs Committee has previously noted that the submission of new evidence at appeal stage was resulting not in a review of a decision at appeal, but rather an entirely different decision being made on entirely different evidence. In taking the decision to commence Section 19 we have given real consideration to the concerns raised in Parliament during the debates on the UK Border Act 2007 such as ensuring the application process is clear and that minor errors can be addressed in the application process.

We are confident PBS is accessible and understandable, but we also recognise there will always be the potential for human error. UK Border Agency caseowners employ a measure of flexibility when considering PBS applications, for example requesting further documentation or clarification where appropriate. In addition a validation stage is being trialled whereby applicants are contacted where mandatory evidence is missing and given the opportunity to provide it before their application is rejected. These policies aim to provide excellent customer service and reduce the number of applications falling for rejection.

Persons wishing to remain in the UK under the PBS are already required to submit all relevant evidence in support of their application at the time that application is made. In that regard the introduction of this measure does not require applicants to do anything different to what they should currently be doing. Section 19 reinforces this principle and will prevent persons from relying on an expensive and publicly funded appeal to correct their errors in the application process.

For further information please visit our [website](#).



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

First annual limit on non-EU workers comes into force

The first major change to reduce immigration into the UK was delivered on 6 April 2011, as the government's new annual limit came into force. This, along with radical changes recently introduced to the student route and plans to tackle permanent settlement will see net migration fall back down to the tens of thousands.

Under the annual limit, employers will be able to bring only 20,700 people from outside the EU to work in skilled professions under Tier 2 (General) of the points-based system. A further 1,000 visas will be made available to people of 'exceptional talent' to ensure that Britain remains open to the brightest and the best.

For more information on this story, please go to our [website](#).

New immigration fees from 6 April 2011

Following Parliamentary approval, new immigration fees have been introduced from Wednesday 6 April 2011 for foreign nationals applying to visit, study, work or settle in the UK, and for employers and education providers applying for a sponsor licence.

The new fees were [announced](#) on 28 February by immigration minister, Damian Green, and a full list of the new fees can be found on our [fees for our services](#) page.

New rules for student visas come into force

On 21 April changes to Tier 4 - the student tier - of the points-based system came into effect. These changes were announced by the Home Secretary in a statement to Parliament on 22 March. They follow a major public consultation on reforming Tier 4. The aim of the revised Rules is to deliver a strong migration system which tackles immigration abuse, while allowing genuine students to study at genuine colleges. Details of the changes were published on our [website](#).

You download a full summary of the new student policy at:

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/news/summary-student-policy.pdf

New versions of our policy guidance documents for Tier 4 migrants and sponsors were published last month and you can find these in the [Studying in the UK](#) and [Sponsoring migrants](#) sections of this website.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Changes to settlement

The agency has tightened the former settlement criteria by introducing the following changes from 6 April 2011:

- a new criminality threshold. Applicants must now be clear of unspent convictions when they apply for settlement.
- a new income requirement. Tier 1 (General) migrants must now meet the same income criteria that applied when they last extended their permission to stay in the UK. Migrants who have been in Tier 2 (General) or Tier 2 (Intra company transfer), or who have held work permits, must be being paid the appropriate rate as stated in our [codes of practice](#).
- Reform of the English language requirement. Migrants in Tier 1, Tier 2 and their precursor routes must now pass the Life in the UK test rather than an ESOL with citizenship course. Transitional arrangements will apply.
- An accelerated route to settlement for Tier 1 (Investor) and Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) migrants who meet [enhanced criteria](#).

Revised policy guidance for our staff came into effect on 6 April, and is published in our [policy and law section](#). A [statement of changes to the immigration rules \(HC 863\)](#) contains full details of all the changes that came into effect on 6 April 2011.

Government ‘rolls out the red carpet’ for entrepreneurs and investors

Foreign entrepreneurs and investors are being given an extra incentive to come to the UK as a result of new visa rules announced on 16 March 2011, which will reward those who contribute to economic growth.

Under changes to the Rules, which were laid in Parliament on the 16 March 2011, people who come to the UK under Tier 1 (Investor) of the points-based system will be able to settle in the UK faster if they invest large sums of money. Those who invest £5 million will be allowed to settle in the UK after three years, and those investing £10 million or more will be allowed to settle after two years. This compares with the current minimum five year requirement.

The right to accelerated settlement will apply to those investors who are already in the UK and who have invested large sums, as well as new arrivals. Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) migrants will also be able to settle in the UK more quickly if they create 10 jobs or turn over £5 million in a three year period.

The government has also published a statement of intent outlining how the new Tier 1 (Exceptional talent) route will operate from April 2011.

To find out more about this story go to our [website](#).

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review shortage occupation list

The government has commissioned the MAC to review the shortage occupation list. The MAC have begun a review of the UK labour market in order to recommend occupations and job titles to be added to, and removed from, the Tier 2 and Scotland shortage occupation list.

They are considering in which occupation(s) or job title(s), skilled to National Qualifications Framework level 4 or above, is there a shortage of labour that it would be sensible to fill using labour from outside the European Economic Area (EEA).

Our partners are invited to submit evidence to the MAC to support their consideration of this question. Further details of how they will approach this work and how to submit relevant evidence can be found on our website: [UK Border Agency | Migration Advisory Committee report on skilled, shortage, sensible - call for evidence](#). The closing date for evidence is 10 June 2011.

For further information please contact:
Ros Coles (020 8760 2863)
Anne Ball (020 8760 2818)
Kathy Hennessy (020 8760 2812)

Highly Trusted sponsors under Tier 4

The agency has recently announced changes to the Tier 4 sponsor requirements, and in due course, we will expect all sponsors to apply for and achieve Highly Trusted sponsor status. More information can be found in the [statement of intent on student visas](#).

The agency will also shortly be reviewing Highly Trusted sponsor status, to see whether it can improve the arrangements to ensure that policy and enforcement objectives are being met. All applications for Highly Trusted sponsor status will be considered against the criteria in place on the date of the application.

For more information about Highly Trusted sponsor status for Tier 4 sponsors, see the [Highly Trusted sponsors section](#).



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

New premium service at the Liverpool Public Enquiry Office

Fee increases for 2011/12 published on the agency website for the first time introduce a new premium service that will allow EEA nationals to submit their applications via the Public Enquiry Office in Liverpool.

The service has been developed in response to a request from the Immigration Law Practitioners Association (ILPA). Positive customer insight has also supported the introduction of the service, which will be an optional alternative to the normal postal service currently offered to all EEA nationals. Postal applications will continue to be processed free of charge.

From June this year the service will be available to those EEA nationals applying under EEA 2, 3 and 4. There will be provisions for EEA1 applications to be dealt with free of charge but only if submitted with an associated EEA 2 or 4 charged application. The fee of £300 is payable for each application and a fee of £300 is payable for each dependant.

This fee follows the Free Movement Directive and is not set towards the cost of the document, but the actual appointment on the basis of the additional cost to process applications at the Public Enquiry Office. The service will be introduced on a limited basis and by appointment only. An EEA or Swiss National applying for

a registration certificate (EEA1) in their own right may continue to do so free of charge and by appointment through Croydon Public Enquiry Office only.

For further information please contact:
Anne Roberts / Jan Furlong on 0151 237 5524

Points-based calculator - reduced service

Until summer 2011, the agency's points-based calculator will be offering a reduced service for some migrant applicants who want to check whether they will pass their points assessment. The service is currently reduced as it was not possible to make the necessary IT amendments in time for policy changes to the Points Based System that took effect in April. Full details of which categories will be offered a full or partial self-assessment can be found on our website: [UK Border Agency | Points-based calculator - reduced service](#). Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience caused; we are aiming to re-introduce a full service in the summer of this year.

Applicants should also read the relevant policy guidance in order to assess whether they meet the requirements to score points.

To access the points-based calculator please go to our [website](#).

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

New list of approved English language test providers

On 6 April 2011, we launched a [new list of English language test providers](#) and when all of the transitional arrangements have expired, this new list will replace all existing lists of English language test providers.

Under transitional arrangements, where tests have been booked or taken under tiers 1 and 2 of the points-based system, the existing lists of providers can be used in applications as long as they are received by the agency on or before 17 May 2011. From 18 May 2011 only tests taken with providers on the new list can be used as part of applications for Tier 1 and Tier 2.

For individuals applying as a spouse or partner, they may use a test with an existing provider in an application received on or before the 17 July 2011. From 18 July 2011 all applications must be submitted with evidence from a provider on the new list published on the 6 April 2011.

There are no transitional arrangements for Tier 4 of the points-based system as the agency is expanding the current list of providers. A test can therefore be taken with any provider on the new list from 6 April 2011.

Changes to the ‘knowledge of language and life’ requirement for settlement

Skilled and highly skilled migrants, in certain immigration categories, must now pass the Life in the UK Test if they want to demonstrate that they have met the knowledge of language and life (KOL) requirement for settlement in the UK.

From 6 April 2011, migrants in specified categories can no longer meet the KOL requirement by passing the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) qualification, unless they are applying for settlement under the agency’s transitional arrangements.

For full details of the immigration categories affected and details of transitional arrangements, please go to our [website](#).



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Sham marriage guidance issued for clergy

Church of England guidance was issued on 12 April 2011, advising clergy not to offer to publish banns for any marriage which involves someone from outside the European Economic Area. Instead, the couple will be asked to apply for a licence, which will involve making a sworn declaration that is recognised in law. The guidance also states that if a member of the clergy is not satisfied that a marriage is genuine they must make that clear to the person responsible for granting the licence.

The agency already works very closely with the Church, not only to investigate and disrupt suspected sham weddings, but also to provide advice and support. Increasing enforcement action has resulted in 155 arrests across the country and would-be fraudsters should remember that a marriage itself does not equal an automatic right to remain in the UK.

If a couple insist on having banns read rather than applying for a common licence, the clergy are advised to report it immediately to a legal officer. They should also ask for evidence of the couple's right to marriage by banns, such as a driving licence and official correspondence. And finally, the couple should be visited at their named address. Each diocese will have a dedicated contact point with the agency to allow information to be shared.

Europe-wide accord to tackle human trafficking
The Home Secretary, Theresa May, has written to Parliamentary Scrutiny Committees, seeking their views on the government's intention to apply to opt in to the European Union Directive on Human Trafficking.

The UK already carries out most measures required by the directive. But opting in will ensure Britain remains a world leader in combating trafficking and enshrine in law the good practice that happens routinely. The directive will introduce a number of measures, including extending the UK's power to prosecute UK nationals who commit offences anywhere in the world, even when there is no connection to the UK, helping to ensure that traffickers do not escape justice. It will also strengthen a shared approach among 27 countries.

Full details of this story can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Government seeks to join Europe-wide accord to tackle human trafficking](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

£7million in civil penalties collected in the last financial year

The agency has recovered almost £7million in civil penalties in the 2010/2011 financial year, compared with £4.3m in the preceding 12 months. Performance in recovering civil penalties was recognised by the Prime Minister in his recent speech on immigration.

As a result of a comprehensive process review, supported by training of almost 600 front line staff, over £645K was recovered in March 2011. The team is currently working on two initiatives with the Local Immigration Teams (LITs) in Cardiff and Scotland to ensure a penalty is served against the employers of illegal workers following enforcement visits. This follows two previous successful pilots with LITs. The team also works closely with the Gangmaster's Licencing Authority and HMRC to ensure information exchanges about those involved in illegal working issues.

The achievements of the CPCT are a result collaborative working between the agency and its external partners. The CPCT has worked extensively to develop its closer working relationships to meet the government's commitment to tackling illegal working and its harmful social effects.

For further information please contact:
Linzi Brooks on 0161 261 1179

Europe-wide accord to tackle human trafficking

The Home Secretary, Theresa May, has written to Parliamentary Scrutiny Committees, seeking their views on the government's intention to apply to opt in to the European Union Directive on Human Trafficking.

The UK already carries out most measures required by the directive. But opting in will ensure Britain remains a world leader in combating trafficking and enshrine in law the good practice that happens routinely. The directive will introduce a number of measures, including extending the UK's power to prosecute UK nationals who commit offences anywhere in the world, even when there is no connection to the UK, helping to ensure that traffickers do not escape justice. It will also strengthen a shared approach among 27 countries.

Full details of this story can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Government seeks to join Europe-wide accord to tackle human trafficking](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Abolition of the Certificate of Approval scheme

On 4 April 2011 Parliament approved the Remedial Order that abolished the certificate of approval scheme and the scheme ended on 9 May 2011.

Following a declaration by the UK courts that the scheme was incompatible with Article 14 of the European Convention on Human Rights (read with Article 12) and changes made following rulings from the courts the scheme was no longer an effective method of preventing sham marriage.

The agency will continue to investigate suspected abuse and, where possible, disrupt marriages before they take place. If we uncover marriages that are not genuine, we will challenge them and prosecute where possible. Entering into a sham marriage does not entitle migrants to any right to remain in the UK.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Assisted Voluntary Returns – change of provider

From the 1 April 2011 our Assisted Voluntary Return (AVR) programmes will be administered by Refugee Action, a national charity with international connections.

Until 31 March these schemes were administered by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) but EU funding requires a competitive tender as part of the grant process. Refugee Action, with its extensive national network of representatives and partners, were successful in their bid to inform a wide range of potential applicants of the advantages of the schemes.

AVR offers support and preparation, and in many cases financial assistance, for a permanent move back to an individuals home country, and is the government's preferred means of return. Any potential applicants should contact Refugee Action on freephone 0808 800 0007 for information, or log on to www.refugee-action.org.uk.

The UK has been at the forefront of assisted voluntary return innovation for many years, and the benefits to the individuals, the host and the home countries underscore the value of the programmes to all. We are confident that Refugee Action will build on the previous success of the schemes.

Presentation and talks about AVR can be arranged by contacting the team. For further information please contact: Steve Hall, Senior Delivery Manager, Assisted Voluntary Returns on 0203 014 0486



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Reform programme take a fresh look at the screening processes

An ambitious reform programme is underway for Croydon's asylum screening unit. The programme is looking at the physical environment, the process and the people and will deliver a radical new approach to screening.

Screening is the first significant contact between the agency and an applicant. To improve screening the agency will be making big changes. For example, frontloading certain tasks to save case owners time in interviews, making the screening experience better for applicants, and ensuring that screening delivers a consistent product that facilitates high quality decision making.

The reform programme will support the asylum improvement project, which has been charged by the coalition government with exploring ways to further improve the asylum system and speed up the processing of applications.

The asylum improvement project, which oversees a number of initiatives, is focusing on three main themes to improve performance. These are:

- generating greater productivity and efficiency in the asylum process
- delivering better, more sustainable decisions
- assisting with removals performance.

The value for money and productivity unit is also working with the screening reform programme and talking to staff to help them streamline processes, resolve issues and develop sound, realistic proposals for improvement. With intake at a record low this is a great time to step back and reconsider what we want from the screening process, how we can improve our training programme and what we can do to identify vulnerable individuals more quickly and deal with them more sensitively.

European Return Fund 2010: community actions call for proposals

We are pleased to announce that a call for proposals for the European Return Fund 2010: community actions is now open. The closing date for completed applications is Friday 10 June at 14.00.

The EU funding programme supports the efforts of EU Member States to return third country nationals (i.e. non-EU and non-EEA nationals) to their countries of origin, particularly where the return is voluntary or jointly effected with other Member States. Eligible actions include

- creation of an EU network on voluntary return
- cooperation of two or more Member States in the field of pre-departure and post-arrival reintegration activities related to Assisted Voluntary Return operations

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

- website creation for gathering and sharing information in the field of voluntary return
- setting up and further development of cooperation of at least two Member States in the field of reintegration

The call is aimed at public authorities and international organisations, EU agencies, private bodies and Non-Governmental Organisations registered in an EU member state. Applicants must work on a strictly non-profit basis and have proven experience and expertise in the fields covered. Proposals must be submitted by an entity from one Member State together with at least one partner entity from a different Member State.

Documents related to the call for proposals are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/funding/return/funding_return_en.htm.

Further queries can also be sent to the UK's Responsible Authority contactable via email at EuropeanSolidFundsEnquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

COMPASS Project – Procurement competition launch

On 4 April the agency launched its COMPASS (Commercial and Operational Managers Procuring Asylum Support Services) procurement competition. Organisations have been invited to submit their bids to provide accommodation and transport to supported asylum seekers from 2012 when current contracts expire.

The COMPASS Project will provide provision for asylum support services, in accordance with government policy, when current arrangements expire during 2012. The following asylum support services are currently within the scope of COMPASS:

- initial / dispersed accommodation
- transport into the region and
- transport within the region

The project procurement competition enables suppliers to register their interest and provide information in the first stage of the procurement process, known as RFI (Request for information) stage. This stage assesses an organisation's capability to deliver the solution and closed on the 17th May 2011. If successful suppliers will progress to the request for proposal stage when they will be asked to provide specific information as to how they will deliver the service required.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Bids will be evaluated on their ability to:

- deliver value for money
- improve efficiency to support end to end delivery of asylum objectives
- deliver services that meet Home Office values.

Further updates on the work of the COMPASS Project will be issued over the coming months. In the meantime, should you have any queries please contact the COMPASS Mailbox:

Compass@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

For further information please contact Paul Dunlop on 0161 261 1164



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

National Migration Group (NMG) – 31 March 2011

The minister for immigration, Damian Green attended the NMG and spoke about how the government wanted to reduce net migration from hundreds of thousands to tens of thousands. He talked about the recent announcements concerning Tier 1 and Tier 4 and how a further consultation on the link between temporary migration and permanent settlement would be issued after the May 2011 elections.

Homelessness amongst accession state migrants was also discussed and focused on a report produced by Rob Warm. Three recommendations were presented which included: developing an understanding of the problem and how this challenges our idea of what homelessness is; promoting new solutions to new problems and the role that can be played by reconnection schemes.

There was a brief update on English Speakers for Other Languages (ESOL), followed by further discussion on Roma communities.

The final item on the agenda was a discussion on 'Including Migrant Populations in Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs): 'A Guide' [available on the North East Public Health Observatory website](#) Discussion followed on proposed changes to the National Health Service (NHS) in terms of efficiency savings and structure.

The next meeting will be held at Lunar House, Croydon on 14 June 2011. Please contact [Will Bouquet](#) or [Sheelagh Warde](#) for further information.

Children's sub-group – 10 March 2011

At the Children's sub-group, held at Church House, Westminster on 10 March 2011, the UK Border Agency and its corporate partners discussed local immigration teams (LITs) and children placed outside local authority boundaries.

Olivia Nuttall, from Ealing LIT in the South East, explained how regionalisation and new structures in the form of LITs united most areas of the agency's business, including: immigration and enforcement, visas and work permits, intelligence, asylum case owners (managing all asylum cases for that borough), and asylum support subsistence and accommodation support. LITs also represent appeals, carry out a range of enforcement activities and engage with their local community.

LITs have many benefits and they create consistent contact between staff and partners, helping build familiarity and knowledge. LITs have clear ownership and accountability for cases and they provide the agency with flexibility in terms of being able to deploy resources quickly to where they are needed. They help promote better working relationships and enable the agency to make contributions to various partner groups at a local level.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Finally, Judith Dennis of the Refugee Council opened the discussion on issues around some local authorities being required to place children in supported accommodation, foster homes or other accommodation outside their borough or county. The agency is making progress with regards to the process around this. Both the agency and partners agreed that the best interests of the child should always be a priority.

The UK Border Agency's intention is to continue to develop working relationships with local authorities and support development of LIT expertise in working with children.

The next meeting of the sub-group will be held on 8 June 2011, hosted by the Local Government Association. Please contact [Sheelagh Warde](#) for further information.

National Asylum Stakeholder Forum (NASF) – 22 March 2011

At the 23 March NASF meeting, Hugh Ind, the national lead for asylum, provided updates on: the limits to reduce net migration, budget constraints and how they were resulting in the agency downsizing, the agency's position on North Africa and the Middle East following the recent unrest and the establishment of a European Asylum Support Office (EASO) to coordinate and step up cooperation on asylum between Member States.

Updates were also provided on the conclusion of legacy cases as well as the COMPASS project, which is aimed at providing ongoing contract provision for asylum and refugee support services.

Almir Kodzic, Refugee Council, gave a presentation on Refugee Week, which celebrates and showcases the diverse contributions of refugees in the UK. The aim of Refugee Week is to create a better understanding between different communities and to highlight successful integration, enabling refugees to live in safety and to continue making a valuable contribution to the UK.

A discussion followed, led by Kristian Armstrong, head of central policy unit, on ending the detention of children for immigration purposes. New enforcement instructions and guidance are available to staff and were published to share with partners on the agency's website. Finally, a presentation on the asylum improvement project with specific reference to the asylum screening reform programme was presented by Sonia Dower. The aim of this programme of work is to design and deliver a new approach to screening at the asylum screening unit (ASU) in Croydon.

The next meeting will be held on 26 May 2011 at City Hall. Please contact [Will Bouquet](#) or [Sheelagh Warde](#) for further information.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

National Asylum Operational Stakeholder Forum (NASOF) – 14 April 2011

The last NASOF meeting took place on 14 April 2011, chaired by Richard Buxon, Refugee Council and Emma Churchill, director for asylum, UK Border Agency.

First on the agenda was the North East Yorkshire and Humber interview of single applicants at five days post allocation pilot. In this pilot, the minimum time period within which an asylum applicant can be interviewed is reduced from seven days to five days after being allocated to the regional asylum team. The pilot is limited to single adult applicants accommodated in

initial accommodation. Further information on the pilot would be provided in due course.

Several updates were provided at the meeting including: the review of the asylum screening process, the compass programme, an update on the settlement applications, a discussion on NAM refusals and an update on steps taken to commit to the recommendations made by the Chief Inspector in his review of Local Immigration Teams in the North West.

A date for the next meeting will be held on 20 July 2011 at Lunar House, Croydon. Please contact [Will Bouquet](mailto:Will.Bouquet@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) or [Sheelagh Warde](mailto:Sheelagh.Warde2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk) for further information.

Upcoming meetings with corporate partners

Partner Group	Date of Next Meeting	Contact
Voluntary Returns Steering Group	7 June 2011	Eileen.Gough@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Children's Sub-group	8 June 2011	Sheelagh.Warde2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
National Migration Group	14 June 2011	Will.Bouquet@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
Intelligence	7
International	8
Border control	11
Immigration	13
Managed migration	15
Enforcement	21
Removal and detention	24
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Local news within your region of interest

London and South East

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=LondonandSouthEast

Midlands and East of England

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=MidlandsandEastofEngland

North East, Yorkshire and Humber

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=NorthEastYorkshireandHumber

North West

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=NorthWest

Scotland and Northern Ireland

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=ScotlandandNorthernIreland

Wales and South West

www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/news-and-updates/?area=WalesandSouthWest

