

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31



It is now a year since we began to issue this partner update. There have been a number of significant developments in the first part of this year, and I hope that this update provides a useful overview of some of the changes we have made.

We have been taking forward our work to plan for and implement the budget reduction announced in the Spending Review last October. As we have said, the agency of the future will be smaller, more flexible and we will take advantage of new technology. In planning when and where we will reduce jobs, we are looking at those areas where there are opportunities to make savings where jobs are coming to an end and demand is reducing; we have therefore been looking at our case working functions in Croydon due to the introduction of the limit on migration and the asylum case resolution programme ending in the summer and demand for case working falling. Adding to that the introduction of ICW (immigration case working) and the efficiencies this makes possible, we are clear that we will need fewer case working staff in the years ahead.

1 March marked the start of three months consultation with both staff and trade unions on the proposals how we restructure case working teams to reduce staffing to around 540 long-term posts in Croydon. There will also be changes in Liverpool and Sheffield, resulting in fewer jobs. The agency is committed to do everything possible to avoid compulsory redundancy, and we are consulting staff to draw on their ideas on this (Page 3).

The Permanent Secretary set out changes in how policy is to be delivered across the Home Office; creating a smaller and more flexible policy function that can work across policy priorities to deliver the Home Secretary's agenda. To support this strategic border and immigration policy will be transferred into one of the existing policy groups in the core Home Office. This group will be responsible for overall strategy, international work and civil liberties. The agency will retain responsibility for operational policy and we will work with the new strategic function to ensure that strategy and policy is informed by operational realities, and that partners continue to have a single way to engage with the wider Home Office on border and immigration issues.

I am pleased that we were able to announce on 10 March that we would be working with the highly respected children's charity Barnardo's who have agreed to deliver key welfare, safeguarding and support

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

services for families at the UK Border Agency's new pre-departure family accommodation (page 22). We have also set up a new corporate partner group, the asylum quality sub-group, to help maintain the agency's internationally recognised commitment to the quality of our decision making (page 24).

We have also continued to work through the Government's commitment to review every migration route in order to bring levels of migration down to sustainable levels. On 3 March the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) recommended 8 job titles be removed from the United Kingdom shortage occupation list following their February recommendations (Page 14). We also announced our Statement of Policy for Tier 1 visa applications and laid our proposed immigration rules for Tier 1, Tier 2 and settlement before Parliament on 16 March (page 12). An announcement on Tier 4 was also made on 22 March introducing a number of policy changes to ensure only the highest quality international students to come to the UK (Page 17).

Finally, our agency update is a year old this month and we would really like to hear our partners' thoughts on its usefulness. I would be very grateful if you would take the time to answer a few questions at the end of this document to that end. And of course we welcome any further comments you might have. As always I'm keen to hear what we're doing well and what we should do more of.

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
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

UK Border Agency Croydon restructure 2011

Following the outcome of the Spending Review we are making savings in all parts of the agency and continue to identify those areas where there are opportunities to make savings because jobs are coming to an end and demand is reducing.

We have been looking at our case working functions in Croydon as with the introduction of the limit on migration and the asylum case resolution programme on track to end by the summer, demand for case working is falling. Adding to that the introduction of ICW (immigration case working) and the efficiencies this makes possible, we are clear that we will need fewer case working staff in the years ahead. The agency of the future will be smaller and more flexible, and we will take advantage of new technology.

On 1 March we announced the start of three months of consultation with both staff and trade unions on the proposal for how we restructure case working. We are proposing to run a selection process for around 540 long-term posts in Croydon. We will provide support and training to people involved in the process as well as meaningful alternative work to those whose work comes to an end soon, and then to those who become surplus and enter the redeployment register. We will do everything possible to avoid compulsory redundancy and have already used many ways to

achieve this including early release schemes and our recruitment freeze.

We would like to reassure you that securing our border and managing migration remain our continued priorities during these times of change.

The end of ID cards

A database built to hold the fingerprints and personal details of millions of ID card holders was publicly destroyed on 10 February 2011. People can no longer use the cards to prove their identity or to travel in Europe. The scheme was scrapped by the coalition government and the cards ceased to be valid legal documents on 22 January 2011.

The Identity & Passport Service has written to all cardholders and informed international border agencies, travel operators and customers of the change in law. To find out more go to the [Identity and Passport services website](#)

The end of ID cards will not affect the UK Border Agency's programme of biometric residence permits (also known as identity cards for foreign nationals), which we will continue to issue to some categories of migrant as required by European law. For more information, see the [While you are in the UK](#) section of our website.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

The UK Border Agency Olympic and Paralympic story so far

On 15 March we were just 500 days from the start of the Olympic and Paralympic Games and there is a real sense of excitement in the agency as we approach the Games. We will see unprecedented challenges at our border but we are ready, along with our delivery partners, to play our part in making this a safe, secure and truly inspirational event for everyone to enjoy.

Whilst the London Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (LOCOG) is responsible for accrediting those who require access to Olympic venues it is the agency who will be conducting the immigration, background and security checks to determine each applicant's suitability for accreditation. We are expecting to clear some 70,000 Games Family Members (GFM) and 450,000 applicants including workforce and volunteers through the Olympic Clearing House which has been set up specifically for this purpose.

We are working with carriers, the Department for Transport (DfT) and LOCOG to ensure we have a clear picture of the anticipated arrivals in order to co-ordinate our approach as we welcome people coming to the United Kingdom. We aim to exceed their expectations in terms of the border experience and continue to refine our plans for the arrival of Games Family Members, many of whom will arrive in advance of the Games for the purpose of training and attending test events.

We have introduced and are actively marketing a new Olympic/Paralympic Games Visit visa to support those athletes, coaches or officials who want to come to the United Kingdom in advance of the Games to train, take part in test events or prepare for the competition itself.

For further information please contact Maxine Ricketts on 020 8760 2291.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

The Immigration & Asylum Biometric System (IABS)

The latest in biometric matching technology will be introduced to the agency in 2011. The Immigration & Asylum Biometric System (IABS) will replace our current fingerprint system (IAFS) at the end of 2011 with the latest in biometric matching technology.

Biometrics are used overseas, at the border and in country to establish a unique identity for each applicant. This is principally in the form of digital fingerprints and a facial photograph. Fingerprints are recorded and checked when individuals are applying for visas or biometric residence permits, and when asylum seekers require registration cards. The biometric information helps to ensure that decisions are made quickly and fairly and that the UK is protected.

IABS will replace the current system while also incorporating additional features. It will allow biometrics to be taken, stored and matched with improved accuracy to ensure that identity is reliably established, whether at the border or within country. It will also improve the service currently offered by providing the flexibility to extend the system in the future should additional functionality be required.

An exciting development has been the recent approval for the IABS technology to capture biometrics of visa national Games Family Members (GFM) during the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2012. GFM include athletes, coaches, sporting officials, sponsors and the media who are travelling on the Olympic or Paralympic Identity and Accreditation Card.

By replacing the existing fingerprint system with improved and advanced technology we are ensuring that the agency can continue to secure the border and control migration now and in the future. The IABS Programme Team, led by Programme Director Jackie Keane, is working closely with its suppliers IBM, Fujitsu and ATOS and the testing phase of the programme has started.

For further information please contact Janis MacLennan IABS Partnership and Communication Manager on 0203 014 4297.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

UK Border Agency event for MPs

The Minister of State for Immigration, Damian Green, and the acting Chief Executive, Jonathan Sedgwick, will host an event for MPs on Wednesday 30 March at 2 Marsham Street. The event follows on from our successful event in September where feedback showed these events are beneficial and informative.

This event will include briefings on asylum, controlling migration and securing our border. There will be a question and answer session, during which MPs and their caseworkers can ask questions about the government's approach to immigration and how the agency is delivering its priorities. There will also be a surgery session for MPs and their caseworkers who wish to discuss individual cases with officials from the key business areas.

Places are limited, so if you are an MP or caseworker and have not yet signed up to attend the event, please contact either Chris Cannon (020 8196 3251) or Colin Moir (020 8196 3273) or email mpsevent@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

For further information please contact Colin Moir on 020 8196 3273.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Integration of visa websites into the UK Border Agency website

We are currently working on the integration of our Visa Services pages, along with over 200 country websites containing local visa information for applicants overseas, into the main UK Border Agency site; improving the content at the same time.

The integrated website layout is being tested for usability, the homepage is being re-designed and new functionality will be developed to make things easier for applicants.

This work will mean we can provide a unified, coherent online presence and a streamlined user journey which meets both the needs of all our customers for both in-country and out of country applicants. This work is due to complete by the autumn 2011.

Visa services in Europe – important changes

The UK Border Agency has made important changes to the way it operates in Europe. Agency offices in Belgium, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Slovakia and Portugal have now permanently closed. Offices in Germany and Lithuania will close at the end of March 2011.

Residents of the above countries now apply at the Visa Application Centres run by the UK Border Agency's commercial partner, WorldBridge, in Paris (for Belgium), Zurich and Geneva (for Switzerland), Düsseldorf (for Germany and the Netherlands), and at the visa application points at British Embassy Madrid (for Portugal) and Vienna or Budapest (for Slovakia). Residents of Lithuania will apply in Riga or Warsaw when the Vilnius office is permanently closed. Under the new arrangements, visa applications will still be processed within our customer service targets.

These changes to the visa service run by the agency in Europe are part of a wider process aimed at concentrating visa decision-making into fewer, larger offices to improve consistency and at delivering efficiency savings in line with the requirements set out in the UK Government's Spending Review.

Under the new arrangements, visa applications will still be processed within our existing customer service targets. For further information please see our website [UK Border Agency Visa Services Home Page](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Review of visa requirements for Dominica and St Lucia

The United Kingdom completed a global review of visa requirements for visitors coming to the country last year. As a result of this the government considered introducing visa regimes for St Lucia and Dominica.

On the 2 March 2011, a joint Written Ministerial Statement signed by the Home Secretary and the Foreign Secretary, was laid in Parliament stating that a visa regime would not be introduced to St Lucia and Dominica.

Dominica and St Lucia have made concrete improvements to the immigration, border control and identity systems which would not have happened without the test. In recognition of the progress made, visitors from Dominica and St Lucia will therefore continue to be able to travel to the UK without the need for a visa.

Supporting documents for visa applications

We have standardised supporting documents guidance for Points-based system (PBS) applications and non-PBS visa applications, which can be found on the [visa services section](#) of the UK Border Agency website.

We have removed local guidance on country websites, which sometimes contained conflicting information about the type and number of supporting documents

required by an applicant and have included links from local country sites to the supporting documents guidance on the main website. See the supporting documents section under visa information and guidance at www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas

Visitor visa guidance translations

The online visitor visa guidance (which accompanies the visa application form) will be translated into six languages from April 2011. The languages are Arabic, Chinese (simplified script), Hindi, Russian, Thai and Turkish. This will make the application process easier for visitors to the United Kingdom from key tourist and business markets. The current English version of the visitor visa guidance can be found in the visa information and guidance at www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/visas

Entertainer visitors

A new leaflet has been published summarising the different routes of entry into the United Kingdom for people who want to visit or work as an entertainer or an artist. The routes of entry vary depending on nationality, length of stay and the reasons for travelling to the United Kingdom. The leaflet is available on our [UK Border Agency | Entertainer visitors](#). Delivery partners who are registered to use the agency communications extranet will be able to access the leaflet via the comms extranet.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Indian customers get on the Fast Track

The agency has introduced a Fast Track service for customers in India who are applying for a United Kingdom visitor visa. For an additional fee of around £60, including taxes, a visitor visa application will be expedited and documents returned within specified timescales. In some locations, this can be as quickly as the next working day. The Fast Track service is available to customers who have travelled without difficulty in the last five years to the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, US or a Schengen country. All categories of visitor visa are eligible except student visitors.

Currently there are 50 Fast Track slots available daily across India, and the pilot is running well - with both customer take-up and feedback positive so far. In February almost 900 visa applications were Fast Tracked. The new service will be evaluated carefully as part of ongoing UK Border Agency efforts to increase the availability of value added services to customers.

Olympic/Paralympic visa

Launched in November 2010, the Olympic/Paralympic visit visa will help smooth access to the United Kingdom for Games athletes, teams, officials, broadcasters and sponsors, both in advance of the Games for test events and training, and during the Games. The visa is valid until 8 November 2012, allows for multiple visits to the United Kingdom and costs the same as a six month visa.

The visa will also help the agency collect biometrics ahead of accreditation at London 2012. Following a test event at the Asian Beach Games in Muscat further overseas events are planned to help market the new visa.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

e-Borders – Update

e-Borders is securing the UK border against terrorism, crime and illegal immigration. It is checking over 55% of all passenger movements in and out of the United Kingdom. The checks, made against watch lists at the National Border Targeting Centre in advance of travel, have led to over 1680 arrests since July 2010 as well as significant seizures: 11kg of cocaine and over 2.3m cigarettes since mid-October

The programme is making good progress in our exit arrangement with Raytheon (due to be complete by April 2011) and we continue to develop future capability through the design phase with potential suppliers.

Following the success of the Smart Zone trials at Luton Airport and the port of Calais, where e-Borders was used to conduct pre-checks in advance on selected flights and coaches to speed up the passage through border controls, a further two short trials took place in February at Heathrow Terminal 5 and Gatwick South to test the Smart Zone concept in large port environment. A total of seven flights were cleared during the short trials and lessons learned from these trials are being used to develop and refine the Smart Zone process.

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

ebct@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Border force and immigration group staff praised for joint response

Twenty-four Kuwaiti nationals were caught by the UK Border Agency at the Port of Harwich attempting to enter the country in the back of a lorry. The stowaways, 23 men and a 17-year-old boy, were caught in the early hours when they arrived on a ferry from the Hook of Holland.

Alerted by a discrepancy in the lorry's paperwork the vehicle was selected for further examination. When officers opened the doors of the trailer they found the stowaways hiding inside in amongst the mixed load of goods.

As well as carrying out visual searches of freight and vehicles, our officers use carbon dioxide probes, heartbeat detectors and sniffer dogs to detect the presence of people hiding in lorries and this find resulted in the biggest single detection of clandestines at Harwich.

The driver of the vehicle was arrested on suspicion of facilitating illegal immigration and the 23 men were transferred to Campsfield House immigration removal centre for their cases to be dealt with. The 17-year-old was passed into the care of Essex Social Services.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Eight and a half million doses of 'Viagra' seized

Fake and unlicensed Viagra worth around £13 million was seized by UK Border Agency officers last year. More than 8 and a half million tablets were intercepted before they could enter the black market for pharmaceutical drugs.

Fake or counterfeit versions of the drug, often made in laboratories in the Far East, can contain harmful ingredients and are unlikely to have the desired effect. Genuine but unlicensed tablets, often imported from India, contain the active ingredient but have not been through the rigorous tests needed to market medicines in the UK and EU.

This massive haul makes it clear just how seriously we take the smuggling of fake and unlicensed medicines. As well as stopping drugs, weapons and illegal immigrants from reaching the United Kingdom, our officers

have a vital role to play in protecting British consumers and businesses from the trade in black market medicines and other goods.

Full details of the seizures can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Eight and a half million doses of 'Viagra' seized](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Chief Inspector Report

On 16 February, the independent Chief Inspector, John Vine, published a report following his thematic inspection of the points-based system: Tier 2 (Skilled Workers); the agency accepts eleven out of the twelve recommendations.

We are pleased that the Chief Inspector notes that performance targets are being met and recognises the strong relationships that have been developed with stakeholders and delivery partners. The agency is particularly pleased with the Chief Inspector's positive comments about agency staff.

We agree that productivity levels and quality processes across the agency's global footprint should be better aligned and the agency is committed to continually reviewing its processes to maintain a high quality immigration system and deliver good customer service. The agency is in the process of deploying a new IT system that will enhance its capability in identifying immigration abuse, improve customer service and enable us to offer better value for money to the public

The full report and UK Border Agency response can be found on our website.

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

National Audit Office Report

On 15 March the National Audit Office (NAO) published a report on the points-based system – work routes. The report acknowledges that the points-based system was designed well for the most part and provides an adaptable means of meeting the UK's work-related immigration system. It also commends the concept of sponsorship, with over 75 per cent of those surveyed by the NAO saying that the fees represented good value for money. However, the report says that improvements need to be made to processes, systems and customer service.

Some of the findings of the report are being addressed through the reforms the government is making to the system, including the introduction of an annual limit on economic migrants and other changes to tiers 1, 2 and 5. The agency has also committed to reintroducing exit checks by 2015 giving us better control over those that overstay. We have refocused the Tier 1 route aimed at attracting only the most highly skilled and talented individuals that will contribute to the UK's economic recovery and in the coming weeks there will be further announcements around changes to the Points Based System.

The full NAO report can be found at [Immigration: the Points Based System – Work Routes](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Government outlines visa reforms for workers

New details of the government's radical changes to the work visa route were unveiled on 16 February 2011, as it laid out the criteria for its annual limit.

This shake up is part of the government's new annual limit on non-EU workers, which will take effect on 6 April 2011. At the end of last year the Home Office announced that 20,700 visas will be made available to skilled workers applying through Tier 2 of the points-based system, as well as 1,000 visas under a new exceptional talent route.

Under the new system, employers will have to apply for a certificate of sponsorship from the UK Border Agency for a specific post if they wish to bring someone to the United Kingdom. This is a change from the current system which gives businesses an annual allocation.

The government has also announced that employers filling a vacancy that attracts a salary of £150,000 or more will not be subject to the limit on the number of certificate of sponsorship that may be allocated.

To find out more go to the [UK Border Agency website](#).

Statement of policy for Tier 1 visa applications

On 16 March the Immigration Minister, Damian Green, issued the government's statement of policy on changes to the operation of Tier 1 of the points based system. At the same time the proposed immigration rules for Tier 1, Tier 2 and settlement were also laid before Parliament. The Tier 1 package includes:

- Tier 1 targeting the entry of the most valuable migrants, with a view to supporting the United Kingdom's economic growth.
- An enhanced Investor category will accelerate settlement for the largest investors and contain flexibility for those who need to spend time outside of the UK travelling.
- New provisions for entrepreneurs will make it easier for teams of entrepreneurs with potential to come to the United Kingdom. The most successful will be rewarded with accelerated settlement.
- A new route for exceptional talent will make it easier for the world's best scientists and artists to come to the United Kingdom. The new arrangements allow experts in their respective fields to decide themselves who are the brightest and best talents from around the world who should be allowed to come to the United Kingdom.

The full Tier 1 statement of policy can be found on the UK Border Agency's website: www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Proposed fee increases for applications from 6 April 2011

Immigration Minister Damian Green issued a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) on 28 February 2011 that proposes to increase immigration and nationality application fees for all those applying to study, visit, work or stay in the United Kingdom.

The [new proposed fees](#) will be laid in Parliament in two separate regulations. These fees will not come into force until they have been debated and approved in Parliament, but are due to take effect from 6 April 2011.

The UK Border Agency believes the proposals to increase fees continue to strike the right balance between maintaining secure and effective border controls and ensuring that the fees structure does not inhibit the United Kingdom's ability to attract those migrants and visitors that make a valued contribution. This will help to support the immigration system, maintain public confidence and ensure that migration is managed for the benefit of the United Kingdom.

Under the spending review, the UK Border Agency's taxpayer funding is due to fall by 23%. Securing a larger contribution from applicants will help reduce the budget impact to around 18%. We are seeking to offset this income gap with efficiency savings of approximately £500 million by reducing support costs, increasing

efficiencies, boosting productivity and improving value for money from commercial suppliers.

Full details can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Proposed fee increases to immigration and nationality applications from 6 April 2011](#)

Working with educators in Scotland and Northern Ireland

Our Scotland & Northern Ireland region have been seeking views from the education sector on the changes to the student immigration system. The forums were part of the larger national consultation exercise and enabled stakeholders to present a regional perspective; including the different migratory patterns outside Southern England and qualifications available in the region.

Two separate meetings were held in Glasgow, for English Language Providers and Independent Colleges. One forum took place in in Belfast and one at the premises of the University of Edinburgh under the auspices of the STRATOS (Strathclyde Regional Advisors to Overseas Student) group. Umbrella groups in the sector were approached for their input, as well as established partners.

We met with over 90 partners and the discussions were lively and constructive. It was a chance for the agency to seek first hand their views on the changes proposed,

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

whilst encouraging participation in the national consultation. Feedback showed attendees appreciated the chance to meet with agency officials, provide views and discuss the proposed changes with peers.

For further information please contact Andrew Meighan on 0141 555 6054.

Annual update to the codes of practice for sponsored skilled workers

The annual update to the codes of practice for sponsored skilled workers was published on 1 March 2011. If an employer wants to sponsor a migrant worker from outside Europe under Tier 2 or Tier 5 of the points-based system, they must use the codes of practice to:

- check the skill level and appropriate pay for that job
- find out where the job must be advertised in the United Kingdom before it can be offered to a migrant worker.

The updated codes of practice will be available on this website in the near future, and will be publicised in a news story. Until then, sponsors must continue to use the existing codes of practice, which you can find in the [UK government web archive](#)

New recommendations to raise shortage occupation list to higher skills level

On 3 March 2011, the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) recommended that 8 job titles be removed from the United Kingdom shortage occupation list. This follows the MAC's recommendation last month that 71 occupations be removed from the list of occupations that qualify for Tier 2 of the points-based system. This is to meet the government's objective of raising the skill level of Tier 2 to National Qualifications Framework level 4 and above (NQF4+).

The MAC estimates these recommendations, if accepted, will mean Tier 2 applicants coming into the country via the shortage occupation route will only be eligible for approximately 230,000 jobs (less than 1 per cent of the labour market), down from 1 million jobs when the MAC produced its first shortage occupation list in 2008. The combined impact of these recommendations plus those made by the MAC last month will be that the proportion of jobs in the United Kingdom labour market at a skill level eligible for Tier 2 will fall from 56% to 39%.

The full story is available on our [UK Border Agency website](#)

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Interim limit panel arrangements for March and April 2011

The monthly panel meeting to consider applications for certificates of sponsorship (CoS) under the Tier 2 General interim limit took place on 4 March 2011. Valid applications received by the agency on or before the 1 March 2011 were considered at the 4 March 2011 panel and all sponsors who have made such an application were notified of the outcome by 11 March 2011.

You can continue to use the existing CoS (AR) form after 1 March 2011 to apply for certificates of sponsorship for extensions of Tier 2 General or work permit leave where the leave expires before the proposed introduction of the permanent limit on 6 April 2011.

We will no longer accept applications made on the CoS (AR) form after 1 March 2011 for new jobs or for switching into Tier 2 (General).

From 6 April 2011 the agency proposes to make changes to the Tier 2 eligibility criteria and also introduce an annual limit on migrant numbers. Further details of the limit and what will be included can be found in the [see also section](#) of our website.

Please note that any certificates of sponsorship issued under the interim limit that are not assigned by you to a migrant prior to 6 April 2011 will be cancelled.

To find out more go to the [UK Border Agency website](#)

NHS debtors consultation response

On 18 March the agency published a report detailing the response to the public consultation “Refusing entry or stay to NHS debtors”. In addition to this, the Minister of State for Immigration, Damian Green, issued a written Ministerial statement signalling related changes to the Immigration Rules in the autumn. The government intends to amend the Immigration Rules (General Grounds for Refusal) to allow those who are subject to immigration control to be refused entry or stay where they have failed to pay NHS charges of or above £1,000. The new Immigration Rule will not affect the question of who is entitled to free NHS services or the availability of care in urgent cases.

The consultation responses is available on the agency [website](#).



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Closure of the Worker Registration Scheme

On 10 March 2011 Immigration Minister Damian Green announced that the Worker Registration Scheme will close on 30 April 2011. The Scheme was a transitional scheme, introduced in 2004 when A8 countries joined the European Union

The announcement was made in a written ministerial statement, which contains full details of the scheme's closure, including details of A8 nationalities, and can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Closure of the Worker Registration Scheme](#)

Better support for victims of domestic violence

On 10 March the Home Secretary announced overseas spouses and partners of United Kingdom residents who are forced to flee their relationships as a result of domestic violence will be able to access vital support services.

At present, some feel they have to stay in abusive relationships because they are in the United Kingdom on a spousal visa and have 'no recourse to public funds', meaning that they cannot access support services during the 2-year probationary period before they can apply for settlement.

Following a successful pilot project, these victims will be able to access services to ensure that they do not need to remain in violent relationships. Access to these services will be for a strictly limited period while the victim gathers evidence and makes a claim for residence based on the domestic violence, and while the UK Border Agency considers the application.

The full story can be found on our website [UK Border Agency | Better support for victims of domestic violence](#)

UK Border Agency publishes revised guidance on family members

The UK Border Agency has published a revised chapter of its immigration directorate instructions, relating to [family members](#). Revisions have been made to:

- section 1 - spouses
- section 2 - civil partners
- section 3 - fiancé(e)s and proposed civil partners
- section 9 - unmarried and same sex relationships.

These instructions are part of our internal guidance, which is published under the agency's commitment to freedom of information.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Tier 4 announcement

In December the Home Secretary launched an extensive consultation on the reform of the student immigration system and the agency has worked closely with the education sector, and other interested parties, to develop our proposals. On 22 March the Home Secretary announced the results of this consultation process.

The UK has a worldwide reputation for providing quality education to overseas students, and is the destination of choice for many people wishing to study abroad. However, we are clear that we want only the highest quality international students to come to Britain. We want genuine students to study at genuine institutions, whose primary purpose is providing a first class education. And we want students to study for qualifications that will help them in their home countries, not as a route to live and work in the UK.

As well as introducing a number of tightening measures, the government also pledged today to develop a new entrepreneur route for bright and innovative students who have a business idea and want to make it work in Britain.

We are planning to implement the changes in phases, with the first set of changes coming into effect from April 2011. We will publish a statement of intent in due course setting out the policy changes in more detail, including timing of implementation.

Revised guidance on ILR - calculating continuous period in the United Kingdom

Revised guidance for calculating the five year continuous period for indefinite leave to remain (ILR) was published on 3 February 2011. The guidance can be found in the agencies [Modernised guidance - other cross-cutting information section](#). These instructions are part of our internal guidance for UK Border Agency staff, which we publish under our commitment to freedom of information.

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Working with business to avoid needless civil penalties

North West officers have been assisting local firms to make more robust checks on prospective staff. In one recent example we worked with a local contract cleaning company who employ large numbers of migrant workers.

The company had contacted the agency with concerns over some of the passports they had seen from prospective employees. Agency officers delivered a presentation to the company's HR team and regional managers on how to check the authenticity of passports and identity cards. By proactively seeking our help the company avoided the risk of a fine of up to £10,000 per illegal worker.

The Civil Penalties Compliance Team also provided the staff with an overview of the illegal working civil penalty legislation and their liability for a penalty where they did not check a worker's right to work in the United Kingdom before employment.

This was helpful to hear about some of the difficulties employers come across when checking passports and travel documents. The employer in this case was keen to maintain a close relationship with their local agency office to enable them to continually improve their procedures and adhere to the illegal working legislation.

For further information please contact Louise Duggan on 0161 2611607

Counterfeit driving licence uncovers immigration offences

Enforcement officers have worked closely with the [Knowledge of Life](#) in the UK Citizenship Centre at Preston which resulted in the identification of an impostor using a counterfeit driving licence taking the test on behalf of others; Those involved included someone who had been remanded in custody for facilitation of immigration crime and offences against the 2006 Identity card Act, and 2 overstayers, one of whom was a senior consultant who had been working illegally at a hospital for 16 years, who was subsequently suspended from practice and sacked from the hospital. Further operations at other centres in the North West are planned over the next few months.

The agency has also established close working relationships with Hospitals in Liverpool, and are working together to identify patients illegally accessing NHS facilities having gained access to the United Kingdom through deception. The NHS has already saved hundreds of thousands of pounds in unpaid bills, and a number of immigration offenders are being prosecuted.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Op Golding 2 combats fraud in north London

UK Border Agency officers were on the beat in Hampsted north London recently, investigating a case of suspected passport fraud. Officers from the London immigration crime team (ICT) were working on intelligence indicating a man had been supplying false documents from an address in Belsize Park Gardens.

Officers visited the property early one morning accompanied by a detector dog and thoroughly, forensically searched resulting in documentary evidence being found suggesting offences had been committed. The man was arrested and taken to the local police station and interviewed further.

The morning operation was part of the agency's wider crackdown throughout January 2011 on illegal working, sham marriages, bogus colleges and organised immigration crime known as Operation Golding 2.

Op Golding 2 brings together all of the agency's law enforcement and investigation capability - demonstrating that we are heading in the right direction in the way we disrupt immigration crime. The joined up and committed way in which staff worked so professionally together is a credit to all and something we can be proud of. The excellent results being achieved speak for themselves.

Immigration crime teams are formed of specialist units of police officers working alongside warranted agency officers to investigate organised immigration crime.

Congratulations to national document fraud unit (NDFU) experts

The agency's specialist document examiner immigration officers based at the national document fraud unit (NDFU) have received the expert witness certificate in Criminal Law under Cardiff University's & Bond Solon Training Limited's (CUBS) expert witness programme.

In total 15 members of NDFU, a unit within the UK Border Agency's intelligence directorate, have now successfully completed the course, receiving their certificates at the annual Bond Solon Conference in London - with others working towards the qualification.

NDFU's document examiners are required to produce expert witness statements for the courts on identity document abuse matters, in support of agency, police and Department of Work and Pensions prosecutions. NDFU have worked closely with Bond Solon to adapt their existing civil law based course to one that focussed primarily on criminal casework.

Officers from the Unit became the first in the country to receive the certificate in criminal law in 2007. More and more, the evidence given by experts is under scrutiny by the courts. Consequently, whilst there is no substitute for expertise in your field, it's also becoming increasingly necessary to demonstrate some form of accreditation to the courts - in order for them to accept the witness as an expert.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

NDFU has therefore invested in signing up its specialist document examiner IOs to the CUBS programme. Over five modules, it covers report writing, knowledge of the law relating to expert witnesses and courtroom performance. In obtaining this qualification, officers enhance their knowledge of criminal law, improve expert witness report writing skills and increase confidence when giving oral evidence in court.

Cannabis farm discovered in Wigan

On 16 February, North West enforcement officers discovered a cannabis farm whilst conducting an operation in Wigan to detain an illegal immigrant. The visit was tasked as a result of intelligence from the DVLA, suggesting that the target of the operation had applied for a provisional driving license using a counterfeit Chinese passport.

Before entering the premises vigilant UK Border Agency officers noted a number of indicators to suggest serious criminal activity in the premise and contacted Greater Manchester Police. Police officers attended the scene and after forcing entry to the premise, discovered a large number of cannabis plants spread over three rooms of the house.

Two arrests were made at the scene and the police are currently conducting further investigations.

Operation Gulf

Agency officers have been participating in a Salford Community Safety Partnership operation to tackle serious and organised crime. We are working alongside local police, Salford Council, SOCA and others. We are sharing intelligence and resources to tackle organised crime.

Gulf has been tackling crime in a number of key areas involving the security industry, identifying key individuals based overseas, illegal working, counterfeit goods and environmental crimes. The agency has benefited directly, for example detaining illegal workers. Our role has established the agency's reputation for enforcement work and intelligence capability.

The project was short-listed for an award at the Greater Manchester Police awards evening on 11 March.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Revised guidance on operational enforcement activity and detention and removals

On 7 January 2011 the UK Border Agency published revised chapters of [enforcement instructions and guidance](#). The following three chapters have been revised.

- chapter 31 - enforcement visits
- chapter 43 - personal safety in enforcement work
- chapter 61 - arrest teams - operational procedures.

These instructions are part of our internal guidance for UK Border Agency staff, which the agency publishes under our commitment to freedom of information.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Barnardo’s will provide welfare services for pre-departure families

The highly respected children’s charity Barnardo’s has agreed to deliver key welfare, safeguarding and support services for families at the UK Border Agency’s new ‘pre-departure’ family accommodation, which is currently being developed.

We recently announced the national rollout of our new child-focused approach to working with families. This will ensure that families with children are treated with compassion and humanity, while ensuring that those with no legal right to be in the United Kingdom can be returned.

The new approach to family returns emphasises close engagement with families, providing a range of structured opportunities for them to take up assisted returns or leave voluntarily. If enforcement action is necessary, the new independent family returns panel will provide expert advice so that family return plans take account of children’s welfare. As a last resort, these plans may include the use of pre-departure accommodation.

New family returns process begins

A new process for managing the return of families found to have no right to be in the United Kingdom began on 1 March 2011. A new Independent Family Returns Panel is one part of a wider, updated approach to managing family returns. The new four-stage process aims to return those with no right to remain in the United Kingdom with dignity, ensuring the welfare of children at all times.

The new independent Family Returns panel will provide expert advice to the UK Border Agency on the best method of ensuring the return of individual families, taking into account the specific welfare needs of children. To find out more go to the [UK Border Agency website](#) and to see the 1 March press release go to the [Home Office Website](#).

For the full story, please go to the [UK Border Agency website](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Colnbrook Immigration Removal Centre

Colnbrook Immigration Removal Centre (IRC) is one of the most secure facilities in the immigration estate; it is operated by Serco Home Affairs under contract to the agency, holds up to 308 single men, many of whom have previously served a prison sentence for some of the most serious crimes. There is also a short-term holding facility (STHF) which holds up to 80 men and women and doubles as a reception/discharge unit for the main centre.

An unannounced inspection was conducted by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (HMCIP) in August 2010 as a follow up to their previous inspection which was critical of a number of aspects about the centre.

This latest report acknowledges a large number of improvements including:

- Colnbrook’s violence reduction arrangements had improved
- the range of paid work and education has improved.
- the new multicultural room was proving to be a comfortable meeting place
- access to visits were described as good
- staff appeared more confident as a result of a mentoring scheme.

Colnbrook will always be a challenging centre, given the type of detainee we generally hold there. Although we recognise the Inspectorate continues to have some concerns about the centre, we are pleased that they have recognised that Serco’s strategies are having a positive effect and that the centre is travelling in the right direction.

The full report can be found at:

http://www.justice.gov.uk/inspectorates/hmi-prisons/docs/Colnbrook_2010_rps.pdf



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

New asylum forum keeps focus on quality

A new corporate partner group has been set up to help maintain the agency's internationally recognised commitment to the quality of its asylum decisions. The first meeting of the asylum quality sub-group took place at Amnesty International on 24 January 2011.

The group is being led by the new asylum model (NAM) +, quality and learning team, to maintain and promote dialogue with corporate partners. The first meeting included representatives from a range of organisations such as Asylum Aid, the Medical Foundation and the Refugee Council.

At the meeting, attendees discussed recent revisions to asylum instructions and guidance, areas of best practice, caseworker training programmes and future areas of focus for the quality and learning team.

The UNHCR also provided a summary on their first quality integration report which provides recommendations for improving the quality of initial asylum decisions as part of the detained fast track, the process for making quick asylum decisions in a detained environment.

The UK's asylum system has received positive praise from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) for its quality assurance systems which are of great interest among our EU partners. This working group will provide an opportunity to highlight some of the joint work we have undertaken with UNHCR to improve standards in the quality of asylum decisions and to ensure we continue to focus on making the best quality decisions.

European funding

Calls for proposals for the European Refugee Fund (ERF) 2010 and European Integration Fund (EIF) 2010 are now open. We are also inviting proposals for the ERF 2011, which relates to resettlement under the Gateway Protection Programme.

Full details of all funding streams and application processes can be found on the agency's website [UK Border Agency | Calls for proposals - European Refugee Fund and European Integration Fund](#)



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Protecting vulnerable children

The UK Border Agency's North West region has set up a new asylum interview facility to benefit single parents and their children. Liverpool asylum was tasked with developing a bespoke interview suite for single adults who have no alternative but to bring their children along to the asylum interview.

We committed to establish this dedicated facility following a report by the Chief Inspector and to meet our obligations under s55 of the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Act 2009. It means that single parents do not have to relate what can be harrowing accounts in front of their children.

Work started on the room in Reliance House (Liverpool) part way through 2010 and involved substantial remodelling to incorporate both a functional asylum interview room and a facility for children. The room is divided into two sections by a partition containing a large safety glass window. The parent has full sight of the children, who are kept entertained with cartoons in the adjoining room.

Close collaboration with the Office of the Children's Champion, health and safety and the trade unions have made sure that this room is fit for purpose for the parent, children and agency interviewing staff. This is an extremely beneficial facility. The children are in

the care and control of their parent at all times. But the parent is able to speak freely without their children overhearing potentially distressing information.

Settlement Protection Update

We would like to update you on some of the monitoring data we have collected on the Settlement Protection route, since it commenced in August last year. This update reflects progress made by the end of 2010.

By 31 December 2010, we had received a total of 2,874 applications. 2,576 individuals were due to apply between 30 August and 31 December. 89% of these people have applied in time. We are making efforts to trace all refugees who have not applied by their expiry date. Applications were on average taking 43 calendar days to review from date of receipt to date of despatch. We have granted ILR to 100% of eligible applications received.

Please note that while we are confident in the quality of the information provided it is provisional operational data and should not be taken as being official government statistics. I hope you will find this helpful, and a good indication of the progress we've made so far.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Case Resolution Directorate update

On 2 March Jonathan Sedgwick, acting Chief Executive wrote to the Home Affairs Select Committee (HASC) to update them on the progress that has been made by the UK Border Agency in concluding the backlog of older asylum cases. At the end of January 2011, the agency had concluded 403,000 cases. This breaks down as 40% grants, 9% removals and 51% of cases concluded for another reason (e.g. duplicate records or controlled archive).

Jackie Luetchford held the Case Resolution Directorate sub group of the National Asylum Stakeholder Forum on 10 March. The forum is held quarterly to discuss CRD specific issues and is attended by a wide range of our corporate partners. The group was provided with operational and policy updates and discussed plans for concluding the remaining cohort by the summer.

If you would like a copy of the minutes or the letter to the Home Affairs Select Committee please contact caseresolution@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

Children’s sub-group – 12 January 2011

At this month’s Children’s sub-group, hosted by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), the Legal Services Commission (LSC) introduced a discussion on legal representation for Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) at the beginning of the process and provided an overview in relation to ex-RMJ cases. The LSC said they aim to increase the number of representatives for RMJ cases across all regions, whilst the UK Border Agency explained that staff had been provided with guidance and a monitoring process to help resolve such cases.

This discussion was followed by an explanation on the Assisted Voluntary Returns (AVR) programmes available to those who do not have a right to remain in the United Kingdom. Steve Hall, the UK Border Agency’s AVR representative, explained how the agency was moving towards a more informal, and individually focused process of informing people about AVR. He emphasised the importance of considering when in the process this knowledge is made available to different groups of people.

Sarah Campbell, Bail for Immigration Detainees introduced the topic of families separated as a result of immigration detention. Discussion focused on child welfare and protection concerns, including: parents in immigration detention being separated from their children; separating families for removal; barriers

to removal such as legal applications and delays in deport action; family court proceedings and parenting assessments. The UK Border Agency’s Criminology and Detention Group representative Jackie Gallop confirmed that the agency was working on instructions for case owners relating to the detention of parents, taking into careful consideration its duty under Section 55.

The most recent meeting was held on 10 March 2011, an update for which will be available in the next newsletter, and the next meeting is scheduled to take place on 8 June 2011, hosted by our partners at the Local Government Association. Please contact Adam Whisker or Sheelagh Warde for further information.

National Asylum Stakeholder Forum (NASF) – 25 January 2011

Hugh Ind provided an update on how the Agency is introducing smarter ways of working in order to meet the commitments as outlined in the spending review. He also announced 15 new performance indicators to measure the health of the asylum system.

Beryl Randall from the Employability Forum, opened a discussion on how integration needs will be taken forward when the Refugee Integration and Employment Service (RIES) comes to an end in September 2011. Tracey Raw gave the UK Border Agency’s perspective, concluding that RIES had provided a useful and popular service for users. Kat Lorenz from Refugee Action



STRATEGIC PARTNER GROUPS

Corporate Partners Meetings

Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

looked at the future of integration work, identified priorities and listed a number of recommendations for the agency to take forward.

Finally, there was a discussion on appeals led by Amelia Wright from the UK Border Agency, who explained how the Appeals Improvement Plan aimed to reduce the number of appeals in the system, improve the agency's organisation of appeals and

representation in court as well as working with the Tribunals Service.

The next meeting will be held on 22 March 2011, hosted by our partners at the Medical Foundation. Please contact Adam Whisker or Sheelagh Warde for further information.

Upcoming meetings with corporate partners

Partner Group	Date of Next Meeting	Contact
Detention User Group (DUG)	04 April 2011	Caroline.Seaman@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
National Asylum Operational Forum (NASOF)	14 April 2011	Adam.Whisker@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Scottish Asylum Stakeholder Forum (SASF)	10 May 2011	Pauline.Meenan@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
National Asylum Stakeholder Forum	11 May 2011	Adam.Whisker@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
Children's Sub Group	08 June 2011	Sheelagh.Warde2@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
National Migration Group	23 June 2011	Adam.Whisker@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
Asylum	25
Strategic partner groups	28
Regional focus	31

1st year anniversary edition

Our March 2011 edition is the 7th UK Border Agency News in its current format. Over the last 12 months there have been many changes to our agency and the work that we do, not to mention a change in government and a comprehensive spending review. Through all of this we have continued to publish and we hope you have felt well informed every step of the way.

We distribute UK Border Agency News internally and externally and use our internal stakeholder database (SMART) to communicate UK Border Agency News to around 8500 partners. To help us to continue to provide an up to date, relevant and interesting publication we would like to hear your feedback by answering a few questions. Your valued feedback will help us to shape the publication going forward to ensure it meets our stakeholders needs.

- Q1** Does the publication clearly inform you about the work of the agency?
- Q2** How relevant is the news to your business?
- Q3** Do you feel it offers a broad spectrum of news?
- Q4** What's missing/what could be improved?
- Q5** How do you find the current style and overall presentation?

Please send your responses to: [Partnership & Engagement Team](#). Many thanks in advance for participating.



Contents

Introduction	1
Agency wide news	3
International	7
Border control	10
Immigration	
Managed migration	12
Enforcement	19
Removal and detention	23
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

