

**Westminster Legal Policy Forum Keynote Seminar:
UK immigration - economic priorities, policy options and enforcement**

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 5th March 2015

Venue: Glaziers Hall, 9 Montague Close, London SE1 9DD

Agenda subject to change



**WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM**

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.25 **The UK's immigration framework - analysis and latest trends**
Professor Elspeth Guild, Professor of Law, Queen Mary, University of London and Co-Chair,
European Sub Committee, Immigration Law Practitioners Association
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.25 - 10.20 **Implementing new legislation - enforcement, effectiveness and impact**
Perspectives on the impact of the Immigration Act, and its likely long-term effectiveness in reducing the amount of illegal immigrants in the UK. How effective will recently introduced measures to strengthen checks on the status of immigrants be in reducing the amount of people staying in the UK illegally, and is it reasonable under the new legislation to put the burden of enforcement on private sector stakeholders, such as landlords and banks? Do exemptions to these checks - for example measures to support individuals in emergency circumstances - go far enough in protecting the welfare of those who are refused services? What issues are likely to arise from reducing from seventeen to four the amount of appeals allowed for rejected immigration applications? How valid are concerns that new powers to deport immigrants before hearing their appeal will unduly undermine due process in the immigration system? What issues might the interpretation of the 'right to a family life' bring about in practice across the family route of immigration? How effectively has the Immigration Act addressed the issue of 'health and benefit tourism'; will measures to increase the financial contributions of temporary migrants act as an effective deterrent without infringing on the rights of genuine claimants and service-users?
Saira Grant, Legal and Policy Director, Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants
Jacqueline Bishop, Overseas & Private Patient's Co-ordinator, Brighton and Sussex University Hospital NHS Trust
Dave Princep, Policy Consultant, Residential Landlords Association
Henry St Clair Miller, Manager, No Recourse to Public Funds Network, Islington Council
Mark Symes, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 - 10.25 **Chair's closing remarks**
Professor Elspeth Guild, Professor of Law, Queen Mary, University of London and Co-Chair,
European Sub Committee, Immigration Law Practitioners Association
- 10.25 - 10.55 Coffee
- 10.55 - 11.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Lord Jay of Ewelme, Member, EU Home Affairs, Health and Education Sub-Committee
- 11.00 - 11.55 **Immigration and the UK economy - next steps for the immigration rules**
Latest assessment of recent changes to the UK's immigration rules and visa system, and the long-term challenges for regulating work, study and family-related immigration of non-EEA nationals. In light of recently introduced measures to tighten the process of transferring from a Student visa to an Entrepreneur visa - including the use of more detailed "genuineness" tests - what more can be done to tackle fraudulent applications in this area, without deterring entrepreneurial activity? To what extent will the recent expansion of the Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) category help encourage businesses and start-ups to base themselves in the UK - particularly in newly incorporated sectors such as digital technology? Should policymakers consider further reform of the (Tier 2) skilled worker category; how satisfied are businesses with the current framework for recruiting non-EEA workers, and what aspects might need to be revised in the future - particularly in relation to cooling-off periods, income thresholds and time limits? What challenges will the principle of freedom of movement within the EU pose to UK policymakers in the next Parliament, and what impact would placing restrictions on the flow of EEA migrants have on the UK's labour market? How workable are recent proposals from the Prime Minister to reduce the attractiveness of the UK to lower-skilled EU migrants - including measures to restrict access to in-work benefits and social housing, as well as preventing EU jobseekers from claiming Universal Credit?
Madeleine Sumption, Director, The Migration Observatory
Alp Mehmet, Vice Chairman, Migration Watch UK
David Geary, Policy Lead for Migration and Skills, Recruitment and Employment Confederation
Alex Proudfoot, Chief Executive, Study UK
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.55 - 12.55 **Options for policy and likely challenges ahead for the new Parliament**
Rt Hon David Hanson MP, Shadow Minister for Immigration
Baroness Hamwee, Co-Chair, Liberal Democrat Parliamentary Party Committee on Home Affairs, Justice and Equalities
Questions and comments from the floor with **Mark Reckless MP**
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Lord Jay of Ewelme, Member, EU Home Affairs, Health and Education Sub-Committee
Marc Gammon, Senior Producer, Westminster Legal Policy Forum

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