

ILPA immigration update 41

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New ILPA website

ILPA has now launched its new website. The website is available at the same URL as before – www.ilpa.org.uk

On the homepage, there is a facility to provide feedback. Please do use that facility to provide any comments on how easy to use you find the website. Particularly during the early days of this new website, we wish to take the opportunity to identify improvements that can be made and anything that may not be working properly.

One advantage of the new website should be that pages of the website and documents contained on the website should now have their own URL. This means it should be very easy to pass on by email information that you find on the website (including information sheets). For example, the page of the website where you can search ILPA's directory of members, who have given permission for their details to be available for those looking for legal advice, is available at:

<http://www.ilpa.org.uk/search-directory.php>

Legal Aid Bill

Parliament is currently in recess. Before recess, the Public Bill Committee in the House of Commons began its consideration of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Bill. The Committee will next be considering the Bill on 6 and 8 September. The "Legal Aid Bill 3 – Update" and "Legal Aid Bill 4 – Children" information sheets provide further information about the Bill and its progress.

Asylum Screening Unit

For several months there have been serious problems affecting people trying to make an asylum claim at the Asylum Screening Unit in Croydon. The "Making Asylum Claims" information sheet provides more information.

Bail Guidance for Immigration Judges

Last month, the Tribunals Judiciary issued guidance to immigration judges dealing with bail applications. The guidance is available at:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/downloads/guidance/courts-and-tribunals/tribunals/immigration-and-asylum/lower/bail-guidance-immigration-judges.pdf>

Section 4 Asylum Support

The Asylum Support Appeals Project (ASAP) reports that the UK Border Agency has confirmed to the Project that the Agency will continue its policy whereby families in the UK with minor children, who are receiving section 4 support, will not have that support stopped while the children are still under 18 years and while the family would otherwise be destitute in the UK. More information about asylum support and the work of ASAP is available at:

<http://asaproject.org/web/index.php>