



# immigration update 20

## **Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill**

The Bill completed its passage through the House of Lords on 22 April. The Bill must now be considered by the House of Commons.

Further information on the Bill, including statements by Ministers and changes introduced in the House of Lords, is provided by the "Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill 2", "Path to Citizenship 2" and "Restrictions on Studies" information sheets.

## **HSMP judgment**

The Government has been defeated in the courts in relation to changes it sought to impose in 2006 on migrants who had entered the highly skilled migrant programme prior to the changes being announced.

Further information is provided by the "HSMP Judgments" information sheet. The latest UK Border Agency response to the latest judgment is available at:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/indefiniteleavetoremainforhsmp1>

## **Gurkhas**

Information about the Government's latest position on when Gurkhas may be permitted to settle in the UK is available at:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/guide-Gurkhas-wishing-to-settle>

## **Eastern European workers**

On 8 April, the Government announced it will retain the Worker Registration Scheme which regulates working by certain eastern Europeans whose countries joined the European Union in 2004. See:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/Government-keeps-work-restrict>

## **Immigration Fees**

On 6 April, new immigration fees were implemented. See:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

[sitecontent/newsarticles/newfeesfrom060409](http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/newfeesfrom060409)

## **Certificates of approval (marriage)**

On 9 April, the UK Border Agency announced a suspension of the fee for certificate of approval applications. See:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/changes-to-the-certificate-of>

Further background information is available from the August 2008 "Right to Marry Judgment 2" information sheet.

## **UK Border Agency**

In April, the UK Border Agency was given full agency status, and published its business plan. It also set out service and delivery standards. Further information is available at:  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/ukbareachesfullagencystatus>  
<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/customer-charter>

## **Children in detention**

On 27 April, the Children's Commissioner published his report on his visit last year to Yarl's Wood. The report is available at:  
<http://www.11million.org.uk/resource/di550e08psxhlc9f3mmrlqwd.pdf>

## **Age disputes**

During the debates on the Borders, Citizenship and Immigration Bill, it was revealed that the Government has withdrawn funding for the Refugee Council Children's Panel to provide support to children whose age is disputed. This was initially raised by the Baroness Hanham; and the relevant debate can be seen at:  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/90304-0015.htm>

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## **ILPA information service**

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