Bulletin No.97 March 2013

Statistics

**Migration Portal**
If your organisation needs migration statistics for planning/research or monitoring purposes, register now for access to the Wales Migration Portal – the portal gives an outline of local authority migration data at a local level in one place – it is simple and intuitive to use. It provides users with a range of migration data and contextual information, bilingually, in table and map form. [http://wmp.infobasecymru.net/IAS/register](http://wmp.infobasecymru.net/IAS/register)

**Wales Migration statistics, 2011**
The statistical bulletin produced by the Welsh Government was released on 12th of March 2013. Find out more by clicking [here](http://wmp.infobasecymru.net/IAS/register).

**Home Office Science Migration Statistics**
The following have been posted by Home Office Science.
- Children entering detention under Immigration Act powers February 2013
- Monthly asylum application tables January 2013

For enquiries about the contents of publications or the research and statistics produced by HOS, please contact [public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:public.enquiries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

Training/Events

**Diverse Cymru Training - Gypsy and Traveller Awareness**
29th April 2013 - Cardiff
13th May 2013 - Newport/Cwmbran
Workshop facilitator: Isaac Blake, Director of the Romani Cultural & Arts Company

**Attachment: Children's Rights and Needs**
12 June 2013, Swansea University
A Conference organised by Wales Observatory on Human Rights of Children and Young People; Attachment Network Wales; Swansea University and Newport University. For more information on the conference and for a booking form [click here](http://www.diversecymrutraining.org.uk/gypsy-traveller-awareness/).

**Mobilising African Women in the Diaspora**
FORWARD (Foundation for Women’s Health, Research & Development) would like to invite you to their conference ‘Mobilising African Women in the Diaspora. Saturday 6th April 2013.
Theme: Creating a movement for African women’s leadership, rights
and development’. Venue: 24 Greencoat Place, London, SW1P 1RD Directions- http://www.greencoatplace.org/location
http://mobilisingafricanwomen.eventbrite.co.uk/

East European Roma Cultural Awareness Training
Tuesday 30th April 2013, Birmingham. For further information, and to book a place, go to www.ccclimited.org.uk or telephone 0115 916 3104.

COMPAS Breakfast briefings
Friday 12th April 2013, 8:45am - 9:45am. Breakfast will be available from 8:30am
Hosted by: Institute for Strategic Dialogue, 48 Charles Street, London W1J 5EN
If you would like to attend the April Briefing please email communications@compas.ox.ac.uk Please note that spaces are limited and are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Upcoming Breakfast Briefings;
10th May: What are the best practices in preventing and countering right-wing extremism?
14th June: What does the 2011 census tell us about diversity and integration in England and Wales? Click here for further information.

UK Border Agency

Changes to the UK Border Agency
The Home Secretary has announced that she has decided to end the Executive Agency status of the UK Border Agency and bring its functions back within the Home Office. The statement is available on the Home Office website.

Changes to the Immigration Rules coming into effect on 6 April 2013
Today, the UK Border Agency laid a number of changes to the Immigration Rules in Parliament that will come into effect on 6 April 2013.
For full details of all the changes, please see the full written ministerial statement on the Home Office website.

Life in the UK test
Starting on 25 March 2013 candidates taking the Life in the UK test will have to answer questions based on the new handbook 'Life in the UK - A Guide for New Residents', which was published on 28 January 2013.
The new test will include questions on all sections of the new handbook, meaning that candidates will be tested on their knowledge of history and the law. All the information about booking a test can be found in the Life in the UK Test section.

Codes of practice for skilled workers – update
UKBA have published a new consolidated version of the codes of practice for skilled workers to help you prepare for the changes that are being made to the points-based system. These changes will come into effect on 6 April 2013. Read more.
Stop Human Trafficking Wales Campaign
An EU Directive to prevent and combat trafficking in human beings comes into force on 6th April 2013. It outlines specific steps that governments should take to identify, protect and support victims of trafficking and also sets out their obligation to prosecute those responsible. Sign the petition to ask the UK Government to put this right, and put an end to this modern day slave trade in Britain.

Minister calls on UK Government to follow Wales’s lead in tackling Human Trafficking
Minister for Local Government and Communities Carl Sargeant called on the UK government and the devolved administrations in the UK to follow Wales’s lead in tackling Human Trafficking. Read more.

BAWSO – ‘Cardiff taxis join the fight against human trafficking’
The Cardiff and District branch of Soroptimists International (SI) and Bawso commemorated International Women’s Day 2013 by launching a joint campaign to fight Human Trafficking.
Window stickers will be distributed to taxi drivers around Cardiff and members of the public are being encouraged to ring 0800 731 8147 (24hrs) and anonymously pass on information about forced labour and sexual exploitation.

Inquiry into Human Trafficking in Scotland
EHRC inquiry looked at the nature, extent and causes, of human trafficking in Scotland. Download report.

Children

CLOSURE OF YASS PROJECT (Young Asylum Seeker Service)
Due to lack of continued funding, this project will close on March 31st, 2013. This project has been supporting young people and young families dispersed to Newport since 2006. Formerly funded through Cymorth, the project is, unfortunately, ineligible for funding through the Families First programme.
Service users have been informed and the YASS worker is trying to ensure that each service user has some other point of contact in Newport.

Gwent missing children project launched
Action to co-ordinate efforts to trace young people who have gone missing or have run away from home is being boosted by a new trial project. Gwent Police are joining forces with agencies including social workers and health staff as the scheme is unveiled.
Officers say they get around 300 reports of missing children every month who they fear are at risk of harm. Read more.
Healthcare

**Transferring healthcare for immigration detainees in England to the NHS**

"Should improve services, particularly for those with mental illness - Of the organisational changes that will come into force on 1 April 2013, one is most welcome. The NHS in England will become responsible for the healthcare of people detained in all immigration removal centres. This change could improve services for a vulnerable group of patients. Until now, healthcare provision for those detained under the Immigration Act has mostly been provided by private companies contracted to the UK Border Agency—in effect, a backwater of publicly funded healthcare that many would describe as failing. From April, the NHS Commissioning Board becomes responsible for the contracts, alongside those for healthcare in prisons. [Read article in full.](#)"

Consultations

**Home Affairs Committee Inquiry into Asylum**

The committee asks for submission of written evidence from interested parties. Please note the terms of submission under the Further Information heading, especially the section on the publication of sensitive information. The deadline for submission is **Monday 15th of April**.

Further details on the inquiry can be found [here.](#)

Legal updates

**The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act will come into force on 1 April 2013.**

Changes to legal aid will include:

- Scope reforms
- Introduction of a mandatory gateway
- Exceptional Cases Funding

For more information on the changes follow the link [here.](#)

Publications/Research articles

**It Happens Here - Equipping the United Kingdom to fight modern slavery**

It happens here – that is the central message from the Centre for Social Justice’s [new report](#) on modern slavery in the UK.

**UK inequality rises sharply in 15 years – report**

Inequality in the UK has increased sharply in the last decade and a half, according to a study by the think tank, the Resolution Foundation, ‘Squeezed Britain 2013’, which is to be published next week. [Read more.](#)

**Report on an announced full follow-up inspection of Tinsley House Immigration Removal Centre**

[Download full report here.](#)
**IPPR report argues migrant integration in communities needs to be supported by better policies**
The centre-left think-tank, IPPR, has published a new report on migrant integration. The report argues that integration is crucial – for the wellbeing of individual migrants and their families, and as an important part of equipping the UK to cope with migration levels that are likely to remain high. But while immigration policy has risen up the political agenda, integration policy has lagged behind. You can access the full report [here](#).

**European Policy Centre Commentary: 'A dangerous UK consensus on free movement of workers in the EU'**
The European Policy Centre has published a Commentary paper by Alex Lazarowicz which tracks the change in mood in the UK debate on the free movement of workers in the EU. An initial keenness to welcome new EU citizens has been replaced by an atmosphere of hostility, marked by recent suggestions that their access to benefits could be restricted. [Read more](#).

**In the Balance the Human Capital Crunch**
The Social Market Foundation has published a report which outlines the huge task that government has set itself to meet the UK’s need for workers qualified in STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) subjects. [Read more](#).

**Boosting the economy – find out what the Home Office is doing**
The Home Office has used Budget Day to put out a statement claiming that immigration policies introduced since 2010 are giving a boost to the UK economy. The statement that the coalition government’s changes have encouraged the ‘brightest and the best’ to come to the UK whilst clamping down on abuse of the immigration control system. [Read more](#).

**The State of Migration Employing Migrant Workers**
The industry body for the HR sector, the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), has launched a report which sets out trends for the employment of migrant workers in the UK. [Read more](#).

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**Funding**

**Funding: Strategic Legal Fund for Vulnerable Young Migrants**
The Strategic Legal Fund for Vulnerable Young Migrants (SLF) is a unique source of grants for legal work that can make a significant difference to vulnerable young migrants in England & Wales. The SLF is a fund to support legal work that goes beyond securing justice for an individual and makes a significant contribution to law, practice and procedures to uphold and promote the rights of vulnerable migrant children and young people more generally. [How to apply](#) The next application deadline is 22nd April 2013.

**Edge Fund Open to Applications (UK)**
The Edge Fund is currently accepting applications from communities, campaign groups and activists in the UK that are working for social, economic and
environmental justice and have not been able to find funding from other sources. **How to apply** the deadline for applications is 22nd April 2013.

**From 1 April 2013 The Public Law Project will be looking for exceptional funding referrals**

On 1 April 2013 the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 will come into force, taking whole swathes of civil law out of scope for legal aid. People with legal problems in areas that are out of scope will only be able to get legal aid if they qualify for exceptional funding. Exceptional funding will be available where it is necessary to avoid a breach of a litigant’s rights under the European Convention on Human Rights or EU law. Guidance from the Lord Chancellor on exceptional funding is available here.

**Campaigns**

‘Missed Out’ campaign wins important concession on violence against refugee women and girls

The ‘Missed Out’ campaign, launched in support of the rights of refugee women and girls, is reporting a significant success in its efforts to obtain a fairer hearing from the Home Office. Read more.

**Web/Press watch**

UK Border Agency ‘not good enough’ and being scrapped

The UK Border Agency is to be abolished with its work returning to the Home Office, Theresa May has announced. Read more.

Yvette Cooper’s speech – the implications for migrants’ rights in a nutshell

Yvette Cooper’s immigration speech today suggested that Labour has come up with a number of policy proposals, but still lacks a clear, progressive framework to knit them together. Read more.

Universal Credit, Personal Independence Payments and Council Tax reductions to become ‘public funds’ under new immigration rules

The Home Office is proposing a new set of changes to the immigration rules which it intends to see brought into force on 1st April. Amongst the several changes it proposes is the decision to make two additions to the list of ‘public funds’ which people subject to immigration control in the UK will be prohibited from receiving. Read more.

Only 20,000 Romanians want to work in Britain, says study by Romania

Twenty thousand Romanians want to come to Britain ahead of the borders being opened at the end of this year, independent research seen by The Telegraph has found. The figures from a leading political research body in Romania are the first official indications of the likely impact on the UK from the lifting of migration restrictions on people coming to work in Britain on December 31. Read more.
Ministers admit trying to forcibly remove tens of thousands of people
The government has admitted that it has tried to forcibly remove tens of thousands of people from the UK unlawfully. ...In 2012, 14,435 enforced removals took place but between January and November 11,085 were cancelled. ... Of those cancelled, 4,569 were halted because the courts said they were unlawful. In the past five years, 48,858 removals have been cancelled, 22,079 of them owing to successful legal challenges. Read article in full.

UKBA backs down over use of force on children and pregnant women
The government has backed down on the use of force on children and pregnant women it seeks to remove from the UK. Just before a high court challenge was due to start, the UK Border Agency reinstated a policy on its website which says that force must not be used against pregnant women and children except to prevent harm. The judge in the case, Mr Justice Turner, said of the move by the UKBA: “It’s not appropriate in my view that policies of this importance should disappear and reappear” Read article in full.

Home Affairs Select Committee - The work of the UK Border Agency (July–September 2012)
“Successful UKBA Chief Executives have presided over chaos including 150 boxes of unopened mail, 100,000 unopened letters and yet another effective amnesty for thousands due to calamitous inefficiency.” Read more.

Immigration: if only politicians would lead, not follow
Read more.

Girls at risk of mutilation 'lack help from teachers'
Girls at risk of genital mutilation are not being helped as their teachers lack training in how to deal with this type of child abuse, a charity has warned. Read more.

Female genital mutilation: Bristol study finds 117 cases
More than 100 women seen by midwives in Bristol over the past nine months have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM), NHS data has revealed. North Bristol NHS Trust asked midwives to check all their patients for the procedure and 117 cases were found. Read more.

The Prime Minister is playing right into UKIP's hands on immigration
David Cameron's speech today is being accused of being all spin and no substance. It is likely only to increase public fears and misunderstanding about migrants and the welfare system - is this the outcome he wanted? Read more.

Mass migration: Who benefits and why?
It has often been called the brain drain - highly skilled workers in developing countries leaving their homeland to work in one of the rich nations. Read more.

Awards update

Migrant and Refugee Women of the Year Awards Ceremony
Migrant and refugee women make an exceptional contribution to UK society. Click here to watch this year's ceremony highlights.
Sources for the bulletin include:

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