

ILPA immigration update 38

The ILPA information service is funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust

Steve Symonds ILPA Legal Officer 020-7490 1553 steve.symonds@ilpa.org.uk

Immigration Law Practitioners' Association www.ilpa.org.uk 020-7251 8383 (t) 020-7251 8384 (f)

1st June 2011

Asylum Improvement Project

The UK Border Agency is reviewing its asylum process. It has called this review, which has been ongoing for several months, the 'Asylum Improvement Project'. On 26 May 2011, it published a progress report. This is available at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/may/32-aip-publishes-progress-report>

Immigration detention

The UK Border Agency has increased its detention estate by adding former prison, Morton Hall in Lincolnshire. See:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/june/01-morton-hall-open>

This year, the Supreme Court has made two important decisions concerning the legality of immigration detention. More information is available from the "Detention 2" information sheet.

Concerns remain about separated children who are detained because their age is not acknowledged or is disputed. The "Age Disputes and Detention" information sheet provides more information.

Evidence that may be relied upon at appeal

On 23 May 2011, the Government changed the law on what evidence may be relied upon in appeals relating to refusals of Points Based System applications. See:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/48-restrictions-on-new-evidence>

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/may/27-appeals-to-end>

The "Appeals – Admissible Evidence" information sheet provides more information about what evidence may be relied upon in appeals before the First-tier Tribunal (Immigration and Asylum Chamber).

UK Border Agency business plan 2011-2015

The UK Border Agency business plan for the years 2011 to 2015 was published on 13 May 2011. The plan is available at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2011/may/13ukba-business-plan-launch>

Legal Aid

The Government is yet to publish its response to the recent consultation on the future of Legal Aid (see the "Legal Aid 8" and related information sheets). Meanwhile, a day of action in defence of Legal Aid has been organised for 3 June 2010. More information is available at:

<http://www.justice-for-all.org.uk/News/March-for-justice-3-June>