

ILPA immigration update 46

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Changes to Immigration Rules

On 15 March 2012, the Government announced changes to the Immigration Rules. These changes mainly affect applications under the Points Based System. More information is available at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/march/43-changes-rules>

Overseas Domestic Workers

Changes to the Immigration Rules affecting overseas domestic workers take effect on 6 April 2012. More information is provided in the "Overseas Domestic Workers" information sheet.

Immigration Fees

From 6 April 2012, many immigration application fees are to change. There are also to be changes to some of the immigration application forms. More information is available at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/april/23-visa-fees-increase>

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/april/01-new-forms>

Victims of Domestic Violence

On 2 April 2012, the Government announced the extension of a scheme to assist certain migrant victims of domestic violence to escape an abusive relationship by providing access to public funds and support services. More information is available at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2012/april/02-domestic-violence-support>

Immigration Advisory Services (IAS) – archived files

Former clients of the IAS have until midnight on 28 May 2012 to request retrieval of their file from storage. More information is provided in the "Immigration Advisory Service (IAS) client files – last chance to retrieve these" information sheet.

Dental X-rays of age disputed asylum-seekers

On 28 March 2012, the UK Border Agency announced a trial of using dental x-rays to assess the age of asylum-seekers claiming to be children whose age is disputed. The "Age Disputes (Dental X-Rays)" information sheet provides further information.

Appeals to the Court of Appeal

In recent months, there have been important judgments from the Court of Appeal on the test for permission to appeal to the Court of Appeal against a decision of the Upper Tribunal. More information is provided by the "Appeals – 'second-tier appeals test' information sheet.

Legal Aid Bill

MPs are to consider this Bill, possibly for the last time before it is passed, on 17 April 2012.