



# immigration update 1

## **New ILPA project**

The Immigration Law Practitioners' Association (ILPA) is now funded by the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust to provide support to refugee and migrant community organisations and other NGO's working in the asylum and immigration field.

As part of this project ILPA has launched an information service. This service will produce regular immigration updates and information sheets. Both will be available on our website.

Organisations can also receive these updates by email or post by contacting Steve Symonds at ILPA. More information on the project is available from the "New ILPA Project" information sheet.

## **UK Borders Bill**

On 26 January, the Home Office published their UK Borders Bill. By this Bill, the Home Office intend to:

- give more powers to immigration officers;
- impose greater controls on legal and illegal immigrants in the UK;
- introduce a biometric registration and card scheme for all immigrants in the UK; and
- deport foreign criminals regardless of their personal circumstances.

For more information on the Bill, please see ILPA's "UK Borders Bill" information sheet.

## **New language and knowledge tests for applications for settlement in the UK**

Adults applying for indefinite leave to remain in the UK will be required to demonstrate:

- an ability to read and speak English; and
- a knowledge of life in the UK.

These new requirements will apply to any

application posted to the Home Office on or after 2 April. Since November 2005, the Home Office have been applying these same requirements for people applying to naturalise as British citizens.

An information sheet on "Applying for Settlement in the UK" will be available shortly.

## **New Asylum Model (NAM)**

The Home Office have introduced a new process for dealing with asylum claims. It is intended that this process will mean asylum claims are dealt with much more quickly, and that the Home Office improve the quality of its decisions.

This process is currently called the New Asylum Model (NAM). From April 2007, all new asylum claims will be dealt with by NAM. More information is available from the "New Asylum Model" information sheet.

However, the Home Office estimate that currently there may be as many as 450,000 asylum-seekers in the UK, whose situation remains unresolved – in other words, they have not departed the UK or been granted settled status.

NAM will not deal with these cases. They are referred to as Legacy cases. A new directorate will deal with them; and the Home Office have said it will deal with all Legacy cases by June 2011. More information on Legacy will shortly be available in a separate information sheet.

## **Other information**

The Asylum Support Appeals Project is offering free training on 14<sup>th</sup> March and 11<sup>th</sup> April in relation to appeals before the Asylum Support Adjudicators – see [www.asaproject.org.uk](http://www.asaproject.org.uk) or telephone the project on 020 8684 5873.

*5<sup>th</sup> March 2007*

## **ILPA information service**

funded by JRCT

[www.ilpa.org.uk/infoservice.html](http://www.ilpa.org.uk/infoservice.html)

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