

ILPA immigration update 23

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Making asylum claims and further submissions

The UK Border Agency has announced changes to how these may be made. It now says that all asylum claims and further submission must be made in person. More information is given in the "Making Asylum Claims and Further Submissions" information sheet.

Human Provenance Pilot Project

The UK Border Agency introduced this project in September. The project operates at the Asylum Screening Unit (ASU) in Croydon. If a adult and child claim asylum at the ASU and the UK Border Agency suspects that they are not related as claimed, they may be asked to provide DNA samples in order to test whether they are related. The project had also been intended to test whether asylum-seekers who claimed to be from Somalia were from Somalia. This part of the project has been temporarily withdrawn because scientific experts have heavily criticised the tests as providing no reliable information as to a person's origins. However, the UK Border Agency says that it is still intending to test whether this part of the project can be shown to be reliable.

Local Immigration Teams

The UK Border Agency is introducing Local Immigration Teams across the UK. In doing so it appears that the UK Border Agency is changing the balance of its work and involving others in enforcement work (i.e. prosecuting immigration offences and removing people from the UK). More information is given in the "Local Immigration Teams" information sheet.

Access to Healthcare

In July 2009, the Government announced proposals to improve access to free healthcare services to certain migrants. There is to be a consultation on these proposals. The consultation has not been published yet. More information is given in the "Access to Healthcare 3" information sheet.

Case Resolution Directorate – Legacy Cases

The UK Border Agency has published some changes to guidance explaining how legacy cases are being considered. More information is given in the "Legacy Cases 7" information sheet.

Turkish business migrants

In September 2009, the UK Border Agency announced a new visa route for Turkish nationals applying to come to the UK to establish a business here. For more information, see:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsfragments/turkish-businesspersons?area=allNews>

Immigration and Citizenship Fees

In September 2009, the UK Border Agency published a consultation on fees. Responses to the consultation must be received by 1 December 2009. A copy of the consultation document is available at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2009/september/charging-consultation?area=allNews>