

ILPA immigration update 26

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Removals and Judicial Review

On 11 January, the UK Border Agency changed its policy about removals and judicial review. The changes mean that there are now more cases in which the Agency may decide not to give the usual minimum notice of removal. Further information is set out in the "Removals and Judicial Review 3" information sheet.

Transfer of the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal

On 15 February, the Asylum and Immigration Tribunal (AIT) will be replaced. The work and judges of the AIT will be transferred to the new unified Tribunal. Further information is set out in the "Immigration Appeals 2" information sheet.

Age Assessments

In November 2009, the UK Supreme Court decided that in judicial review proceedings challenging a Local Authority age assessment that a person is not a child (or not the age he or she claims to be), the role of the court includes to make a decision on the person's age. Further information is set out in the "Age Disputes and Age Assessment 2" information sheet.

Students

Over recent weeks, there has been criticism of the UK Border Agency's management of applications for student visas; and the Agency has temporarily stopped accepting applications in North India, Nepal and Bangladesh. There have also been significant changes affecting migrants who wish to study or continue studies in the UK. Further information is available at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/January/46-tier4-suspension>

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/January/33-new-resp-t4-sponsors>

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/January/34-changes-t4-applications>

British citizenship

On 13 January, a number of changes were made to British nationality law to allow for certain people to register as British citizens. Further information is set out in the August 2009 "Changes to British Nationality Law" information sheet; and also at (which includes links to UK Border Agency guidance and application forms):

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/January/03-changes-law-citizenship>

Immigration and Nationality Fees

On 20 January, the Immigration Minister announced proposals for immigration and nationality fees during 2010/2011. The Minister's statement, which includes a table showing the proposed fees, is available at:

<http://www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/news/wms-charging-imm-nat-services>