

About the OISC

- We are an independent public body established under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- We regulate immigration advisers by ensuring that they are competent and acting in the best interests of their clients.
- Since 30 April 2001 it has been a criminal offence for an adviser to provide immigration advice or services unless their organisation is either registered with the OISC or has been granted a certificate of exemption by the OISC or unless the organisation is otherwise covered by the Act.
- The OISC regulates the provision of immigration advice and services
- We do not regulate the provision of general information about the immigration and asylum system

How to find an immigration adviser

- You can find OISC approved advisers across the country on our website at:
<http://www.oisc.gov.uk/adviser-finder/00-adviser-finder.asp>

Complaints

- We can take complaints about any immigration adviser, including members of the designated professional bodies, such as solicitors
- Complaints may be made by anyone
- All complaints will be treated as confidential

Who we regulate

- All OISC advisers are required to display their OISC certificates
- This, together with the OISC's global tick logo, shows that an organisation has met the standards laid down by the OISC

Who we do not regulate

- Not all immigration advisers are regulated by the OISC
- Members of certain professional bodies may give immigration advice without registering with the OISC, as can people working under their supervision.
 - The professional bodies are:
 - The Law Society
 - The Law Society of Scotland
 - The Law Society of Northern Ireland
 - The Institute of Legal Executives
 - The General Council of the Bar
 - The Faculty of Advocates, and
 - The General Council of the Bar of Northern Ireland



OFFICE OF THE
IMMIGRATION SERVICES
COMMISSIONER