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The ICIBI Inspection Plan 2016/17 – 2018/19

Theme 1: Protecting the border (identifying and intercepting risks and threats)				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Intelligence	Intelligence – an inspection of the collection and use of intelligence by Border Force and Immigration Enforcement started in October 2015, due to report to the Home Secretary in May 2016			
Customs Controls	Postal hubs – an inspection of custom controls at Coventry and Langley postal hubs started in March 2016, due to report to the Home Secretary in July 2016			
Visa applications (crossover with Theme 2)	Visa Post(s) (focusing on the efficiency, effectiveness and consistency of UKVI's visa operations) Note: To meet the ICI's responsibilities as Independent Monitor for Entry Clearance Refusals without Right of Appeal at least one Visa Post will be inspected each year	350	350	350
UK Seaports and coastline	Border Force operations at East Coast Ports (to include the possible displacement from Dover and the South East of illegal migrants and the effectiveness of customs controls)	350		
	West Coast Ports (to include people and goods entering the UK via the Common Travel Area)		350	
	South Coast Ports (to include Dover)			350
	The Border Force Cutter Fleet	200	*	*
	The National Maritime Intelligence Centre (NMIC) - a standing item in Ports and Cutter Fleet inspections	*	*	*
UK Airports	Immigration and customs controls of scheduled international flights	200	350	
Border security partnerships	Juxtaposed controls			350
Inspection days per year Theme 1		1100	1050	1050

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Theme 2: Providing a service (processing applicants, claimants and customers)				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Immigration routes	Family reunion applications – an inspection focused on Istanbul, Pretoria, and Amman (the three posts with the most applications and most refusals) started in January 2016, due to report to the Home Secretary in June 2016			
	Asylum casework (last inspected in 2015/16)		350	
	Points Based System (PBS) visa applications – a standing item in all Visa Post inspections, plus an inspection focusing on treatment of a particular Tier(s) across the system in Year 3	*	*	350
	Administrative Reviews – follow-up to the 2015/16 inspection of Administrative Reviews commissioned by the Home Secretary (report sent to Home Secretary in April 2016)	200		
Routes to citizenship	Nationality casework (last inspected in 2014) – to be included in Year 3, resources permitting			
Identification and treatment of vulnerable individuals	Children – across the borders and immigration systems (including the exercise of S. 55 safeguarding duties) – treatment of children to be included as a standing item in all relevant inspections from Year 2	350	*	*
	Potential Victims of Trafficking (PVoT) - across the borders and immigration systems – in collaboration with the Office of the Anti-Slavery Commissioner	350		
	Immigration detainees, including the handling of further submissions and the provision of bail accommodation – aligned with HM Inspectorate of Prisons' inspection programme, where possible		350	
	Vulnerable adults, including identification and treatment victims of torture – a standing item in all relevant inspections, plus under Theme 5 a follow-up inspection of the 2015/16 Asylum Casework report (specifically Recommendation 4 regarding Rule 35 and Medico Legal Reviews), plus an inspection in Year 3 focused on the Domestic Workers visa route	*	*	200
	Women (gender bias) – a standing item in all inspections, plus an inspection in Year 3 focusing on the findings identified in Years 1 and 2	*	*	200
	Particular social groups – a standing item where relevant, and forming part of the Asylum casework inspection in Year 2	*	*	*
Service Levels	Service standards (and internal targets) – a standing item in all inspections	*	*	*
	Charging for services - covered in relevant inspections, plus a system-wide inspection of in Year 3	*	*	200
	Complaints handling - a standing item in all inspections	*	*	*
Syrian Refugee Programme	Planning and implementation		350	
Inspection days per year Theme 2		900	1050	950

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Theme 3: Compliance Management and Enforcement				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Clandestine entrants ('Clandestines')	'Lorry drops' – an inspection of Immigration Enforcement's response to 'lorry drops', including collaboration with police forces, started in October 2015 and will report to the Home Secretary in April 2016			
'Hostile environment'	Checking of immigration status within civil registration processes (excluding marriage and civil partnerships) – an inspection began in March 2016 and will report to the Home Secretary in August 2016			
	Driving licences – an inspection of the Immigration Act 2014 provisions to revoke driving licences held by illegal migrants began in January 2016 and will report to the Home Secretary in June 2016			
	Bank accounts – an inspection of the Immigration Act 2014 provisions to deny bank and building society accounts to illegal migrants began in January 2016 and will report to the Home Secretary in June 2016			
	Sham marriage and civil partnerships (last inspected in 2014)	350		
	Landlord immigration checks	200		
	National Health Service charging	200		
	Illegal working (last inspected in 2015)		350	
	Status reviews - revocation of leave to remain and deprivation of citizenship		200	
	Overview of 'hostile environment' measures – the HE is presented as a 'suite of measures', so ICI will inspect each in turn and also produce a summary to date at the end of 2016/17			200
Contact management	Reporting arrangements, including Reporting Centres			200
	'Helplines' (and published guidance)			200
Removals	Failed right of abode applications and referrals for immigration enforcement action – an inspection began in February 2016 and will report to the Home Secretary in July 2016			
	Migration Removals Pool (MRP), Voluntary Returns, Family Returns, and Emergency Travel Documents (last inspected 2015)			350
Exit checks	Exploitation of exit check data across the immigration and borders systems (including planning and implementation of Exit Check project), included as a standing item where relevant from Year 2	350	*	*
Sanctions and Penalties	Completeness, consistency of application, deterrent effect of sanctions and penalties (including, but not limited to, the 'hostile environment' measures above), a standing item where relevant	*	350	*
Inspection days per year Theme 3		1100	900	950

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Theme 4: Working with others				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
'Hand-offs' between Home Office Directorates	Alignment of borders and immigration processes and priorities – a standing item for all inspections, plus an inspection of any 'new' major processes at an early stage, plus an inspection of HM Passport Office and/or General Register Office in Year 2 where there functions overlap or join border and immigration functions	*	350	*
	Forecasting, planning, contingency planning - a standing item for all inspections, plus a re-inspection of the planning for (and management of) a summer 2016 asylum 'surge' under Theme 5	*	*	*
	'Onshoring' (to the UK) of immigration functions and remote decision-making			200
Partnerships	Other Government Departments (OGDs) and Local Authorities – alignment of priorities and responsibilities, information sharing, plus a comparison of similar functions e.g. DWP, HMRC processing of bulk data, contact management	200		
	Law Enforcement – information sharing and collaborative working between - an inspection of identification by the police, flagging to the Home Office and status checking, of arrested foreign nationals began in February 2016 and will report to the Home Secretary in July 2016			350
	Overseas partners and stakeholders – relationship management, information sharing, comparative performance			200
Commercial contracts	National/strategically significant (Home Office 'Tier 1') contracts – performance/delivery management, alignment with in-house borders and immigration functions		350	
	Regional or Local ('Tiers 2 and 3') contracts – Home Office visibility, plus performance/delivery management	350		
	Overseas contracts, for example Visa Application Centres (VACs) – a standing item in all Visa Post inspections	*	*	*
'Joint' Inspections	Collaborations with other Inspectorates and similar bodies (including short-term attachments, input to inspections and, where relevant, joint or complementary inspections)	350	350	350
Inspection days per year Theme 4		900	1050	1100

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Theme 5: Learning and improving				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Country of Origin Information	Country of Origin (CoI) Reviews – 10-12 reviews per year focused on the countries and issues featuring most commonly in Asylum claims (see ICI website) – reviews commissioned and quality assured by the Independent Advisory Group on Country Information (IAGCI) on behalf of the ICI	100	100	100
	Production, usefulness and use made of CoI material within the Home Office – to include an assessment of the ICI's new process for delivering CoI reviews (to be introduced in Q1 2016/17)	350		
Litigation	Handling of litigation cases, including the work of Presenting Officers – inspection combined with Organisational Learning below	350		
	Organisational learning from litigation cases, including Pre-Action Protocol (PAP) letters, Judicial Reviews, allowed appeals – included as a standing item in relevant inspections from Year 2		*	*
	Non-suspensive appeals – a standing item where relevant, plus a thematic inspection in Year 3	*	*	200
Staff	Type of staff (permanent, temporary, agency), grades/responsibility levels, provision of initial and refresher/top-up training, knowledge, experience, engagement – a standing item in all inspections, plus a thematic inspection in Year 3	*	*	200
Tools/Technology	Operating Mandates, Instructions, Guidance, Quality Assurance – clarity, accessibility, use etc. – a standing item in all inspections, plus a thematic inspection in Year 2	*	350	*
	Data/Management Information, record keeping - a standing item in all inspections, plus a thematic inspection in Year 3	*	*	350
	Digital services at the border - a standing item in relevant inspections, plus a thematic inspection in Year 2	*	350	*
Re-inspection of ICI Recommendations	Check on the implementation of accepted Recommendations, after c. 6+ months or earlier if the Home Office has committed to an earlier implementation date – 6 Re-inspections per year with effect from 2016/17	300	300	300
Inspection days per year Theme 5		1100	1100	1150

Home Secretary Commissions				
Area	Topic	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Not known in advance	S. 50 of the UK Borders Act 2007 enables the Home Secretary to request the ICI to report in relation to a specified matter. Typically, there has been at least one such Home Secretary Commission per year.	350	350	350
Total inspection days per year		5450	5500	5550