

MINUTES OF 98th MEETING OF MIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday 14th November 2017

Chair: Professor Alan Manning

**Attending: Dr Jennifer Smith
Professor Jackline Wahba
Madeleine Sumption
Paul Regan
MAC Secretariat**

Agenda item 1 Welcome, introductions and minutes of previous meeting

1. There were no apologies. The Chair welcomed economist Peter Gambrill to his first MAC meeting prior to him joining the Secretariat.
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Agenda item 2 MAC, Home Office and MAC secretariat updates

3. Paul Regan gave HO update to inform the MAC on items of current Home Office policy. Look forward to next release of the ONS migration statistics and government budget. MAC appointments are being considered by HO Ministers and will hopefully be made soon.
4. Jennifer Bradley gave the Secretariat update setting out the plan for considering responses to the MAC call for evidence as well as further engagement and analytic planning to be covered in other parts of the meeting.
5. Alan updated MAC on stakeholder responses during his recent visit to Northern Ireland.

Agenda item 3 Update on Call for Evidence responses – EEA Commission

6. Tracy Liennard updated the MAC on progress considering and analysing the evidence received in response to the MAC call for evidence. Over 400 responses had been received. The responses were being recorded on a spreadsheet according to the MAC questions that each addressed and drawing out the main points.
7. The MAC were asked whether there are other categories that they would like to see stakeholder responses recorded against. MAC suggested that skill level of the occupations being discussed be recorded.
8. The MAC also asked for information about the stakeholder providing the response, whether it is a large or small employer, as well as whether there was specific confidential information that had been identified. They asked that more detail on the responses be brought forward for the next MAC meeting.

Agenda item 4 Draft Interim Report

9. Jennifer Bradley introduced the discussion on whether the MAC would like to publish an interim report in response to its EEA migrant workers commission. It was suggested that such an interim report could set out the responses to the MAC call for evidence and pull out some themes from the evidence. Some sectoral analysis could also be included as well as potentially analysis of occupations. The report could identify where there are areas where the MAC consider there is a shortfall of available evidence and data.
10. The MAC considered that an interim report would be useful in highlighting the progress the MAC was making in addressing its commission and asked that the Secretariat plan to prepare a draft for publication in Spring 2018..

Agenda item 5 Analytical Work Plan

11. Maria del Castillo gave an update of the work plan for the MAC analysis work with the first phase looking at items such as the characteristics of migrants, type of work done and labour market outcomes.
12. The MAC were asked to identify any items of analysis that they would like to see for inclusion in an interim report as well as any broader areas of analysis. Otherwise the MAC was content with the plan.

Agenda item 6 External Research update

13. Alessandra Caroni gave an update on the responses to the MAC Invitation to Tender in relation to the commissioned external research. An evaluation process has been followed in respect of each of the bids received and successful bidders identified.

Agenda item 7 Any other business

14. The meeting was given an update on upcoming stakeholder engagement in relation to its international students' commission.
15. The next MAC meeting is on 8 December.