

MINUTES OF THE 102nd MEETING OF THE MIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Tuesday 13th March 2018

Chair: Professor Alan Manning

Attending: Professor Jackline Wahba
Dr Jennifer Smith
Madeleine Sumption
Dr Brian Bell
Professor Jo Swaffield
Paul Regan
MAC Secretariat

Agenda item 1 - Welcome and introductions and minutes of previous meeting

1. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed.

Agenda item 2 – MAC, Home Office and MAC secretariat updates

2. Paul Regan gave an update on behalf of the Home Office. Including the latest stage of negotiations on the UK exit from the EU, net migration statistics and the Tier 2 Visa cap.
3. Jennifer Bradley gave the update on behalf of the MAC Secretariat. We are awaiting new laptops to increase capability.
4. Alan Manning has met a number of Secretaries of State including Jeremy Hunt and Immigration Minister Caroline Noakes. Madeleine Sumption said the Migration Observatory was currently looking at settled status registration – looking at different groups of people who may have trouble navigating it and also the tier 2 cap. Jo Swaffield raised a discussion on the Panorama TV programme on migration in the past week; the response to migration from many in the public was negative - when followed up with questions on jobs and who should be able to work in the UK the views changed. This highlighted the need for data and evidence to inform the public debate.

Agenda item 3 - Update on MAC International Student Commission

5. Harriet Cameron gave an update on the call for evidence responses to the International Students commission. The responses have been collated and reviewed, a summary paper has gone to the Committee. In addition, there have been round tables with higher education providers. Harriet gave an overview of the responses and the views they contained including positive impacts such as soft power. The literature reviews will be undertaken and an analysis plan for the next Committee. There was a discussion over class room sizes, tutor/student ratio and what factors are affecting the number of student places. It was agreed there was a need to find out what domestic students think about the increases in international students and this is a gap in the evidence.

Agenda item 4 - Interim Update Executive Summary

6. The timeline for completing the Interim Update was discussed. A final draft of the paper would be produced by the end of this week. The next stages of delivery were discussed. The draft paper was reviewed and suggested changes noted.

Agenda item 5 - Interim Update Introduction

7. Stephen Earl presented the introduction and received feedback.

Agenda item 6 - Interim Update Chapter 1 – Cross-cutting issues

8. Alessandra Caroni led the discussion on this chapter. The MAC suggested changes to the material. The MAC considered the charts and what information they showed, suggesting improvements to the text.

Agenda item 7 - Interim Update Chapter 2 – Regional analysis

9. Peter Gambrill presented this item and requested feedback on the contents. The MAC discussed the themes included and recommended changes.

Agenda item 8 – Sector Chapters

10. Stephen Earl presented this item covering the information in the Annex.

Agenda item 10 – Any other business

11. There was no other business.