

MINUTES OF THE 107th MEETING OF MIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
24 July 2018 10.30 to 13.30
Conference room 2
2 Marsham Street, London

Attending: Professor Alan Manning
Professor Jackline Wahba
Professor Jo Swaffield
Madeleine Sumption
Paul Regan
MAC Secretariat

Agenda item 1 – Welcome, introductions and minutes of previous meeting

1. Apologies from Brian Bell and Jennifer Smith. The Chair said this was the last MAC meeting for Richard Cahill and Sophie McCammond from the Secretariat and he thanked them on behalf of the MAC for their work. The minutes of the previous MAC meeting were agreed.

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

2. Paul Regan updated the Committee on Home Office issues. He said that the Government's Brexit paper had been published but that the government was waiting to see the MAC's final report on EEA workers before publishing an immigration white paper in the autumn. The department had made progress on the EEA settlement scheme and as from 6 July doctors and nurses had been taken out of the Tier 2 cap.
3. Jennifer Bradley, on behalf of the MAC Secretariat, drew attention to a report by the House of Commons Scottish Affairs Committee which made a range of different recommendations. Both Alan Manning, on behalf of the MAC, and Madeleine Sumption, on behalf of the Migration Observatory, had given evidence to the Committee. The Committee's recommendations included some relating to the Scottish shortage occupation list, the post-study work route and having Scottish representation on the MAC. The last of these points was for the government to decide. Paul Regan also drew the MAC's attention to the Home Affairs Committee report on Windrush and other recent reports on immigration by that Committee.
4. Jennifer also updated the MAC about the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee report about immigration and science and innovation which the Committee had produced on the back of the government not asking the MAC to bring forward its report on EEA workers. The Science and Technology Committee recommended a number of changes including setting the Tier 2 skill level at RQF3 and removing both the Tier 2 cap and shortage occupation list, together with a lighter-touch sponsor scheme.
5. The MAC discussed how to reflect information they had gained from relevant reports published since the interim report. The MAC asked that points be

reflected on in the MAC final reports on EEA workers and on international students.

6. Professor Manning said that he had had meetings with the Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation and with the Secretary of State for Education in relation to the MAC work on international students. Madeleine Sumption said that the Migration Observatory was shortly to publish a report about skilled worker programmes.

Agenda item 3 – international students draft report

7. Harriet Cameron talked the MAC through the draft report section by section, beginning with the conclusions and recommendations chapter. The MAC sought clarification on a number of recommendations and suggested ways in which their thinking could be presented with more clarity. The MAC also suggested changes to a number of figures and tables in the report.

Agenda item 4 – EEA migrants draft report

8. Alessandra Caroni introduced the draft EEA migrant workers report. Tracy Liennard talked the MAC through the recommendations chapter. The MAC asked that more reference be made to call for evidence responses and to economic theory in setting out its recommendations.
9. Alessandra led a discussion of each of the other chapters of the report in turn. The MAC highlighted a number of changes they wished to see made as well as changing the ordering of some material.

Agenda item 5 – Any other business

10. There was no other business.

**Migration Advisory Committee Secretariat
July 2018**