**Home Office**

**Department for Work and Pensions**

**Review of the Balance of Competences:**

**Free Movement of Persons.**

**Response form**

**May 2013**

Please use this form to answer the questions contained within the call for evidence published at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-the-balance-of-competences--2>

The closing date for the submission of responses is **midday 5th August 2013.**

Responses can be returned by email to [FreeMovementofPersonsBoC@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:FreeMovementofPersonsBoC@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk)

Your evidence should be objective, factual information about the impact or effect of the competence in your area of expertise.

A summary of the evidence received will be published alongside the final report in late 2013 and will be available on the Government website [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

We will share your responses with other Government departments if your evidence is relevant to other balance of competences reports.

We expect to make available all evidence alongside our report, unless there is a good reason not to do so. In the meantime we may use section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to exempt such material from any FOIA requests. Please note that, even if you ask us to keep your contribution confidential, we might have to release it in response to an FOIA request. We will publish the name of your organisation unless you formally ask us not to, but will not publish your own name unless you wish it included.

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| --- | --- |
| **Name** |  |
| **Organisation/Company (if applicable)** |  |
| **Job Title (if applicable)** |  |
| **Department (if applicable)** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Email** |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Organisation Type (if applicable)** | | ***Please mark / give details as***  ***appropriate*** |
| **NGO/Civil Society** |  |  |
| **Public Sector** |  |  |
| **Retail Sector** |  |  |
| **European bodies/institutions** |  |  |
| **Business/Industry/Trade Bodies** |  |  |
| **Other (please give details)** |  |  |

Note: on the form below, please leave the response box blank for any questions that you do not wish to respond to. All boxes may be expanded as required.

**Questions in relation to the UK Experience of the Free Movement of Persons**

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| **1. What evidence is there that the ability to exercise free movement rights in another member state impacts either positively or negatively on a) UK Nationals; and b) the UK as a whole?** |
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| **2. What evidence is there that EU competence in this area makes it easier for UK nationals to work and access benefits and access services in another member state?** |
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| **3. What evidence is there of the impact on welfare provision and access to public services in the UK?** |
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| **4. What evidence is there that a) more EU action; or b) less EU action would improve the situation of UK nationals exercising free movement rights in other member states? What obstacles, if any, do UK nationals face when exercising their free movement rights in other member states?** |
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**Questions in relation to the labour market.**

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| **5. What evidence do you have of the impact on the UK economy of EU competence on the free movement of persons.** |
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| **6. What is the impact of this area of EU competence on employment sectors, such as ‘distribution, hotels and restaurants’, ‘banking and finance’, agriculture, or other sectors?** |
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| **7. What evidence do you have of the impact on UK nationals and non-UK nationals in the UK in terms of employment opportunities, wages, employment conditions or other factors?** |
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| **9. How would these sectors and UK nationals benefit from the EU doing a) more or b) less in this area?** |
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**Questions in relation to social security coordination.**

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| **9. What evidence is there of the extent to which the current EU provisions on social security coordination are necessary to facilitate and effective EU labour market?** |
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| **10. What evidence is there that changes to the current balance of competences are needed to ensure that rules on social security coordination do not have a disproportionate impact on the UK benefits system, or undermine public confidence in that system?** |
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**Questions in relation to Immigration.**

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| **11. What evidence do you have of the impact of EU competence in this area on immigration in the UK?** |
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| **12. What evidence do you have of the impact on local communities and their economies, including rural areas?** |
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| **13. What evidence is there that a change in the balance of competence is needed to minimise abuse of the free movement rights afforded to citizens under EU law?** |
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**Questions relating to future options and challenges.**

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| **14. What future challenges and/or opportunities might we face in relation to EU competence in the area of free movement of persons and what impact these have on the UK national interest?** |
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| **15. What impact would any future enlargement of the EU have on the operation of free movement?** |
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**General questions**

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| **16. Do you have any evidence of any other impacts resulting from EU action on free movement of persons that should be noted?** |
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| **17. Are the any general points you wish to make which are not capture above?** |
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| **18. Are there any published sources of information to which you would like to draw to our attention for the purposes of this review?** |
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