



MIGRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Migration Advisory Committee**

1st Floor, Peel Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

15 December 2020

Rt Hon Priti Patel MP  
Home Secretary  
2 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Dear Home Secretary,

I am pleased to advise you that we have now published the inaugural expanded Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) Annual Report. The report reviews key aspects of the UK's immigration system and comments on the effect of current and future immigration policies, as per the enhanced role set out for the MAC in the 2018 Immigration White Paper. We have given context within which to view immigration policy by providing a discussion covering each of the broad entry routes to the UK, combining this with data to understand the impacts, the potential risks going forward and the evidence gaps. We have also published an associated Annual Governance Report.

Immigration policy is as important as ever as we complete the transition period, having already left the European Union. With such significant changes happening to the immigration system, we are provided with a unique opportunity to set a well-considered, evidence-based course for immigration policy for the coming decades. We are pleased to have made some progress, with the assistance of the Government, in accessing new data to enable us to undertake innovative analysis and provide new insights on migration in the UK, some of the results of which are in our Annual Report. We will continue to work with government departments to access the data needed to ensure our advice is based on the best evidence available.

We are conscious that the new immigration system will launch against the background of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the severe economic disruption that it continues to cause. This has been incorporated into our discussions.

Finally, other than the discussions surrounding immigration that the report covers, we provide a consideration of the implications for the MAC of the Windrush Lessons Learned Review.

We look forward in the coming year to continue advising the Government on the development of an immigration policy that delivers for the people of the United Kingdom.

On behalf of the Migration Advisory Committee,

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink. It consists of a large, stylized capital letter 'B' followed by a horizontal line that extends to the right. To the right of this line, the name 'Bell' is written in a cursive, handwritten style.

Professor Brian Bell  
Chair, Migration Advisory Committee

cc:  
Kevin Foster, Immigration Minister  
Mathew Rycroft, Permanent Secretary  
Shona Dunn, Second Permanent Secretary  
Glyn Williams, Director General BICS