



Immigration Advice Authority Newsletter

October 2025

Welcome



Welcome to the October edition of the Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) newsletter.

This will be my last update as Immigration Services Commissioner. As of Friday 3 October, I was appointed as the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration and started with immediate effect.

Whilst I am continuing to serve as Immigration Services Commissioner on a part-time basis until a new Commissioner is appointed, it is expected that this will only be for a short period.

It has been an incredible six years leading the IAA through both challenge and change. I am immensely proud to have supported our dedicated staff in transforming the IAA into the organisation it is today – one that remains

committed to protecting advice seekers upholding the highest standards across the immigration advice sector.

I would like to end by thanking all of our stakeholders for their support during my time in post.

Best wishes

John Tuckett
Immigration Services Commissioner

New Immigration Services Commissioner

The government is in the process of recruiting a new Immigration Services Commissioner, which will be confirmed shortly. In the meantime, we continue to operate under the leadership of our Chief Executive, as John oversees the organisation on a part-time basis.

Updated guidance: Law Society's IAAS

The Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) has amended its [guidance note on the Law Society's Immigration and Asylum Law Accreditation \(IAAS\)](#) following a review of the areas of immigration and asylum law the IAAS exam covers.

The new guidance provides clarity on who the general exemption from sitting the IAA competence assessment applies to. It also details a new exemption from sitting the Level 3 immigration assessment for those who hold or gain Level 2 IAA registration alongside their IAAS accreditation.

Online forms: one year on

It's been just over a year since the launch of our [system for forms submitted to the IAA](#). The process was designed to streamline how organisations apply for registration, continued registration, add new advisers, change levels, and pay registration fees.

Listening and improving

As part of our commitment to listen and improve, we've been gathering feedback from organisations and advisers to improve the user experience on the portal. Their input is shaping future updates, and we're excited to roll out usability enhancements in the coming months.

New appointment – Head of Sector Development



We're delighted to welcome a new Head of Sector Development to the IAA, Clare Tudor, who joined us earlier this month.

Clare has been registered as an adviser with the IAA for almost as long as it has existed. Most recently, she has established a refugee and immigration law clinic in a university setting whilst supporting other new pro-bono activities.

In her new role at the IAA, Clare will be creating a strategic plan, shaped by stakeholder insights, to strengthen the capacity and capability of the immigration advice sector. She is very keen to meet as many of our stakeholders as possible over the next six months, whilst working with her IAA colleagues on considering the future of advice delivery, qualification routes and how we at the IAA work towards developing the advice sector in accordance with our [Corporate Plan](#).

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