



IAA Newsletter

April 2026

Welcome



Welcome to the April edition of our IAA newsletter.

I am sure most of you will have seen the recent national news coverage around abuse of the immigration advice system. We take this extremely seriously and will use the full force of our powers to act. Our priority is clear: backing properly regulated advisers – the vast majority of which are impressive, altruistic and ethical – while coming down hard on those who undermine the system or diminish the reputation of the sector.

I have done interviews with [Radio 4](#) and [Radio 5](#) in response to the coverage. We are actively assessing evidence and will pursue action against anyone found to be providing immigration advice illegally. None of those implicated in the recent reports are regulated by the IAA and we are making efforts to ensure that the reputation of IAA-regulated advisers is maintained.

Please continue to support us in our ambition to raise the reputation of the sector and work with us by [reporting advisers who are not acting in accordance](#)

[with our requirements or are operating illegally without being regulated.](#)

I recognise that the sector faces real and ongoing pressures – demand outstrips supply; advice seekers remain vulnerable to exploitation; and the pace of legal and policy change places increasing strain on advisers.

As we continue to achieve our ambition of being a robust, confident regulator, I want to focus on strengthening regulation, expanding the availability of good quality advice, tackling illegal advice giving, enhancing our profile and transparency, and building the digital foundations of a modern regulator. We will work in partnership with advisers, communities, government and advice seekers.

In this newsletter you can read about our latest developments, including a new campaign to raise awareness of the IAA and new guidance which is being developed.

With thanks for your continued support,

Gaon Hart
Immigration Services Commissioner

Launching soon – IAA campaign

We are preparing to launch our first national communications campaign on Monday 11 May 2026.

The campaign will focus on raising awareness of the IAA and our [free adviser register](#), as well as educating advice seekers about the risks of using unregulated advisers. It will see a programme of outreach activity, including digital advertising, short TV and radio adverts, social content, and collaborations with partners and stakeholders.

Keep an eye out for our stakeholder toolkit which will include more information on how you can support us.

Update: EUSS registration category

The application route for new organisations seeking to register solely in the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) category with the IAA has now closed. This means

that organisations that are not already registered in this category can no longer submit new applications for EUSS-only approval.

This change applies only to organisational applications. It does not prevent individuals from joining an organisation that is already registered in the EUSS-only category. Existing EUSS-only organisations may continue to add new advisers, provided that those individuals can demonstrate that they have completed the required training and meet the relevant competency expectations.

In practice, this means:

- No new organisations can enter the EUSS-only route.
- Organisations already registered in this category may continue to operate as normal.
- Individuals wishing to join one of these organisations may still apply, as long as they can evidence the necessary training.

We are making this change to ensure that the EUSS-only route remains proportionate and aligned with the current level of demand. We will continue to keep the category under review and will provide further updates if the position changes.

Reminder:

- The Immigration Advice Authority (IAA) Level 1 Immigration EUSS registration is for non-profit or charitable organisations that provide advice and services exclusively in this area.
- Advisers applying for the EUSS only category are not required to pass a competence assessment, but they must have attended the EUSS training provided by the Home Office.
- The Home Office provided extensive, free training and funding to support organisations helping individuals apply for the EUSS.
- The Home Office discontinued its training provision, and the associated grant funding concluded on 31 March 2026.

New IAA guidance – coming soon

We'll shortly be publishing a new IAA guidance document on our website, designed to make it easier to find the information you need.

The new guidance will bring together existing guidance into a single, clear and easy-to-navigate document. It aims to support users at every stage by providing a clearer overview of processes and expectations. It will cover key areas

including the application process, using the IAA portal, and our professional standards and oversight.

Annual Report published

Our [first Annual Report as the IAA](#) was published in January. It highlights key achievements and outlines the financial performance during the first year following our rebrand.

Home Office guidance on working with immigration advisers

The Home Office has published [guidance](#) for its staff on how to check if an individual or organisation providing immigration advice or services is qualified and what to do if they are not. It is the first time the guidance, which is intended for all immigration staff, immigration caseworkers and asylum decision makers, as well as those managing appeals and judicial reviews, has been published externally.

Farewell to Clare!

In our October newsletter, we introduced a new, temporary Head of Sector Development to the IAA, Clare Tudor.

Clare's contract has now come to an end, and she has returned to her role as a registered adviser. We would like to thank Clare for all her work during her time in post, and in particular the progress she made in developing our plans for the advice sector in accordance with our [Corporate Plan](#).

We hope to recruit a permanent Head of Sector Development in the next year.



This email was sent to {{contact.EMAIL}}
You've received this email because you've opted in to receive communications from the
Immigration Advice Authority.

[Unsubscribe](#)