

**MINUTES OF THE 73rd MEETING OF THE MIGRATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON 24 APRIL 2015**

Chair: Professor Sir David Metcalf CBE

Attending: Dr Jennifer Smith
Professor Jonathan Wadsworth
Professor Jackline Wahba
Professor Alan Manning
John Thompson (Home Office)
MAC Secretariat

Apologies: Lesley Giles

Agenda item 1 - Welcome and introductions

1. David Metcalf welcomed Jessica Latchford to her first MAC meeting. Jessica has joined the MAC's secretariat and is a new entrant to the Government Economic Service.
2. The Chair said that this would be a shorter MAC meeting, with the second half comprising a presentation from Southampton University on the MAC commissioned research work on migration forecasting.

Agenda item 2 – Minutes of the meeting held on 27 March 2015

3. The MAC agreed the minutes for the March meeting.

Agenda item 3 – Home Office, MAC Secretariat and MAC members updates – oral item

4. John Thompson gave the Home Office update. He spoke about post-election planning and the briefings being prepared for the incoming Government.
5. Tim Harrison gave the update on behalf of the MAC Secretariat. Tim reported back on recent discussions about potential future MAC work. The MAC then had a conversation about future work load.
6. MAC members then gave an update on items of interest they had been engaged with.

Agenda item 4 – Paper 73.1, Update on Entrepreneur commission

7. Stephen Earl introduced the paper which provided an update on progress with the Government commission on Tier 1 Entrepreneurs. The call for evidence has been published and sent to partners. The secretariat will be following up with interested parties.

8. The MAC were informed of some of the additional contacts that had been made following the initial dissemination of the call for evidence and the work by the secretariat to follow these up. The secretariat was arranging a visit by MAC members to the caseworking officials in the Home Office who deal with entrepreneur applications. MAC members will be invited to attend.
9. An open forum meeting on entrepreneurs was held on 17 April and attended by the Chair of the MAC along with representatives from law firms, investment companies and Tier 1 entrepreneurs. Discussions were helpful and constructive and pointed to a number of avenues for the MAC to further explore in follow-up contact with partners. A second open forum meeting has been arranged for 28 April.

Agenda item 5 – Research on migration forecasting- presentation by Southampton University

10. Jakub Bijak and George Disney from the Centre for Population Change at Southampton University presented their emerging findings in relation to a research project commissioned by the MAC looking into migration forecasting. The MAC raised a number of issues with the researchers and suggested ways in which the research could be further developed.

Agenda item 6 – Any other business

11. There was no other business.