

Minutes of the 80th meeting of the Migration Advisory Committee on 10 December 2015

Chair: Professor Sir David Metcalf CBE

**Attending: Professor Alan Manning
Professor Jackline Wahba
John Thompson (Home Office)
Gary Cook (Home Office)
MAC Secretariat**

**Apologies: Lesley Giles
Dr Jennifer Smith
Professor Jonathan Wadsworth**

Agenda item 1 - Welcome and introductions

1. There were apologies from Lesley Giles, Jennifer Smith and Jonathan Wadsworth.

Agenda item 2 – Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2015

2. The MAC agreed the minutes for the November meeting.

Agenda item 3 – MAC, Home Office and MAC secretariat updates – oral item

3. Gary Cook gave the update on behalf of the Home Office and outlined the department's wider priorities on terrorism, policing and the EU. Stephen Earl reported that the MAC secretariat had been busy working on the Tier 2 report and that there was nothing specific to report. David Metcalf updated the MAC about meetings he had had with employers about the intra-company transfer route and about Professor Sir Nigel Shadbolt's review of computer science degrees. He reported progress on the appointment process to recruit a new MAC member and about an upcoming meeting with the Cabinet Secretary.

Agenda item 5 – Paper 80.1: update on nurses

4. This item was considered earlier than its place on the agenda so that the focus of the remainder of the meeting would be on the Tier 2 review. Stephen Earl talked the MAC through the paper which updated the Committee on progress on early meetings with representative bodies and highlighted upcoming meetings. The MAC stressed that it would like to see convincing evidence in relation to this occupation.

Agenda item 4 – Discussion of Tier 2 report

5. The latest drafts of chapters of the report had been sent to the MAC prior to the meeting. The MAC decided to focus on the recommendations in its report

and the rationale for each of these and to address drafting changes to each of the chapters through correspondence. Anna Lacey talked the MAC through each of the recommendations.

6. There was a discussion about many of the recommendations before the MAC reached a consensus view. The meeting also discussed how to set out its conclusions and how to present its core rationale in the report. The secretariat said that further drafts of the chapters that addresses the MAC's drafting comments would be sent to the MAC by Wednesday 16 December for the MAC's final consideration before the report was sent to the Government.

Agenda item 6 – Any other business

7. David Metcalf flagged up an event that he had been invited to speak at but was unable to do so. The secretariat will circulate details to see if any other MAC member would like to take David's place.