

## **Your Voice in Immigration FAQs**

### **What is deliberative engagement?**

Deliberative engagement involves members of the public coming together to discuss and debate important policy issues. The aim of this project is to obtain views on legal immigration from different parts of the country and from different backgrounds, to inform decision-making and the policy process. Participants will be presented with a range of perspectives and balanced evidence, ahead of facilitated discussions where they can explore high level policy options.

The outcomes will inform the Committee's future work.

### **What issues will the public deliberation event examine?**

The events will focus on immigration and work. With the Government committed to reducing net migration, participants will be invited to examine the policy trade-offs and potential impacts of reducing different types of legal migration to meet this policy goal. It will consider the trade-offs that need to be made when reducing net migration, including the impact on other policy objectives such as filling skills gaps.'

The questions that participants will be invited to consider will be published along with other supporting materials in due course.

### **Where will events take place and how were the locations selected?**

Events will take place in Leicester, North Tyneside and Renfrewshire.

Locations were selected to reflect the make-up of different parts of the country and different types of population. The locations were chosen to provide variance in terms of demographics, immigration experience and views on immigration.

It is not intended to give a definitive description of what the country or these individual areas think about immigration, but to explore the range of different views and finding areas of agreement, after discussion of the facts, on a complex issue.

### **What will happen at the deliberative engagement events?**

Events will take place over the course of a weekend and are expected to last for a day and a half. Around 35 people will be recruited for each event to be reflective of the local population in terms of demographics, including age, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, immigration experience and views on immigration. People will be paid for their time.

Participants will listen to balanced evidence, overseen by an advisory board, from a range of speakers who will explain key issues that influence public policy decision making on immigration.

They will then deliberate in small groups on the policy trade-offs involved in different policy options with the aim of 'agreeing governing principles and weighing up options' for reducing net migration. Each engagement event will address the same questions.

Further details about the content of the events will be made public in due course.

**Can I attend?**

There is no process to apply to take part. To ensure a diverse range of contributions, the Committee will work with delivery partners to recruit a group of participants that reflects the local population. Participants will be paid for their time, and travel expenses covered, to reduce barriers to taking part.

**What will happen to the report findings?**

The collected findings and recommendations from the three events will be published in a report.