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Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood MP
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Rt Hon Dame Karen Bradley DBE MP
Chair, Home Affairs Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

2 February 2026

Dear Dame Karen,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed changes set out in the consultation "A Fairer Pathway to Settlement".

As the Committee is aware, we are mid-way through the consultation period. The economic and equality impacts have been considered in developing the proposals. However, the exact framing and impacts of the policy will only be known once the consultation is finished and we have analysed the responses.

In addition, the department is also conducting targeted migrant research which is directly considering these issues. I am committed to our legal obligations in assessing the range of economic and equality impacts as the policy is developed and once this work is complete, I will publish the assessment as per the commitment in the consultation paper published in November.

We welcome any evidence from the committee that can feed into our final considerations, and we remain committed to publishing a finalised EIA alongside the Government's formal response to the consultation.

I would like to thank you and the Committee for the ongoing work you are doing as part of the Routes to Settlement Inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Shabana Mahmood MP
Home Secretary