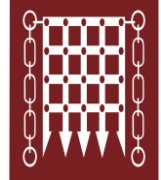


Westminster Legal Policy Forum keynote seminar:

Next steps for the UK asylum system

Timing: Morning, Friday, 22nd November 2024

*****Taking Place Online*****



**WESTMINSTER
LEGAL POLICY
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Baroness Lister of Burtersett
- 9.05 **The UK asylum system and key considerations for policy and implementation**
Vicky Tennant, Representative to the United Kingdom, UNHCR
- 9.20 **Latest thinking on policy priorities and issues for the UK asylum system**
assessing proposals from the new Government, including on border protection, housing and addressing backlogs | access to legal advice and representation for asylum seekers | accommodation arrangements | appeals processes and efficiency | safeguarding and mental health support | public perception and media reporting | options for resettlement routes going forward
Mishka Pillay, Lived Experience Leader and Co-Partner, Ana and Mishka Consultancy
Seema Farazi, Global Government Affairs Immigration Leader, EY
Dan Gascoyne, Chief Executive, Braintree District Council
Claudia Sturt, Immigration Director, Serco
Amanda Weston KC, Barrister, Garden Court Chambers
- 9.45 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.20 Break
- 10.30 **Policy priorities and considerations for the UK asylum system going forward**
Daniel Hobbs, Director General, Migration and Borders, Home Office
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 **The Border Security Command - potential role, powers and governance**
Dr Annette Idler, Associate Professor, Global Security, Blavatnik School of Government, University of Oxford
- 10.55 **Evaluating plans for tackling organised immigration crime and enhancing enforcement measures**
priorities for the Border Security Command as it prepares for operations | new investigation and enforcement powers, and how they can be exercised most effectively | ensuring that standards oversight and safeguards are in place for enhanced powers | opportunities for the use of new technology and AI, and views on safeguards and scope of its use | balancing national security concerns with humanitarian obligations
Richard Ballantyne, Chief Executive, British Ports Association
Steve Valdez-Symonds, Refugee and Migrant Rights Programme Director, Amnesty International
Pierre Makhlof, Legal Director, Bail for Immigration Detainees
Alan Rhees-Cooper, Chief Inspector, West Yorkshire Police
- 11.15 Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 Break
- 11.50 **Priorities for creating alternative and safe routes for asylum seekers**
Jon Featonby, Chief Policy Analyst, Refugee Council
- 12.00 **Strategies for security cooperation with Europe**
Susan Fratzke, Senior Policy Analyst, International Programme, Migration Policy Institute
- 12.10 **Strategies for collaboration and tackling issues in the asylum system**
achieving orderly and humane management of migration | how can collaboration best be incentivised to promote the care of asylum seekers | access to employment | support for local authorities | safeguarding issues and priorities | strengthening services available for asylum seekers | exploring family reunion policies | exploring barriers to education for young refugees
Vicky McDermott, Director, Housing and Communities, Newcastle City Council
Janice Lopaktin, Chair, Refugee Employment Network
Katherine Solomon, Head, Training and Resources, The Bell Foundation
- 12.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Legal Policy Forum closing remarks**
Baroness Lister of Burtersett
Amy Wassif, Westminster Legal Policy Forum