

Extract from Bulletin No. 6 ~ July 2010

**Overseas Trained Teachers (OTTs) and the United Kingdom Borders Agency (UKBA)**

The coalition Government announced recently that the number of workers entering the UK from outside Europe will be controlled by a new limit.

Net migration will be scaled back to the levels of the 1990s, and introducing a limit on migrants from outside Europe coming here to work is just one of the ways the Government intends to achieve this.

Further details on how the final limit will be delivered will be agreed following a 12-week Government consultation exercise, which will run until the end of September 2010. Permanent limits on non-EU economic migration routes will then be decided and put in place by 1 April 2011.

In the meantime, the Government will impose interim limits which will take effect from 19 July 2010. The interim limits will ensure the number of visas issued under Tiers 1 and 2 of the points-based system are below that issued in 2009.

These interim measures will include:

- capping the number of Tier 1 migrants at current levels and raising the number of points needed by non-EU workers who come to do highly skilled jobs from 95 to 100; and,
- limiting the number of certificates of sponsorship that licensed employers can issue to those who wish to come to fill skilled job vacancies. This will reduce the number of people entering through Tier 2 by 1,300.

The Home Secretary has also asked the Migration Advisory Committee, the Government's independent adviser on migration issues, to launch a separate consultation into what level the limit should be set at, taking into account social and economic impacts.

As most overseas trained teachers are covered by these provisions, the new arrangements will have consequences for teachers from outside the EU seeking entry into the UK.

For additional information, including how to respond to the consultation; the interim Tiers 1 and 2 limits; and a copy of the Home Secretary's statement visit the UKBA's website at: <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/newsarticles/2010/268071/43-impose-migration-limit1>

### **GTCE Update**

You will be aware that on 2 June 2010 the Secretary of State announced his intention to abolish the General Teaching Council for England (GTCE).

Until the future of the GTCE's current functions becomes clear, and the necessary primary legislation is passed, the Department for Education has made it clear that the GTCE must continue to discharge all of its statutory functions. These include:

- the registration of qualified teachers and the provisional registration of trainees, overseas trained teachers and instructors (see more below)
- the award of qualified teacher status
- the collection of induction results
- the undertaking of the Council's regulatory casework, including the investigation and hearing of cases of unacceptable professional conduct and serious professional incompetence

### **Provisional registration fee**

From September 2009 instructors and overseas trained teachers employed in the maintained sector in England have been required to be provisionally registered with the GTCE.

In addition, the provisional registration regulations apply to trainee teachers including those on training placements and carrying out their programmes largely in schools.

In March 2010 the then Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families approved the charging of a £36.50 registration fee for these new registrants. OTTs, instructors and trainee teachers employed in schools will be entitled to the £33 STPCD GTC allowance on the same basis as currently applies to qualified teachers.

The GTCE wrote to these teachers in June, informing them of the new requirement to pay the fee which will be collected by direct debit in October and will cover the period 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011. Local Authorities will need to make the necessary arrangements to reimburse these staff the £33.00 available under STPCD.

For more information on what you need to continue to do in respect of GTCE issues, including a series of FAQs, visit the GTCE website at:

[http://www.gtce.org.uk/gtc/gtc\\_future/](http://www.gtce.org.uk/gtc/gtc_future/)