

BALANCED **MIGRATION**



PRESS RELEASE: The Rt Hon. Frank Field MP and The Hon. Nicholas Soames MP

Friday 13 March 2009

Immigration's influence on household formation in England

In response to the new figures showing that immigration now accounts for 39 per cent of household formation, Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP, co-chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration, said:

“These new housing projections show in a clear and practical way the huge impact of the present extremely high levels of immigration on every aspect of our society. The changes the Government has made to their points based system will have only a very small effect on the numbers coming here. The Government must take serious steps to bring immigration into balance with emigration – otherwise our population will climb to 70 million and beyond. How much longer can the Government remain in denial, as one set of statistics after another reveal that its policies are woefully inadequate?”

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Notes to Editors

1. Yesterday the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration issued a Press Release on the UN's population predictions showing that the UK's population will be bigger than Germany's in mid-century. The full release can be accessed here:

<http://www.frankfield.co.uk/media/press-releases/q/date/2009/03/11/uk-population-will-be-bigger-than-germany-in-midcentury/>

2. The Rt Hon Frank Field MP and The Hon Nicholas Soames MP are Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration. The Group's Vice-Chairmen are Lord (Bill) Jordan CBE (former President of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union) and Daniel Kawczynski MP (Conservative, Shrewsbury & Atcham). Other members include Tobias Ellwood MP, Roger Godsiff MP, David Taylor MP, Lord Ahmed, Lord Carey (former Archbishop of Canterbury) Baroness Cox, Field Marshal Lord Inge KG, GCB, PC, DL and Lord Skidelsky. A complete list of members can be found on our website.
3. Balanced Migration would seek to bring the number of immigrants into line with the number of emigrants. The main change would be to limit the number of non-EU citizens who are given the right to settle permanently in the UK. Under these proposals, there would be no fundamental change to arrangements governing asylum; foreign students coming to the UK; genuine marriages; and the new Points Based System although some aspects will need to be tightened up. Non-EU citizens would be able to work here for up to four years, after which they would be expected to leave. Permanent settlement would be subject to a small annual limit with applicants selected by a further points system. Balanced Migration, once

achieved, would mean that new household formation would be reduced by about a third, and the population of England, now nearly 51 million, would stabilise at about 56 million by mid century; by contrast, at present levels of immigration it will be 68 million in 2056 and the population of the UK will be 78 million while still rising sharply.

4. “Balanced Migration – A new approach to controlling immigration” is available to download at <http://www.balancedmigration.com/>