

Report to: East Sussex Strategic Partnership (ESSP)
Date: 12 March 2009
Title: Scope of the Migrant Research Project Group
Author: Anna Czepil, Policy and Performance Officer, ESCC
Purpose: To provide an update on the work of the Migration Research Project Group
To seek a decision on extending the scope of the project
To provide information about the new Migration Fund

Recommendation: To extend the scope of the project to all new economic migrants who are legally entitled to work here.

1. Background

- 1.1. At the ESSP Executive Board meeting on 29 November 2007, it was agreed that partners should collaborate on sharing any data they are gathering about migrants, and that a Migration Research Project Group be set up, with each partner organisation represented.
- 1.2. The Migration Research Project Group met for the first time in March 2008. They agreed the remit of the group would be:
 - To address the community cohesion, economic, cultural and service dimensions of the impact of migration to the area.
 - To share information and establish a better understanding of the emerging new migrant communities in East Sussex, focussing on the 12 countries to most recently join the European Union, known as A10¹ and A2² countries.
 - To map and understand the impact of any changes to the population.
 - To discuss ideas and actions initially, so that they can be mainstreamed as soon as practicable through existing service delivery within organisations.
- 1.3. Members of the Migrant Research Project Group are listed in Appendix 1.
- 1.4. The Group met again in December 2008, and it is the discussion at this meeting that is the basis of this report.

2. Meeting of the Migrant Research Project Group – 22 December 2008

- 2.1. The discussion at the meeting included:

¹ A10 countries: Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta and Cyprus

² A2 countries: Bulgaria and Romania

- Whether the scope of the project should be extended to look at information about all new economic migrants, or migrants from the A10 and A2 countries only. It was agreed that any changes to the scope of the group should be agreed by the ESSP.
- The group wishes to look at how we can achieve better information about the number of migrants moving to the County. ESSP members are asked to consider how the quality of information can be improved in their organisations, and feed this through their organisation.
- The group are looking into ways of consulting with new communities to find out their needs and produce a welcome pack/information resource, translated into different languages. The group discussed the various ways this consultation could be carried out, and it was agreed that as many methods as possible should be used. The scale of the consultation depends on the funding available. Point 4 provides information on a new Migration Fund set up by Communities and Local Government.
- It was suggested that Borough and District Councils produce welcome packs or leaflets for their areas and that ESCC, Police, Health, and Fire could produce generic information that can be slotted in.
- Eastbourne Borough Council already has a welcome pack. Hastings Borough Council is looking to produce a pack for all newcomers to the area, including economic migrants. Wealden District Council has agreed to look into including information for economic migrants to existing literature and publishing information for economic migrants online. They will also consider adding to the languages their website automatically translates to.
- ESCC will look at hosting a page on their internet with information for migrants, with links off to information about Borough and District Councils.

3. Extending the project

- 3.1. It is important that all economic migrants know what their rights and responsibilities are. The number of A10 and A2 country migrants has declined since the project started, and there are more people migrating from India, for example, than many of the accession states (App 2 & 3).
- 3.2. While EU migrants enter the country under a different system to non EU migrants, it is important that once here, all legally working migrants have access to the same information.
- 3.3. We need to be aware of the number of people moving into the County, regardless of where they have moved from. East Sussex County Council representatives met with Tish Jennings, the UKBA Chief Caseworker for the region, in our role as an employer. The new points based system for non EU migrants was explained, along with other processes to improve tracking of migrants in the UK. Tish now sits on the Migrant Research Project Group.
- 3.4. Refugees and asylum seekers have different rights and responsibilities to economic migrants, so for this reason the project will not be extended to these groups at this time. Any information that is provided for economic migrants

however, should signpost refugees and asylum seekers to groups that are able to help them.

- 3.5. The economic trends which instigated the need for a 'Welcome Pack' have changed dramatically. With the economic climate as it is, it has been suggested that we consider providing information about the dangers of coming here without the firm offer of employment.

4. Migration Fund

- 4.1. Communities and Local Government have set up a fund to help manage the transitional impacts of migration, and to promote innovative ways of managing these pressures. This was trailed in the June launch of Managing the Impacts of Migration: A Cross Government Approach, and announced on 14 July in the Home Office's response to the Green paper on the path to Citizenship.
- 4.2. GOSE, who will be responsible for allocating the fund, have explained that the bidding round will close on 20 March. Bidding will be open to all partners through LSPs and the project group will take this forward for ESSP.
- 4.3. We are encouraged to make bids through the LAA outcomes, and that we should link this to the cohesion work in Hastings. All local service providers including the police, local authorities, and Primary Care Trusts will be eligible to benefit.
- 4.4. We do not yet have the details about how this fund will operate but this should be provided in due course.

5. Recommendation

- 5.1. The Board are asked to agree that the scope of the project be extended to all new economic migrants, who are legally entitled to work here, and not just focus on those from A10 and A2 countries.

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Migrant Research Project Group Membership

Name	Organisation
Habibah Anwar Bhatti	Hastings Voluntary Action
Adrian Brown	East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
Ian Chisnall	Churches Together in Sussex
Jane Cook	Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust
Anna Czepil	East Sussex County Council
Pranesh Datta	Hastings Borough Council
Neil Fuller	Eastbourne Borough Council
Jackie Gavigan	Lewes District Council
Zephyr Grayland	English in the Community
Dr Simon Kiley	Action in Rural Sussex
Sergeant Phil Mears	Sussex Police
Miriam Miklaszewska	SpeakUp Countywide Forum (South Downs CVS)
Alex Ntung	Hastings Borough Council
Mark Pearson	East Sussex Economic Partnership
Chris Piper	Learning and Skills Council
Alex White	Wealden District Council
Ken Stevens	Federation of Small Businesses
Jourdan Treverton	Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust
(For info) Tish Jennings	Home Office

National Insurance Registrations by non-Uk Nationals 2005-2008

2005/06																		
Country	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Latvia	Lithuania	Slovak Rep	France	Germany	Italy	Portugal	Romania	Spain	Australia	China	India	Philippines	S Africa	USA
East Sussex	120	30	680	120	90	200	50	50	40	60	10	50	60	30	140	120	150	50
Eastbourne	20	10	290	10	40	40	20	10	20	40	0	30	20	10	50	30	30	0
Hastings	50	10	160	80	40	50	10	10	10	0	0	0	10	10	40	30	10	10
Lewes	10	0	110	10	0	60	10	20	10	10	0	10	10	10	10	10	70	10
Rother	20	0	50	10	10	20	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	0	10	10	20	10
Wealden	20	10	70	10	0	30	10	10	0	0	10	10	10	0	30	40	20	20

2006/07																		
Country	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Latvia	Lithuania	Slovak Rep	France	Germany	Italy	Portugal	Romania	Spain	Australia	China	India	Philippines	S Africa	USA
East Sussex	120	60	790	70	100	160	70	60	40	50	10	50	50	60	140	120	100	40
Eastbourne	20	20	320	10	40	30	20	30	20	30	0	30	10	20	20	30	30	0
Hastings	50	20	150	40	30	40	10	10	10	0	0	0	10	10	20	30	10	10
Lewes	10	10	90	0	10	30	20	10	0	0	0	10	10	10	60	20	20	10
Rother	20	0	90	10	10	20	0	0	0	10	0	0	10	10	10	20	10	10
Wealden	20	10	140	10	10	40	20	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	30	20	30	10

2007/08																		
Country	Czech Rep	Hungary	Poland	Latvia	Lithuania	Slovak Rep	France	Germany	Italy	Portugal	Romania	Spain	Australia	China	India	Philippines	S Africa	USA
East Sussex	70	80	720	30	70	130	70	100	50	60	70	90	40	70	120	100	60	30
Eastbourne	20	20	330	0	20	30	20	40	20	50	10	30	10	20	20	20	20	10
Hastings	20	30	130	30	30	20	10	20	10	0	10	10	10	10	20	20	10	0
Lewes	10	10	110	0	0	20	10	20	10	0	10	30	10	10	50	20	10	10
Rother	10	10	60	0	10	20	0	0	0	0	20	10	0	10	10	20	10	0
Wealden	10	10	90	0	10	40	30	20	10	10	20	10	10	20	20	20	10	10

Key Countries with the largest number of registrations for the year

Worker Registration Scheme (WRS) to September 2008

Introduction

Since May 2004, the Workers Registration Scheme (WRS) requires all workers from the 8 new EU member countries to register for work in England & Wales. The countries are Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and are referred to as “A8” countries. The data only shows inflows, as there is no requirement to de-register, and does not include the self-employed. More detailed information is available at the end of the paper.

The WRS provides data on nationality, age, gender, wage rate, sector, occupation, hours worked, planned duration of stay and dependents from the initial application of registered workers (not all applications to the scheme, so avoiding double-counting). Data are produced quarterly, but data for the period from May 2004 to December 2006 are aggregated.

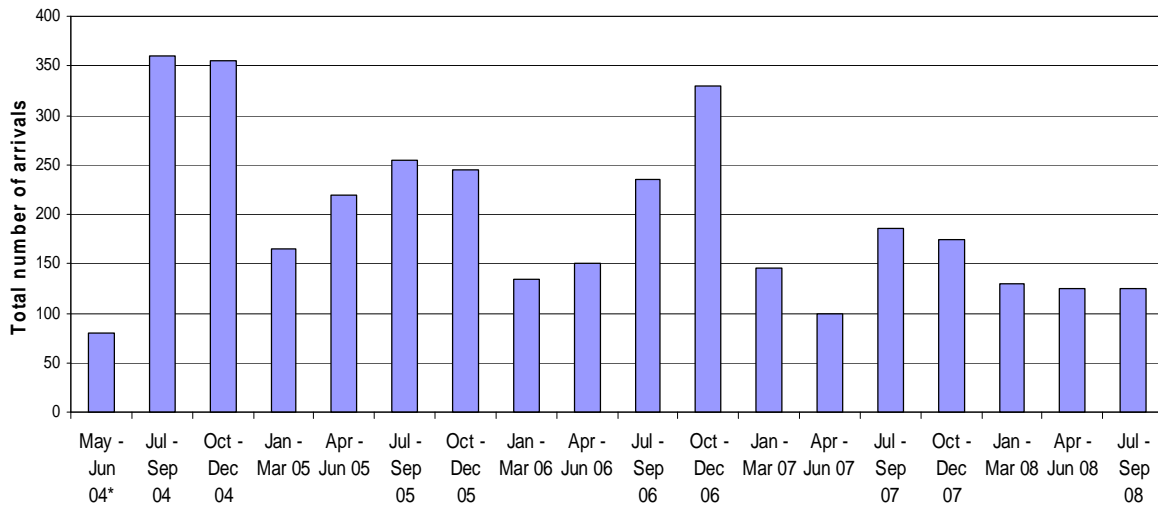
Key findings

- A total of 3,500 initial applicants to the WRS have registered in East Sussex between May 2004 and September 2008. Of those one third worked in Hastings, whereas only 10% of A8 workers registered in Rother. Eastbourne is the second most popular.
- The East Sussex WRS applicants have fallen by over 65% since July-Sep 2004 and have been lower than the national and regional averages since January 2007.
- The vast majority of workers registering in East Sussex were young: 86% under 35 and almost 50% were between 18 and 24. Only 10% of applicants stated that they had dependants living with them in the UK when they registered.
- 60% of A8 workers in East Sussex came from Poland compared to two thirds nationally and regionally. Since December 2006 the proportion of applicants from Poland has increased in East Sussex, while declining regionally and nationally.
- Two-thirds of A8 migrants to East Sussex work in administration and hospitality.
- More than half WRS applicants in East Sussex are paid less than £5.35 per hour, compared to 37% of A8 citizens across the South East region. 87% are earning less than £6 per hour. However, pay rates have been increasing.

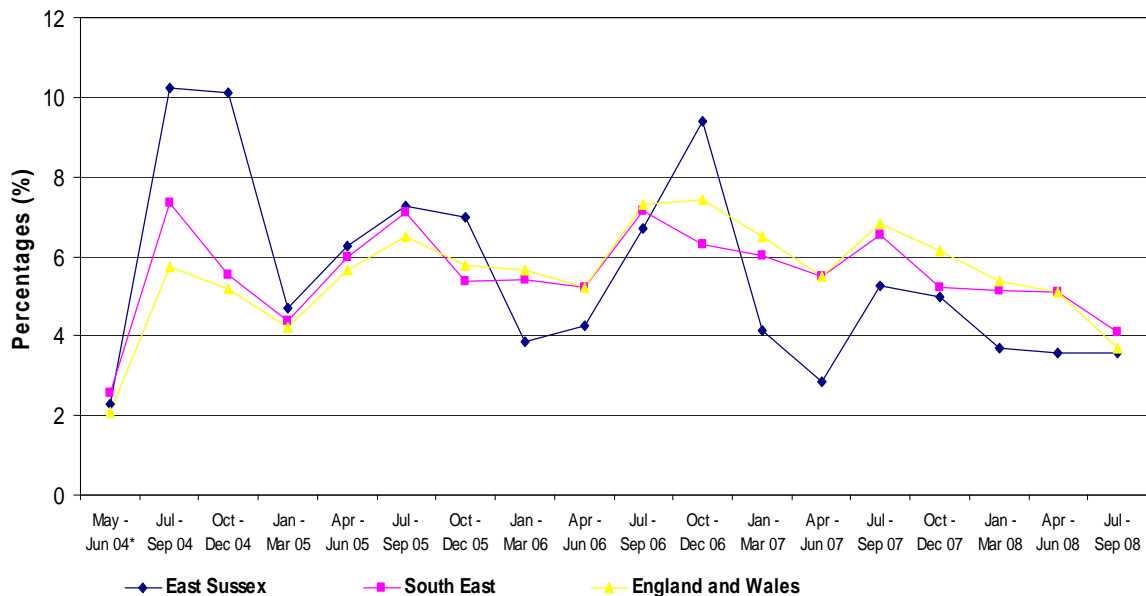
Change over time

- In total there were 3,500 initial applicants to the WRS in East Sussex, between May 2004 and September 2008. The number of approved applications has fallen from a high of 360 in July-Sep2004 to 125 in the same quarter of 2008, a decrease of over 65%.
- The number of A8 workers in East Sussex has been higher than the national and regional average for almost the whole period May 2004 – December 2006, since when the proportion of arrivals started to decline and be constantly lower than regionally and nationally.
- Numbers arriving in Hastings have declined dramatically from a high of 170 in October – December 2006 to just 20 in July – September 2008, whereas in Rother arrivals between October 2007 and September 2008 have been over the average of the whole period.
- Within East Sussex, almost a third of the applicants have registered to work for an employer based in Hastings, compared to just 10% in Rother. Eastbourne is the second most popular destination with 25% of the total A8 workers registered in the county.

Quarterly arrivals to East Sussex through the Workers Registration Scheme from A8 countries



Quarterly arrivals through the Workers Registration Scheme from A8 countries



Gender and Age Profile and dependents

- The great majority (86%) of A8 workers in East Sussex are under 35 years old and almost 50% are under 25 as well as in Eastbourne and Lewes. Hastings has the highest proportion of young age groups (53% under 25) in the county, whereas the age profile is older in Wealden with 30% over 25 years old.
- The gender mix is fairly equal in East Sussex, but varies across the districts with slightly more male workers in Lewes and more female workers in Eastbourne. Both the South East and UK have a higher proportion of male workers.

- Almost 10% of total applicants in East Sussex have brought dependants with them and only 4% had dependants under the age of 17. This is slightly lower than the national and regional averages.

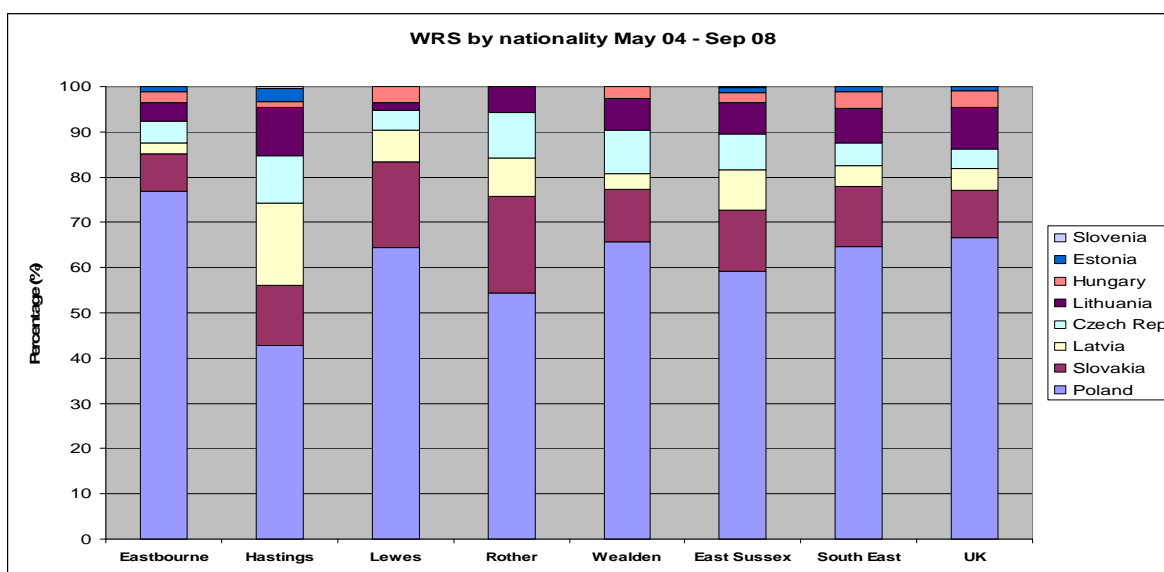
Applicants to the WRS by gender, age group and dependents, from May 2004 to September 2008

	Total Applicants May 2004 - Sep 2008	Gender (%)		Age Group (%)			Proportion of Applicants with Dependents
		Female	Male	<25	25-34	35+	
Eastbourne	860	57.0	41.9	48.3	42.4	8.7	11.63
Hastings	1,095	49.8	50.2	52.5	30.6	17.4	5.94
Lewes	585	45.3	54.7	47.9	45.3	3.4	4.27
Rother	380	48.7	52.6	40.8	35.5	19.7	15.79
Wealden	595	52.1	47.9	40.3	42.9	16.8	13.45
East Sussex	3,515	51.1	48.8	47.3	38.5	13.2	9.53
South East	111,950	45.0	55.0	45.6	38.5	15.8	11.23
UK	835,860	43.1	56.8	43.6	38.3	18.1	12.18

*Note: Not all totals sum to 100 due to rounding effects.

Country of origin

- Nationals from Poland continue to represent the vast majority of applicants to the WRS both nationally and locally: 60% of A8 workers in East Sussex came from Poland, which is slightly lower than the national and regional levels (66%).
- While in the UK and South East, there were a decline in number of applicants by Polish nationals; East Sussex experienced an increase since December 2006. As a result, the proportion of Polish workers in the county started to exceed the national and regional rates since January 2008.
- The distribution of Polish arrivals varies amongst the districts, from 77% in Eastbourne to only 43% in Hastings.
- The second biggest group of A8 applicants in East Sussex is from Slovakia, which represent 13% of all applicants over the four-year period. This is higher than the national average (10%) although the number of Slovaks in the county has declined at a faster rate than the national and regional rates.
- The distribution of Slovaks also varies widely between districts: from 21% in Rother to 8% in Eastbourne.
- 9% of East Sussex arrivals are from Latvia, which accounts for just 3% of the population of the A8 area, but 18% of arrivals in Hastings. Very few workers have come from Hungary, Estonia or Slovenia.



Occupations and Earnings

- In the county as a whole, a third work in administrative and business-related sectors, though almost two thirds are doing this type of work in Hastings. In East Sussex, over a third work in entertainment, hospitality and retail industries, but in Eastbourne this rise to two thirds. In Rother, nearly one third works in health and medical services compared with 13% in the county as a whole.

	Total May 2004 - Sep 2008	Occupation (%)				Earnings/hr (%)		
		Admin	Hospitality	Health and medical	Other	<£5.34	£5.35- £6	>£6
Eastbourne	860	9.9	65.7	11.0	13.4	55.0	36.1	8.9
Hastings	1,095	67.3	23.1	4.3	5.3	74.9	21.5	3.7
Lewes	585	43.4	21.2	15.9	19.5	53.9	25.2	20.9
Rother	380	7.6	27.3	33.3	31.8	34.2	38.2	27.6
Wealden	595	12.4	38.1	15.0	34.5	46.5	34.2	19.3
East Sussex	3,515	33.2	36.4	13.1	17.3	57.5	29.5	13.0
South East	111,950	32.6	27.3	8.4	31.7	36.9	34.6	28.5
UK	835,855	39.7	23.5	5.2	31.5	38.2	38.0	23.7

* Admin includes administration, business and managerial services

** Hospitality includes entertainment, leisure, hospitality, retail and related, sporting activities and security and protection industries

- The work undertaken by A8 citizens in East Sussex is predominately low paid. 57% arrived to take jobs paid less than £5.35 per hour, compared to 37% of A8 citizens across the South East region. 87% are earning less than £6 per hour. However, pay rates have been increasing. In East Sussex, an average of 76% of those arriving between May 2004 and September 2006 took jobs paid at less than £5.35, whereas only 4% arriving in July-September 2008 were paid below that rate.
- The situation is worst in Hastings with 75% below minimum wage and 96% earning less than £6 an hour. Pay in Rother seems better, with only 34% being paid less than minimum wage and 72% earning less than £6 an hour. Few work part-time.

Reasons for seeking work

- There are a number of reasons why A8 workers choose to move to the UK to work including low wages and high unemployment rates in their home countries.
- All A8 countries have much lower minimum wages than the UK: the lowest is Latvia with 229€/month in 2008, which is almost a fifth of the UK minimum wage (1,222€/month) and the highest is Slovenia whose minimum wage is under half of the UK minimum wage.
- There were also high rates of unemployment in some A8 countries. In 2004 the unemployment rate was 19% in Poland and 18.2% in Slovakia, though it has fallen to 9.6% in Poland and 11.1% in Slovakia in 2007.
- Workers from Hungary steadily increased over the period from May 2004 to September 2008 both nationally and locally, whereas Latvia and Lithuania showed general decreases over the same period. The increase in Hungarian arrivals may be influenced by the fact that since 2004 the minimum wage in Hungary, which is just over one-fifth of the UK minimum wage, had not increased much and the unemployment rates increased. On the contrary, all other A8 countries' unemployment rates dropped significantly and in Latvia and Lithuania the minimum wages experienced the highest increases within the A8 countries.
- The current UK economic slowdown which has already seen a decline in the value of the minimum wages and increased unemployment rates may affect future individual decisions in moving to and also leaving the UK.

Length of stay

- Very few A8 workers have firm plans to stay in the country long term, but at the time of registration a large proportion hadn't decided how long their stay will be. In East Sussex, 43% said they planned to stay for 3 months or less, but another 43% didn't know how long they would be staying. Only 7% were planning to stay more than 2 years.

Notes on the data

1. All A8 citizens are required to register with the Workers Registration Scheme once they obtain work, and to re-register for subsequent jobs until they have worked a total of 12 out of 13 months.
2. The data shows the number of initial applications made and approved, and does not include multiple applications for those with more than one job, re-registrations of those who change employer, or those applications which did not result in a registration.
3. Figures are based on the address of the employer, not where the worker finds accommodation.
4. There is no deregistration information; the data only gives inflows.
5. The self-employed do not have to register.
6. The data was collected by the Home Office and issued to local authorities by the Audit Commission.
7. The data is based on Management Information, is provisional and may be subject to change. The data is not National Statistics.
8. Data is not cumulative and it is not possible to use it to make assumptions about how long people are staying in an area or how many are actually working in an area at any one time.
9. Only the 94% of approved applications which have an accurate postcode have been included. Those which could not be matched to the ONS database have been excluded from the numbers.
10. The dates are based on the date the application is approved, not the date on the application form which is used in the Audit Commission's Accession Monitoring Report.
11. This data does not include those who may be working in the underground or black economy, who thus evade taxation.

12. From the 1st of October 2008, the UK national minimum wage increased to £5.73/hr for workers over 22 and to £4.77/hr for 18-21 year olds.
13. National Insurance Number (NINo) registration by non-UK nationals also shows similar country of origin patterns to those shown here and broadly similar numbers of registrations. There are, however, differences between the two datasets. NINo data records by place of residence, and includes the self-employed, whereas the Workers Registration data records by place of work, and does not include the self-employed.
14. Pound-euro exchange rate used was £1:€1.26, from Reuters (5/6/2008).
15. Authorities should not rely on the 'dependent' data set for information on dependents as individuals who do not bring family members to the country initially may do so once established.
16. A2 migrants from Bulgaria and Romania (which joined the EU in January 2007) are subject to greater restrictions on entry to the UK than A8 migrants. They are not covered in the WRS.

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