

BALANCED MIGRATION



New housing enough to meet demand of new immigrants for just one week

9 September 2009

Commenting on the Government's announcement to build 2,000 council houses across England – billed as “the biggest of its kind over the past 20 years” – the Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP said:

“While the Government's announcement on council housing is welcome, the extra housing required for new migrants to Britain and their families would fill the 2,000 houses in just over a week. If the Government are really interested in tackling the housing problem, they should start by cutting back immigration to the level of emigration. That would reduce demand for new homes by nearly 40% - and is the only part of housing demand which the Government can directly influence.”

Notes to editors:

1. This is derived from the latest DCLG household projections (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/statistics/pdf/1172133.pdf>). See Table 6 which indicates that, on the principal projection, household formation will on average be 252,000. It also shows (bottom line) that with zero net migration, household formation would be only 153,000. Thus, 99,000 households a year will be formed as a result of net migration, on average, over the period 2006 – 2031. On page 7, DCLG recognise that 39% of the average annual increase is down to migration, with only 61% due to natural change.
2. For media enquiries, please contact the Office of Rt Hon Frank Field MP, on 020 7219 6636.
3. 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 Roger Godsiff MP, Peter Kilfoyle MP, David Taylor MP, Robert Key MP, Colin Burgon MP, Lord Ahmed, Lord Anderson, Lord Carey (former Archbishop of Canterbury) Baroness Cox, Field Marshal Lord Inge KG, GCB, PC, DL, Lord Skidelsky, Lord Wakeham and Lord Ramsbotham.
4. For more information, please visit www.balancedmigration.com.