

## Migration Advisory Committee welcomes salary threshold commission

On 24 June 2019, the government commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to carry an in depth analysis of potential future salary thresholds and the range at which they could be set.

The Chair of the MAC, Professor Alan Manning, responded to the letter accepting and welcoming the commission.

The MAC is expected to produce their final report and recommendations in January 2020.

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## Chance for residents to give views on new homes for Medomsley

- Proposals for £25m development led by Homes England unveiled to public
- Local people invited to have their say

The first proposals for the £25 million development at Corbridge Road, Medomsley Edge will go on show at a public consultation event on Thursday 27th June.

The redevelopment is being led by Homes England, the government's national housing agency, who are working closely with Durham County Council to develop a masterplan for the site.

Following the consultation it's hoped an outline planning application for the scheme will be ready for submission by mid- summer.

Initial plans include provision for 150 two, three and four bedroom homes on the site, with the remaining land becoming public open space.

Phil Jones, Senior Development Manager for Homes England said:

"Medomsley is well located for local people commuting to Durham and Newcastle and the proposals for Medomsley Edge will help to create much needed, high quality homes in an area where they want to live.

"We look forward to revealing our vision for the development to the community and hearing their thoughts about the shape it should take."

Tom Baker, Associate Director for Savills who are working with Homes England

on plans for the site added:

“this scheme will deliver a positive use for a site which has been vacant for several years; providing new family housing which will support existing communities at Medomsley and Shotley Bridge whilst significantly improving the environmental quality and setting of the site. Previously developed sites of this scale are an important part of meeting housing needs nationally.”

The consultation event will be held at the Methodist Church Hall in Medomsley (situated on Fines Rd next to the ‘Top Shop’) between 3pm and 7pm on Thursday 27th June. Visitors will have the opportunity to view the plans for the development, speak to the project team, have their questions answered and share their feedback.

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For more information contact Sarah Foulkes, Communications Officer at Homes England. Tel: 0161 200 6130/ 07967 782 162 or email [sarah.foulkes@homesengland.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.foulkes@homesengland.gov.uk)

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## Home Secretary asks independent migration experts to advise on future salary thresholds

The Home Secretary Sajid Javid has today (Monday 24 June) asked the Migration Advisory Committee to review and advise on salary thresholds for the future immigration system, which will start to take effect from 2021.

The Migration Advisory Committee previously recommended that we should retain the existing minimum salary thresholds in the future immigration system, which includes paying experienced workers at least £30,000, and new entrants (including recent graduates) at least £20,800.

The Home Secretary has asked the Migration Advisory Committee to consider how future salary thresholds should be calculated, the levels of salary thresholds, whether there is a case for regional salary thresholds for different parts of the UK, and whether there should be exceptions to salary thresholds, for example because they’ve newly started the occupation or because they work in an occupation in shortage.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid said:

It’s vital the new immigration system continues to attract talented people to grow our economy and support business while controlling

our borders.

These proposals are the biggest change to our immigration system in a generation, so it's right that we consider all of the evidence before finalising them.

That's why I've asked independent experts to review the evidence on salary thresholds. It's crucial the new immigration system works in the best interests of the whole of the UK.

After publishing plans for the new skills-based immigration system in December 2018, the government has embarked on a year-long engagement programme with business and employers up and down the UK.

In the white paper, the government said it would engage with businesses and employers on the salary threshold. Since then, the Home Office has held over 100 events across the UK, engaging 1,500 stakeholders representing businesses and employers. It has also set up five advisory groups to deepen engagement between government and industry.

The new immigration system will mark the end of free movement and introduce a new route for skilled workers which favours experience and talent over nationality.

It already includes measures designed to support business, such as:

- removing the cap on skilled worker numbers
- speeding up processing times for work visas
- scrapping resident labour market tests
- widening the skills thresholds so that anyone with the equivalent of A levels can apply under the new skilled workers route

To help organisations adjust to the new system, as a transitional measure, there will be a temporary work route allowing workers from some countries to come for a year and work, open to all skill levels.

The Migration Advisory Committee is expected to report back by January 2020 when the government will consider all the evidence before finalising plans. The new immigration system will be phased in from 2021.

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## **[Guidance: Rural Payments: registering and updating your details](#)**

How to register and update your personal, business and land details on the Rural Payments service (including RLE1 guidance).

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## **Corporate information: Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs – Statistics at Defra**

We publish national and official statistics relating to the environment, rural communities, food, farming and biosecurity.