

BALANCED **MIGRATION**



26 November 2009

IMMIGRATION STATISTICS: POPULATION ON TRACK TO HIT 70 MILLION

30% fall in net immigration in 2008 due to East Europeans leaving, not
Government policies

Population on target to reach 70 million in about 20 years

Commenting on immigration statistics for 2008, which show the UK is on track for 3 million immigrants since 1997, the Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration, Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP, said:

“Today's figures reveal that the 30% drop in net immigration in 2008 was almost entirely due to a fall in net migration from Eastern Europe. These migrants are not affected by government immigration policies which appear to have had little or no effect on the overall scale of immigration. The time has come for all parties to stop ducking the issue and develop serious measures to reduce immigration to acceptable levels, not dish out yet more spoonfuls of spin.”

Notes to editors:

1. For media enquiries, please contact Patrick White in the office of Rt Hon Frank Field MP, Tel. 020 7219 6636.
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 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.
3. For more information, please visit www.balancedmigration.com.