



## **Unemployment hitting British born workers harder than those born overseas**

**17 June 2009**

New jobs figures out today show that, in year Q1 2008 – Q1 2009, the number of UK born people in employment fell by 451,000 and the number of non-UK born people in work rose by 129,000. The number of non-UK born people in employment has risen by more than 50 per cent in the last six years, from 2.5 million in 2003Q1 to 3.8m in 2009Q1.

Commenting on the figures, the Co-Chairmen of the Cross Party Group on Balanced Migration, Frank Field MP and Nicholas Soames MP, said:

“It is now undeniable that unemployment is hitting British-born workers harder than those born overseas. British born employment has fallen by nearly half a million in the past year. Of particular interest is the employment rate by country of birth, which shows that the rate has increased by about 3 per cent over the past year for those born in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh, while the employment rate for all other countries of birth – including the UK - has fallen. This can only be the result of significant immigration by workers from those countries under the so-called “tough” Points Based System. With dole queues lengthening every month, the Government must cut back sharply on immigration of foreign workers, as we have been urging since last autumn.”

### **Notes to editors**

1. For media enquiries, please contact Patrick White on 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 Tobias Ellwood MP, Roger Godsiff MP, Peter Kilfoyle MP, David Taylor MP, Lord Ahmed, Lord Anderson, Lord Carey (former Archbishop of Canterbury) Baroness Cox, Field Marshal Lord Inge KG, GCB, PC, DL, Lord Skidelsky and Lord Wakeham.
3. For more information, please visit [www.balancedmigration.com](http://www.balancedmigration.com).