

Southern Cross Group E-Bulletin to Members

23 June 2002

Work Permits for Australians in the UK

INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO EMPLOY AUSTRALIANS AND OTHER NON-EU NATIONALS IN BRITAIN AND THOSE WHO HOLD WORK PERMITS

The UK Home Office is inviting public comment on its consultation document "Charging for the Consideration of Work Permit Applications in Great Britain".

Input is requested by Friday 5 July 2002.

The consultation paper can be read at:

[http://www.workpermits.gov.uk/filestore/DFES_WORK_PERM\[1\].pdf](http://www.workpermits.gov.uk/filestore/DFES_WORK_PERM[1].pdf)

Essentially, the Home Office (Work Permits (UK)) is intending to introduce a flat rate fee of between £75 and £95 payable by prospective employers for the consideration of each work permit application. This would apply from January 2003.

The Home Office hopes that the introduction of charges will enable it to continue to deliver its current service standards. Ninety percent of completed work permit applications are decided within one day.

The Southern Cross Group will not be making a submission to the Home Office on this matter. However, if you are an employer in the UK, or if you are the holder of a work permit in the UK, you may wish to comment.

You can provide your views on the proposals to introduce fees for the consideration of work permit applications by using the Home Office online questionnaire at:

<http://www.workpermits.gov.uk/default.asp?PageId=2785>

You can also view the Initial Regulatory Impact Assessment of the proposed changes here:

<http://www.workpermits.gov.uk/filestore/ria.pdf>

If you do not use the online questionnaire, you can send your views to:

Home Office
Work Permits (UK)
Consultation Unit, DfES
Level 1B,
Castle View
House
Runcorn
Cheshire WA27 3GJ
UK

Telephone 01928 794 888

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Best regards,

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