

Immigration

Immigration has always remained a controversial topic, it is an area that has appeared in the headlines of both the news and the newspapers and continues to dominate the headlines. Immigration plays an important part of our society. Over the years through immigration the UK has become, what is known to be a multicultural society. As a result, the UK has become vibrant and diverse.

The UK has always remained a predominant attraction for people from all over the world. There are many reasons for wanting to enter the UK, whether the purpose is for marriage, studying, working, settlement or to claim Asylum. Here, at Hatten Wyatt we are able to offer advice and assistants for you and/or your loved ones.

The Government intends to reduce net migration to tens of thousands a year. Various changes are expected to be made to immigration policies.

An example of one such change is the recently mandatory requirement that came into effect from the 29th November 2010, all Non-European migrants must show that they are able to speak and understand English if they want to enter or remain in the UK as the partner of a British Citizen

or person settled in the UK, unless an exemption applies to them. This requirement applies to those who wish to apply as the husband, wife, civil partner, finance(e), proposed civil partner unmarried partner or same-sex partner as the partner of a British Citizen or person settled in the UK.

Coming into the UK as the spouse of a person who is settled in the UK or a British Citizen

With the growing trend of marriages taking place abroad and equally British citizens and people who are settled in the UK marrying non UK residents from abroad, couples may wish to maintain and continue their relationship, here in the UK.

Certain requirements have to be met if you are subject to immigration control and you are married to or in a civil partnership with a British citizen or person who is settled here.

- It must be shown that the couple are legally married to each other or have registered a civil partnership;
- They are going to live together permanently as husband and wife, or as civil partners;



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- They have met one another;
- They can support themselves and any dependants without help from public funds;
- They have adequate accommodation where the couple can live without help from public funds; and
- Both the couple are at least 21 years old

If you require advice or assistance in bringing your spouse into the UK, here at Hatten Wyatt we are able to provide this service for you. If the application is successful, permission will be given to live and work in the UK for up to 27 months, known as the probationary period.

Towards the end of the two years (probationary period), it is then possible to apply for permission to settle permanently in the UK, known as indefinite leave to remain.

This article is intended to provide an overview of the legal position, however, it should be noted that the legal position in immigration law is changing rapidly and advice should be sought in relation to your individual circumstances.

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