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LIFE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Bakalářská práce

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This thesis is designed for Newcomers to United Kingdom (UK) and for those who are interested in living in the UK. It includes information explaining rights and responsibilities of people living in the UK. There is an analysis of those living in the region and their general opinion about the increasing number of immigrants in the UK. The outcome is a short brochure called “How to live in the UK and not get lost”, intended to give the right information on how to live in the UK without getting in trouble.

Tato práce je vytvořena pro nově příchozí do Velké Británie (VB) a ty, které zajímá život ve Velké Británii. Je tvořena z částí, které objasňují historii, práva a povinnosti osob žijících na území VB. Zahrnuje anlyzu obyvatel regionu a jejich veřejného mínění na rostoucí počet přistěhovalců do VB. Výsledkem práce je stručná brožura „Jak žít ve Velké Británii a přitom se neztratit“, která ukazuje správný směr jak žít v Anglii a přitom se nedostat do zbytečných problémů.

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4 INTRODUCTION

Since the Czech Republic has joined the EU in May 2004, many Czech people came to live and work in the UK. But are they ready? Do they know how to find the right work and accommodation? My experience is that not all of them are 100% prepared.

The target of my work is to analyse the problems experienced by immigrants entering the United Kingdom (UK), primarily those from the Czech Republic. The outcome of the work is the development of a brochure designed to anticipate and overcome the most commonly experienced problems. The brochure will describe life in the United Kingdom (UK) and the rights and responsibilities of people living there.

Working as an interpreter has given me excellent access to the kind of problems experienced by the Czech and Slovak immigrants coming to Peterborough. It has also given me the opportunity to meet British citizens and find out their opinion about the increasing number of immigrants. This information has been used to construct and analyse the questionnaires.

As I have worked, I have collected data from Peterborough City Council, Home Office web sites, New Link, Peterborough Library, Job Centre Plus, Office for National Statistics web sites and Peterborough citizens. Everyone has kindly provided requested information. This information has been used for the theoretical part of this thesis.

In the analytical part I have analysed Peterborough citizens opinions that was based on the questionnaire resolving. In this questionnaire, I have analysed the public opinion about the increasing number of immigrants in the United Kingdom. I have also created a brochure called "How to live in the United Kingdom and not get lost". This brochure has been composed in Czech and English language.

I believe many people coming to the UK from the Czech Republic would find this brochure very useful. Being better prepared would make the procedure easier for the immigrant as well as the agencies involved.

5 THEORETICAL PART

5.1 History of Czech migration

Until the year 1989, citizens from Czechoslovakia who emigrated did so without any possibility of coming back. Since 1990 the immigration process has worked in both directions– incoming and outgoing. The important part of migration was the recession of the Russian occupation powers in 1990 – 1991 involving more than 100 000 people, including families. Later, the majority of young German nationals chose to emigrate to Germany. There have been several waves of people returning after the fall of the communists. The number of international business communities in Prague has increased. People were coming for this unknown post-communist world that was full of new potentialities. In addition, the movement of war refugees from Yugoslavia has been focused on the Czech Republic. The immigration has not dramatically affected the dominating national homogeneity, although it has slightly disturbed the cultural homogeneity.

From the historical point of view, the Czech countries have been under strong foreign powers pressure, which has affected, in various dimensions, on their nationhood, political regime, religion, language and nationality. The outcome was generally the economic exploitation of Czech countries and conflict with national, state and language identities. Due to this confrontation, Czech society has gradually homogenized in its culture and language, very often in tragic terms. Thanks to the communist repression, the Czech society has been politically and socially unified, this has been done in a violent way. It has lost the power to guide its own cultural, politics, social and economical dynamics in its own territory.

The historical trend was to emigrate out of Czechoslovakia, rather than to immigrate in. The reason for emigration was mainly political. It was not motivated by the economical or estate benefits. People who have emigrated have lost their possession.

In the present 10,3 millions inhabitants there are 94 % of Czech citizens, who are declaring themselves as Czech, Moravian or Silesian. They are the majority using Czech language. There are 2 % of Slovaks in the Czech republic (193 000 inhabitants). Remaining 4 % are other nationalities; mainly Polish (52 000 inhabitants) and German (39 000 inhabitants). Only 0,1 % (12 000 inhabitants) are declaring themselves to be gypsies. However qualified estimates claim 200 000 Gypsy citizens.

The Ministry of Internal affairs statistics issued on the 30th March 2002 shows 222 000 foreigners. The majority with permit to permanent residence are from Slovakia (57 000), Ukraine (55 000), Vietnam (26 000), Poland (17 000) and Russia (13 000). Nevertheless, the actual figure will be higher due to the illegal migration and high number of countries without a visa requirement. However, the Czech society remains homogenous and Czech.

The internal migration (study, marriages, work) has become an international migration due to the break up of Czechoslovakia in 1993. The movements between Czech and Slovak inhabitants continue, but they are lower and more asymmetrical. More people are migrating from Slovakia to the Czech republic rather than the other way round. A

powerful motive is migration of knowledge, qualified labour and low qualified labour due to better-paid manual work.

Slovak students are traditionally migrating to the Czech Republic. At Czech universities, they can study free of charge – in contrast to the other foreigners. The number of Slovak students studying at Czech universities is dramatically higher than the number of Czech students studying at Slovakian universities. Approximately 70 % of them are intending to stay in the Czech Republic and to work there. At present there are about 4000 Slovakian students studying in the Czech Republic whilst in Slovakia only 300 Czech students are studying.

Polish people were coming one by one, due to the economical reasons. Workers who came to the Czech Republic in the seventies and eighties formed the base. Their integration is without major complications.

The arrival of Vietnamese had economical roots. It was based on governmentally organised migration from communist North Vietnam to communistic Czechoslovakia. The first wave came in the sixties; next main waves came in the seventies and eighties. Due to the different culture, the Vietnamese community trends toward isolation. They would only keep business or working contact with Czech people. Present of the Vietnamese did not bring any serious problems yet, but we can expect their gradual dissemination.

Another group of immigrants is based on citizens of the former countries of Soviet Union. Their most common reason for refugee and asylum to escape from is a difficult economical situation.

Parts of temporal migration are foreigners from West Europe and North America. It consists of people working in international companies based in the Czech republic. Another part are those who came to the Czech Republic in early nineties to gain an experience and because of different cultural and social environment. These who have stayed form a specific community and they earn their living mainly by teaching English.

The Czech society is still afraid of immigrants, especially those coming from a different non-European culture. It sees them as incongruous and incompatible with a Czech background. The Czech society values its homogenous national and linguistic neighbourhood. Immigrants will be required to adapt.

5.2 Migration to Britain – a changing society

If we go back far enough in time, almost everyone living in Britain today may be seen to have their origins elsewhere. We are a nation of immigrants – able to trace our roots to countries throughout Europe, Russia, the Middle East, Asia and the Caribbean. In the past immigrant groups came to invade and to seize land. More recently, people have come to Britain to find safety and in search of jobs and a better life.

Britain is proud of its tradition of providing a safe haven for people fleeing persecution and conflict. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, Protestant Huguenots from France came to Britain to escape religious persecution. The terrible famine in Ireland in the mid 1840s led to a surge of migration to the British mainland, where Irish labourers provided much of the workforce for the construction of canals and railways.

Between 1880 – 1910, large numbers of Jewish people came to Britain from what are now Poland, Ukraine and Belarus to escape the violence they faced at home. Unhappily, in the 1930s, fewer were able to leave Germany and central Europe in time to escape the Nazi Holocaust, which claimed the lives of 6 million people.

5.2.1 Migration since 1945

At the end of Second World War, there was the huge task of rebuilding Britain after six years of war. With not enough people available for work, the British government encouraged workers from other parts of Europe to help with the process of reconstruction. In 1948, the invitation was extended to people in Ireland and the West Indies.

A shortage of labour in Britain continued throughout the 1950s and some UK industries launched advertising campaigns to attract workers from overseas. Centres were set up in the West Indies to recruit bus crews, and textile and engineering firms in the north of England and the Midlands sent agents to find workers in India and Pakistan. For about 25 years people from the West Indies, India, Pakistan, and later Bangladesh, travelled to work and settle in Britain.

In the 1970s, migration from these areas fell after the Government passed new laws restricting immigration to Britain. However, during this period, Britain admitted 28,000 people of Indian origin who had been forced to leave Uganda and 22,000 refugees from South East Asia. In the 1980s, the largest immigrants groups were from the United States, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Honkong, Singapore and Malaysia.

With the fall of the Iron Curtain and the break-up of the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and early 1990s, other groups began to come to Britain, seeking a new and safer way of life. Since 1994 there has been a rise in the numbers moving to Britain from Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa and the Indian sub-continent, many of whom have sought political asylum. Migrants to Britain, however, face increasingly tighter controls, as the Government attempts to prevent unauthorised immigration and to examine more closely the claims of those seeking asylum.

5.3 *Britain today*

The government, as all governments do, faces many problems. Some are international arising from differences of opinion on the war in Iraq, whether we are too close or not to policies of USA rather than EU, or whether we should be more independent from either. Some problems are domestic: differences about taxation, pensions, law and order, health, education and immigration and asylum policies.

Britain in the twenty first century is a more mobile and far less class-conscious society than at the beginning of the twentieth century. Almost everybody is far better off in real terms, even if the gap between rich and poor has recently been increasing. The health of people has never been better. Infant mortality is low and people live longer, even if there are some marked differences between social classes.

Britain is also more pluralistic society both in ethnic and religious composition than a hundred years ago. Post-war immigration now means that nearly ten percent of the population has a parent or grandparent born outside this country. Most people welcome or at least tacitly accept the economic need for this new wave of diversity. A few do not. There is still racism, even if far less in the past and it is actively combated both by opinion and by law enforcement. We have been, after all, a multi-national and multi-cultural society for a long time now without losing both our over-arching British identity or our Scottish, Welsh, Irish or English cultural and national identities. New identities and loyalties can fit into this picture of dual identities, with a common patriotism rather than strident ethnic nationalism. It all works reasonably well so long as no identities are asserted as exclusive of the others.

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5.4 *Peterborough profile – analysed area*



Picture 1. Peterborough

Peterborough is situated in the United Kingdom, lies mid-way between the East Anglian coast and the Midlands. There is a total of 156 072 people as resident in Peterborough and its area is 34 338 hectares. The population density is 4,57 people per hectare and the average household size is 2,37 people per house.

Just over half of the population are female (51,3 %) and just under half are male (48,7 %). The majority of the population (85,7 %) described their ethnicity as “White British”. A further 4 % of people described themselves as “White Irish” or “White Other”.

In Peterborough at the present the unemployment rate is 4,4 %.

Back in 2000 - 2001, according to the terms of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1999, Peterborough and was designated immigration ‘dispersal areas’. In order to relieve pressure on the overburdened parts of England’s south-east corner, namely London and Kent, asylum seekers in need of support were to be dispersed throughout the country ‘on a no-choice basis’. Dispersal areas were selected according to certain key criteria. These were that suitable housing should be available, that an established multicultural population should exist in the area, and that local community and voluntary sector support organisations should have adequate scope for development in order to accommodate the needs of new arrivals. Peterborough was deemed suitable for the purpose.

According to the most recent data (2001), nearly 90% of Peterborough’s total population of 156 061 describe themselves as ‘white’, with the largest minority ethnic groups being Pakistanis (4.5%) and Indians (1.8%). The city is also home to a range of other national and ethnic groups, including those from Ireland, Italy, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and the Caribbean.

From most recent statistics we can say that 2.8% of Peterborough’s population was born elsewhere in the EU and nearly 7% was born outside the EU.

It is important to note that numbers of refugees and asylum seekers in Peterborough are difficult to estimate due to a lack of adequate data and research related to:

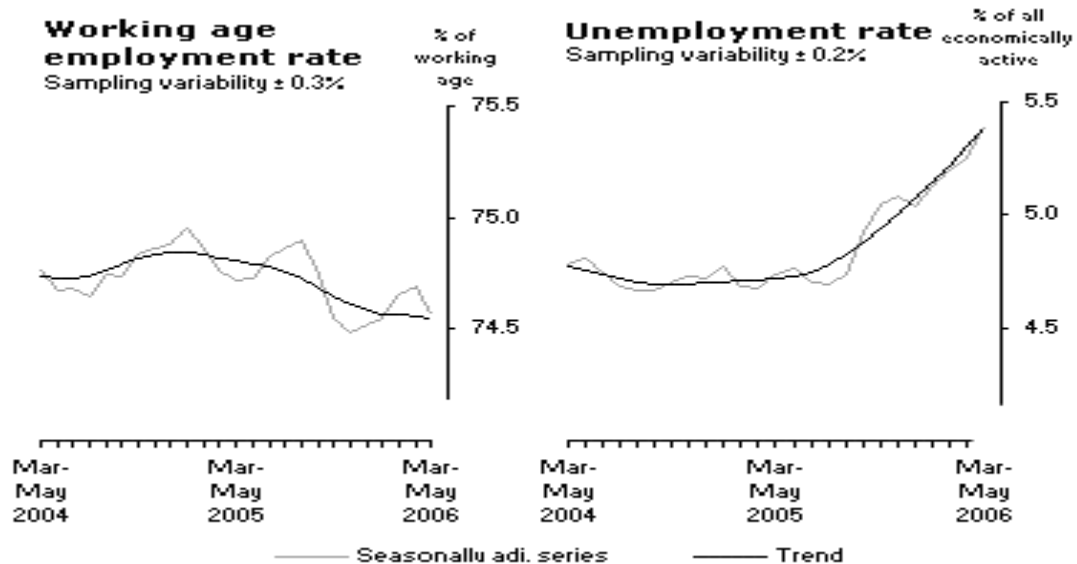
- the economic contribution made by refugees and economic migrants in the UK
- the level of unemployment and underemployment among refugees
- the engagement of asylum seekers in irregular employment
- their skills and qualifications on arrival

The Home Office Immigration Research and Statistics Service is currently examining the feasibility of using its audit to create a baseline for a survey.

[3]

5.5 Statistics

5.5.1 Employment and unemployment rates in the UK 2004 – 2006



Graph 1. Employment and unemployment rates in the UK

The downward trend in the employment rate has levelled off while the trend in the unemployment rate continues to increase. The number of people claiming Jobseeker's Allowance benefit and the number of job vacancies have both increased. The employment rate for people of working age was 74,6 % for the three months ending in May 2006.

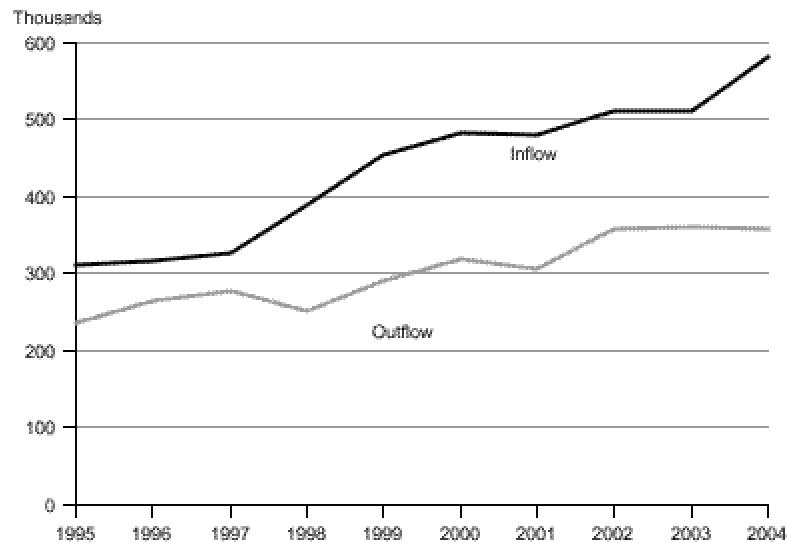
The number of people in employment for the three months ending in May 2006 was 28,9 million. This is an increase of 223 000 over the year. Although employment has increased, total hours worked per week fell by 2,2 million over the quarter to 923,9 million. This is mainly due to a fall in average hours worked by men.

The unemployment rate was 5,4 %, up 0,7 over the year. The number of unemployed people increased by 224 000 over the year, to reach 1,65 million.

The annual rate of growth in average earnings (the AEI) was 3,8 % in May 2006. The average number of job vacancies for the three months to June 2006 was 598,100. This was up 1,900 on the previous quarter but down 34,600 over the year. The redundancy rate for the three months to May 2006 was 5.9 per 1,000 employees.

Notes: People in employment, unemployed and economically inactive make up the total household population aged 16 and over, measured through the Labour Force Survey on a consistent basis since 1971. Working age is defined as 16-64 for men and 16-59 for women.

5.5.2 International migration



Graph 2. International migration - net inflow and outflow

In 2004 an estimated 223 000 more people migrated to the UK than migrated abroad. This estimated net inflow is much higher than for 2003 when 151 000 more people arrived to live in the UK than left to live abroad.

A key reason for this increase was the expansion of the EU in May 2004. Net inflows of non-British EU citizens to the UK increased from 14 000 in 2003 to 74 000 in 2004. Citizens of the ten EU accession countries made up an estimated four fifths of the increase between 2003 and 2004.

The UK has experienced increasing levels of both inward and outward international migration in recent years. Over the past decade migration into the country increased from 314 000 in 1994 to 582 000 in 2004, with most of the increase to inflows occurring after 1997. Out-migration increased more quickly than inflows but to a lesser extent, from 238 000 in 1994 to 360 000 in 2004.

Migration is generally most common among younger adult age groups.

In 2003 the 15 to 24 and the 25 to 44 age groups together accounted for the large majority of both in-migrants (84 %) and out-migrants (75 %). Both in-migrants and out-migrants were slightly more likely to be male than female. Study or work are the main reasons for migration. In 2003 more than one quarter of all in-migrants (135 000 people) came to study in the UK. More than one fifth (114 000 in-migrants) came for work-related reasons and had a specific job to go to.

In 2003, around two fifths of British citizens out-migrating were moving to other countries in the EU and over one quarter to Australia or New Zealand.

The ten countries that joined the EU in May 2004 were: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia. International migration estimates up to and including 2003 do not include these countries in the EU. Citizens of these countries were first included as EU citizens in the international migration estimates for 2004.

5.6 *Research methods and the overall goal in selecting methods*

The overall goal in selecting basic business research method(s) is to get the most useful information to key decision makers in the most cost-effective and realistic way.

5.6.1 *What you need consider*

- what information is needed to make current decisions about a product or program?
- of this information, how much can be collected and analysed in a low-cost and practical manner, e.g. using questionnaires, surveys and checklists?
- how accurate will the information be?
- will the methods get all of the needed information?
- what additional methods should and could be used if additional information is needed?
- will the information appear as credible to decision makers?
- will the nature of the audience conform to the methods, e.g. will they fill out questionnaires carefully, let you examine their documentations?
- how can the information be analysed?

Note that, ideally, the researcher uses a combination of methods. For example, a questionnaire to quickly collect a great deal of information from a lot of people, and then interviews to get more in-depth information from certain respondents to the questionnaires.

There are many ways of how to do a research. Here are some of them with explanation of their overall purposed, advantages and disadvantages.

5.6.2 *How to do a research*

Questionnaires, surveys and checklists

When you need to quickly and/or easily get lots of information from people in a non-threatening way.

Advantages are: can be completed anonymously, inexpensive to administer, easy to compare and analyse, administer to many people, can get lots of data, many sample questionnaires already exist.

Disadvantages are: you might not get careful feedback, wording can bias client's responses and they are impersonal. In surveys you may need sampling expert, you don't get full story.

Interviews

When you want to fully understand someone's impressions or experiences, or learn more about their answers to questionnaires

Advantages are: you get full range and depth of information, develops relationship with client, can be flexible with client.

Disadvantages are: can take much time, can be hard to analyse and compare, can be costly, interviewer can bias client's responses.

Observation

- helps to gather accurate information about how a program actually operates, particularly about processes.

Advantages are: view operations of a program as they are actually occurring, can adapt to events as they occur.

Disadvantages are: can be difficult to interpret seen behaviours, can be complex to categorize observations, can influence behaviours of program participants, can be expensive.

Case studies

- helps to fully understand or depict client's experiences in a program, and conduct comprehensive examination through cross comparison of cases.

Advantages are: fully depicts client's experience in program input, process and results. Powerful means to portray program to outsiders.

Disadvantages are: usually quite time consuming to collect, organize and describe. Represents depth of information, rather than width.

Focus groups

- explore a topic in depth through group discussion, e.g., about reactions to an experience or suggestion, understanding common complaints, etc. useful in evaluation and marketing.

Advantages are: quickly and reliably get common impressions, can be efficient way to get much range and depth of information in short time, can convey key information about programs.

Disadvantages are: can be hard to analyse responses, need good facilitator for safety and closure, difficult to schedule 6-8 people together.

5.6.3 Questionnaires

Questionnaires are an inexpensive way to gather data from a potentially large number of respondents. Often they are the only feasible way to reach a number of reviewers large enough to allow statistically analysis of the results.

A well-designed questionnaire that is used effectively can gather information on both the overall performance of the test system as well as information on specific components of the system. If the questionnaire includes demographic questions on the participants, they can be used to correlate performance and satisfaction with the test system among different groups of users.

It is important to remember that a questionnaire should be viewed as a multi-stage process beginning with definition of the aspects to be examined and ending with interpretation of the results. Every step needs to be designed carefully because the final results are only as good as the weakest link in the questionnaire process. Although questionnaires may be cheap to administer compared to other data collection methods, they are every bit as expensive in terms of design time and interpretation.

The steps required to design and administer a questionnaire include:

1. Defining the Objectives of the survey
2. Determining the Sampling Group
3. Writing the Questionnaire
4. Administering the Questionnaire
5. Interpretation of the Results

5.6.4 Basics of developing questionnaires

1. Key Preparation

Before you start to design your questions, clearly articulate what problem or need is to be addressed using the information to be gathered by the questions. Review why you are doing the evaluation and what you hope to accomplish by it. This provides focus on what information you need and, ultimately, on what questions should be used.

2. Directions to Respondents

1. Include a brief explanation of the purpose of the questionnaire.
2. Include clear explanation of how to complete the questionnaire.
3. Include directions about where to provide the completed questionnaire.
4. Note conditions of confidentiality, e.g., who will have access to the information, if you are going to attempt to keep their answers private and only accessed by yourself and/or someone who will collate answers.

Note that you do not guarantee confidentiality about their answers. If a court sued to see answers, you would not likely be able to stop access to this information. However, you can assure that you will make every reasonable attempt to protect access to their answers.

3. Content of Questions

1. Ask about what you need to know, i.e., get information in regard to the goals or ultimate questions you want to address by the evaluation.
2. Will the respondent be able to answer your question, i.e., do they know the answer?
3. Will respondents want to answer the question, i.e., is it too private or silly?

4. Wording of Questions

1. Will the respondent understand the wording, i.e., are you using any slang, cultural-specific or technical words?
2. Are any words so strong that they might influence the respondent to answer a certain way? Attempt to avoid use of strong adjectives with nouns in the questions, e.g., "highly effective government," "prompt and reliable," etc.
3. To ensure you are asking one question at a time, avoid use of the word "and" in your question.
4. Avoid using "not" in your questions if you are having respondents answer "yes" or "no" to a question. Use of "not" can lead to double negatives, and cause confusion.
5. If you use multiple-choice questions, be sure your choices are mutually exclusive and encompass the total range of answers. Respondents should not be confused about whether two or more alternatives appear to mean the same thing. Respondents also should not have a clearly preferred answer that is not among the alternative choices of an answer to the question.

5. Order of Questions

1. Be careful not to include so many questions that potential respondents are dissuaded from responding.
2. Attempt to get recruit respondents' motivation to complete the questionnaire. Start with fact-based questions and then go on to opinion-based questions, e.g., ask people for demographic information about themselves and then go on to questions about their opinions and perspectives. This gets respondents engaged in the questionnaire and warmed up before more challenging and reflective questions about their opinions.

3. Attempt to get respondents' commentary in addition to their ratings, e.g., if the questionnaire asks respondents to choose an answer by circling an answer or provide a rating, ask them to provide commentary that explains their choices.
4. Include a question to get respondents' impressions of the questionnaire itself. For example, ask them if the questionnaire was straightforward to complete ("yes" or "no), and if not, to provide suggestions about how to improve the questionnaire.
5. Pilot or test your questionnaire on a small group of clients or fellow staff. Ask them if the form and questions seemed straightforward. Carefully review the answers on the questionnaires. Does the information answer the evaluation questions or provide what you want to know about the program or its specific services? What else would you like to know?

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5.7 *British citizenship*

If you have lived in the U.K. for at least three years and meet the requirements set down by the Home Office you can apply for British Citizenship through naturalisation.

The **legal requirements** you should meet before you are apply are that you:

- 1) Are aged 18 or over when you apply
- 2) Are of sound mind, so that you understand the step you are taking
- 3) Intend to continue to live in the UK, or to enter or continue in Crown Service, the service of an international organisation of which the UK is a member or the service of a company or association established in the UK
- 4) Can communicate in English (or Welsh or Scottish Gaelic) to an acceptable degree
- 5) Have sufficient knowledge about life in the UK (this requirement will apply to all applications received by the Home Office on or after 1 November 2005)
- 6) Are of good character
- 7) Have lived legally in the UK for a minimum of five years before you apply (three years if you are applying on the basis of marriage to a British citizen) and are free from immigration time restrictions.

Application for citizenship

Information on how to make an application for British citizenship, application forms and guidance notes can be found on the Home Office Immigration and Nationality Directorate website: www.ind.homeoffice.gov.uk.

Nationality Checking Service (NCS)

The Nationality Checking Service is an arrangement between local councils and the Home Office that allows you to make an application, in person, at your local council offices.

In Peterborough you can apply at the Register Office. The nationality checking service team will make sure that your application form is properly completed and is accompanied by all the necessary supporting documents and the correct fee. This will help your application to be resolved more quickly when it reaches the Home Office.

The nationality checking team will photocopy and certify valuable documents such as passports and will send the applications to the Home Office by special delivery post. If you use this service you will be able to keep your current passports rather than sending them to the Home Office.

This service is optional and you will be charged a fee if you choose to use it. The present fees can be found on the **Register Office** web pages:

<http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/page-337>

Level of English language required

Before you can apply for citizenship you will need to be able to show that you can speak and read English to ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Entry Level 3.

If you have not reached ESOL Entry 3 you will need to gain an approved English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) qualification through attending an ESOL course which includes citizenship materials at a local college.

You will need to take a short test to show your knowledge of Life in the U.K. and confirm your skills in understanding English.

5.8 *Rights in the UK*

Everyone in the UK is protected by the Human Rights Act passed by the government in 1998. Every one has a right to:

- Life
- Prohibition of torture, slavery and forced labour
- Liberty and security
- A fair trial
- No punishment without law
- Respect for their private and family life
- Freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Freedom of expression
- Assembly and freedom of association
- Freedom to marry
- Prohibition of discrimination
- Protection of property
- Education
- Free elections
- Prohibition of the death penalty

Equal opportunities

In the UK, there are laws to ensure that people are not treated unfairly because of their sex, race or disability. Discrimination laws in the UK protect people in areas like work, education, shopping and leisure.

O'BRIEN [2, s. 10]

5.9 Institutions and benefits

You may be entitled to claim and receive benefits from the government if you:

- have a disability
- are unable to find employment
- are a carer for a relative or a friend
- have low income

Most common benefits are:

- Housing Benefit
- Council Tax Benefit
- Income Support
- Working Families Tax Credit
- Disabled Person Tax Credit
- Job Seekers Allowance
- Incapacity Benefit, etc.

Nationals of new European Union states must register themselves as a worker at Home Office (Worker Registration Scheme - WRS) and work for one year before becoming entitled to Social Security benefits.

O'BRIEN [2, s. 29, 30]

5.9.1 Jobcentre Plus



Picture 2. Jobcentre Plus logo

Majority of your questions regarding benefits and work will be answered at Jobcentre Plus. It is a government agency supporting people of working age from welfare into work, and helping employers to fill their vacancies. It is a part of the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP).

The key objectives of Jobcentre Plus are:

- Increase the effective supply of labour by promoting work as the best form of welfare and helping unemployed and economically inactive people move into employment
- Work towards parity of outcomes for ethnic minority customers
- Pay customers the correct benefit at the right time and protect the benefit system from fraud, error and abuse
- Provide high-quality and demand-led services to employers, which help fill job vacancies quickly and effectively with well-prepared and motivated employees
- Help people facing the greatest barriers to employment to compete effectively in the labour market and move into and remain in work
- Improve continuously the quality, accessibility and delivery of services to all customers.

5.9.2 Home Office

The Home Office is the government department responsible for ensuring we live in a safe, just and tolerant society by putting public protection at the heart of all we do. We are responsible for the police in England and Wales, national security, the justice system and immigration.

To protect the public, Home Office focus on six key objectives:

- protecting the nation from terrorist attack
- cutting crime, especially violent and drug-related crime
- enabling people to feel safer in their homes and daily lives, particularly through more visible, responsive and accountable local policing
- securing our borders, preventing abuse of our immigration laws and **managing migration** to boost the UK
- rebalancing the criminal justice system in favour of the law-abiding majority and the victim
- managing offenders, to protect the public and reduce re-offending.

5.9.3 Worker Registration Scheme at Home Office



Picture 3. Home Office logo

As is mentioned above in chapter **5.9 Employment**, workers from EEA countries that joined the EU on 1 May 2004 and who wish to work for more than one month in the UK are required to register under the Workers Registration Scheme (WRS) as soon as they find work.

Who has to register?

The scheme applies to nationals of the following accession states: Poland, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Hungary and Czech Republic.

You need to apply for a registration certificate under the WRS if you are a citizen of one of the countries listed above and:

You start a new job on or after 1 May 2004;

You have been working in the UK before 1 May 2004 without authorisation/in breach of your immigration conditions;

You are working on a short-term or temporary basis; or

You are a student who is also working.

When you should apply?

Accession state nationals who are required to register should apply for a registration certificate as soon as they start a new job, and **within one month** of starting a job at the very latest. You should only apply for registration if you are already working for a UK employer. Your application form and fee will be returned to you if it is clear that you are not working.

How does the scheme work?

If your application is successful you will be issued with a worker registration card and a certificate authorising you to work for your employer. Your registration card, certificate and passport or National Identity card will be posted to you by recorded delivery to your home address. Your passport/National Identity Card will be returned by recorded delivery.

If you **change employer** or take up additional employment you will have to apply for a registration certificate authorising you to work for your new employer. You will then be provided with a new certificate, which authorises you to work for that employer. No new registration card will be issued; therefore, no fee will have to be paid for this type of application.

After 12 months of work without interruption of more than 30 days in total, you, the worker will acquire full Treaty rights and will be free from the requirement to register. You will be able to apply for an EEA residence permit to confirm this. Evidence of 12 months uninterrupted employment, includes the worker registration card and supporting registration certificates for each of the employers you have worked for, letters from employers, and payslips. The scheme is based on continuity of employment – there is no restriction on the number of employers you can have at any one time.

The Fee

There is a fee of **£70** for a registration card and certificate issued under the WRS.

Once a registration card and certificate have been issued, subsequent applications are **free of charge**.

Each application to register must be accompanied by a payment of £70. We cannot begin the consideration process until the full payment has been processed and cleared.

Do I need to pay a fee?

Yes, unless you already hold a registration card and certificate, you must pay the £70 fee as required by law. If you fail to do so, your application can not be considered and will be returned to you.

6 ANALYTICAL PART

6.1 Questionnaire

6.1.1 Introduction

Objectives

First, I have defined the objectives of the survey. This was to analyse the opinions of British citizens about the increasing number of immigrants.

Before I have started designing the questions, I had to identify the exact information needed, this being problems caused by the increasing number of the immigrants, especially in Peterborough. The level of immigrants there is higher than average in the UK.

Determining the sampling group

3 most important aspect for this survey were:

- **geographical aspect:** to target Peterborough residents. Its population is over 150 000 – sampling group big enough to gain **150 respondents**.
- **national aspect:** British citizens – objective of this survey is to analyse the opinions of British citizens. This is a very important condition to realize the survey.
- **timing aspect:** to complete the questionnaire takes 5 to 10 minutes. Due to this fact, I had to find a sampling group which would have enough time and also would not mind doing the questionnaire.

Suitable places were public houses, cafés, waiting rooms and libraries, places where people relax from the hectic life and have a break.

I have introduced the questionnaire and briefly explained the purpose to each respondent. I have asked every respondent to feel free to give honest answers, as this questionnaire is anonymous.

Content of questions

I needed to get information about British opinion on the increasing level of immigrants in the UK and if they agree with this fact and how do they feel about it, if they think that there are too many immigrants, if there should be any restrictions, if their employment opportunities have been affected by immigrants, etc.

I had to word the questions very carefully, as this is a delicate topic. I have avoided using any slang or cultural specific words which could lead to misunderstanding.

I have also avoided using strong words, which could lead or influence the respondents. I took special care with asking only one question at a time.

Order of questions

The 12 questions are designed not to frighten respondents with a long, time consuming questionnaire.

It starts with a fact-based questions (man – woman, age, employment status) and then it continues with opinion-based questions. This gets respondents engaged in the questionnaire and warmed up before more challenging and reflective questions about their opinions.

When the questionnaire was created, I tested it on a small group of friends, who could advise me if the questions were straightforward and if there were any deficiencies.

Administering the questionnaire

The Excel spreadsheet was used to manipulate the data. Information was recorded as 1 for positive answer in order to make analysis quicker and easier.

In this way, it became possible to group the subjects by age, gender or any other variable. The SORT function means that, for example, we can see the preferences of man from a certain age or employment group.

The graphs function was used to produce a large number of pie charts. Those charts illustrate the points and give the information in an easy to read format. By colour coding it is possible to compare data on different charts with great ease. Because the graph function is so easy to use, a large number of graphs can be generated and from these a few of the most useful charts can be selected.

Through the process, the file was frequently saved and backed up. After using the sort function, changes were deleted to ensure that the data was not compromised by the re-arrangement of some of the cells.

6.1.3 Interpretation of the results

The total number of respondents is 150. Every effort has been made to ask equal numbers of men and women. The numbers were 79 men (53 %) and 71 women (47 %)

The age groups reflect the location chosen for the survey.

Most respondents were in the age group between 16 – 24 (43 respondents, 29 %) and the age group 35 – 44 (35 respondents, 23 %).

Least respondents are in age group 25 – 34 (15 %) and 45 – 54 (15 %).

The employment status of 20 % of all respondents is Professional.

There is 18 % of skilled trade respondents, 15 % of administrators or shop workers, 14 % are in a managerial position.

13 % of respondents (10 % of women and 12 % of men) are unemployed.

The number of unemployed people is higher than the average in the UK.

45 % of all respondents (37 % of women and 53 % of men) think that Peterborough has **a higher than average number of immigrants** and it is too many of them.

Only 8 % of all respondents (6 % of women and 10 % of men) think that not at all many immigrants. There is a higher number of immigrants in Peterborough, comparing to the average in the UK.

63 % of all respondents (67 % of women and 60 % of men) think that

the number of immigrants should be reduced. In this case, women were more critical. Women suffer more from job opportunities so they are more likely to think that there are too many immigrants.

Only 5 % of all respondents (3 % of women and 8 % of men) think that **the number of immigrants** should increase.

78 % of all respondents (84 % of women and 73 % of men) think that there should be **restrictions on the number of people coming to live in the UK**. Again, women were more critical than men. It could be again because of less job opportunities.

13 % of all respondents (9 % of women and 18 % of men) think there should not be any restrictions.

The area where British people commonly feel the greatest **advantage from the immigrants** is in the area of employment (28 %), both men and women.

However this is comparable with the 20 % of people who feel that there is no benefit.

The second common area is UK economy with 25 % and cuisine with 21 %.

18 % of all respondents do not know which areas are advantages.

The disadvantage of immigrants was registered at a higher rate (45 %) for housing, 41 % for benefits and 35 % for employment.

Only 8 % responded stated that there are no disadvantages, compared to the 20 % who felt there were no advantages. This suggests that the perception is that the overall presence of immigrants is a disadvantage.

61 % of all respondents (71 % of woman and 52 % of man) has answered that their **employment opportunities have not been affected by immigrants.**

25 % of all respondents (19 % of women and 32 % of men) has answered that their **employment opportunities have been affected by immigrants.**

13 % of all respondents do not know.

73 % of all respondents (82 % of women and 64 % of men) feel that **Health and Council Services have been put under pressure due to the high number of immigrants.**

Only 4 % of women has answered No.

63 % of all respondents (64 % of women and 62 % of men) think that **it is NOT fair that immigrants are getting UK benefits.** Only 20 % of all respondents (23 % of women and 18 % of men) think that it is fair.

Respondents added that this depended on the individual case. Those who come to England just for benefits are judged differently to those in genuine need.

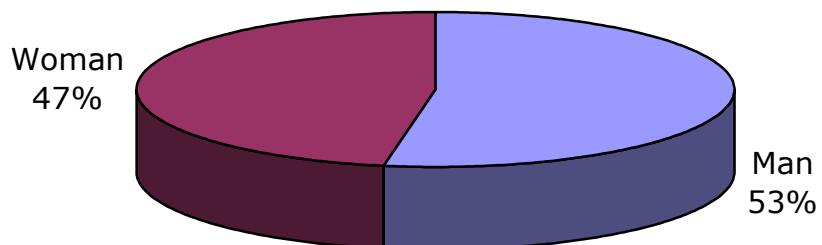
52 % of all respondents (49 % of women and 55 % of men) **would live abroad.**

28 % of all respondents (34 % of women and 23 % of men) **would not live abroad.**

These figures might represent a loss of faith in life in the UK. It could be affected by the high number of immigrants.

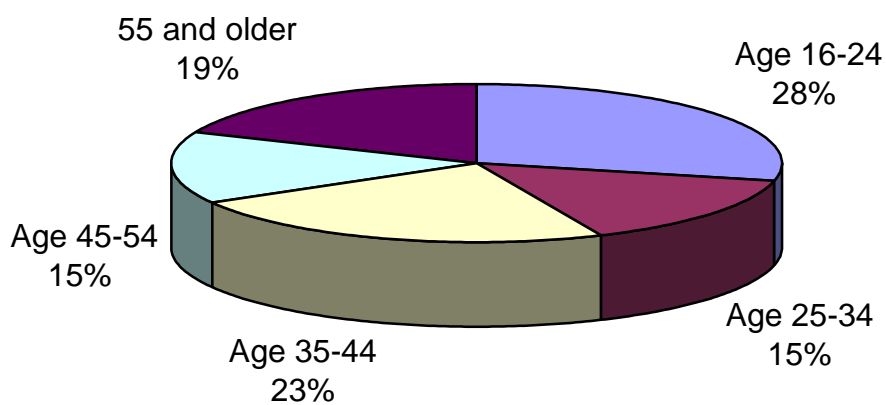
Graphs illustration

1. Are you:



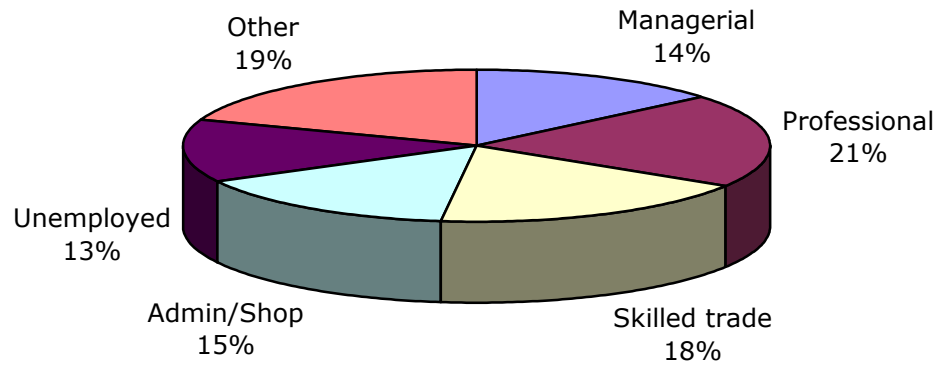
Graph 3. Respondent's gender

2. How old are you?



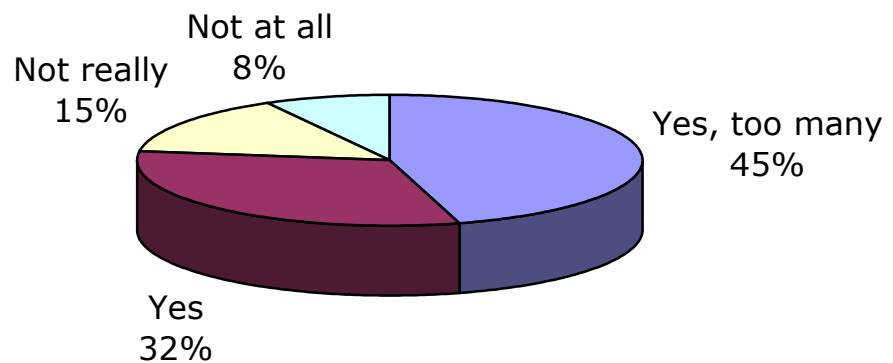
Graph 4. Respondent's age

3. What is your current employment status?



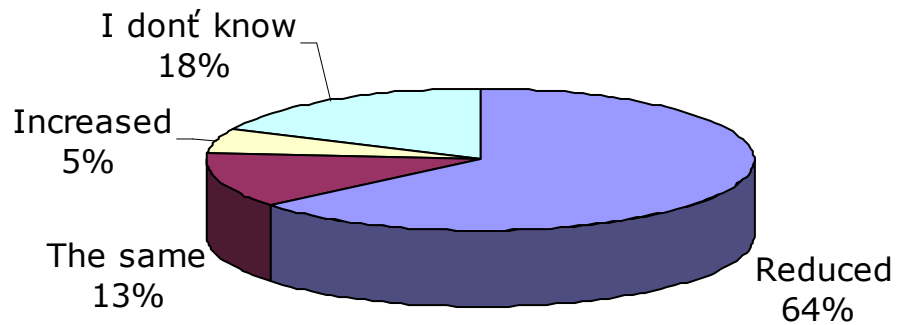
Graph 5. Respondent's employment status

4. Do you feel that Peterborough has a higher than average number of immigrants?



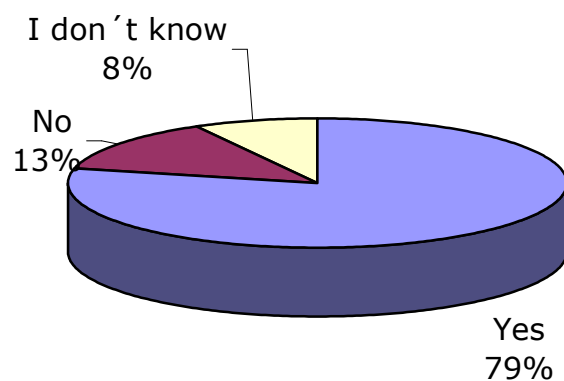
Graph 6. Respondent's opinion on immigrants

5. Do you feel that the number of immigrants should be:



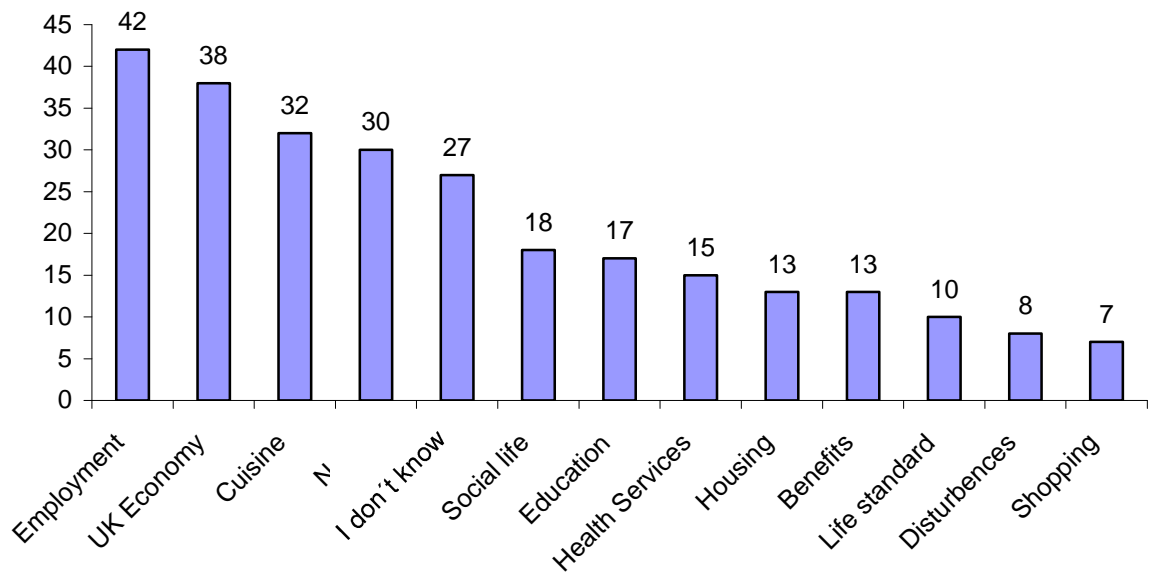
Graph 7. Respondent's opinion on the number of immigrants

6. Do you think there should be restrictions on the number of people coming to live in the UK?



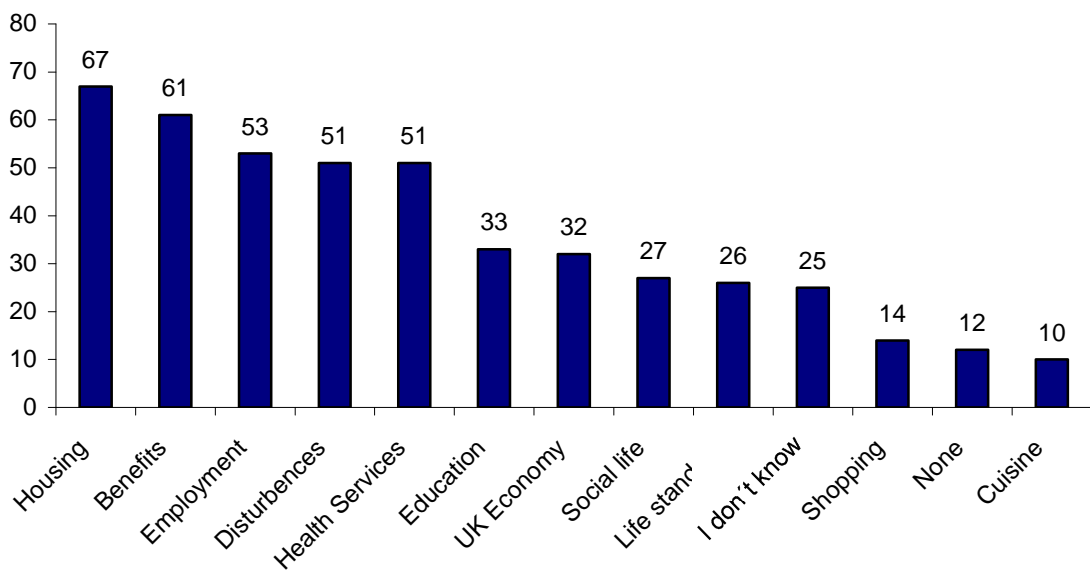
Graph 8. Respondent's opinion on restrictions

7. In which areas do you feel immigrants are an advantage?



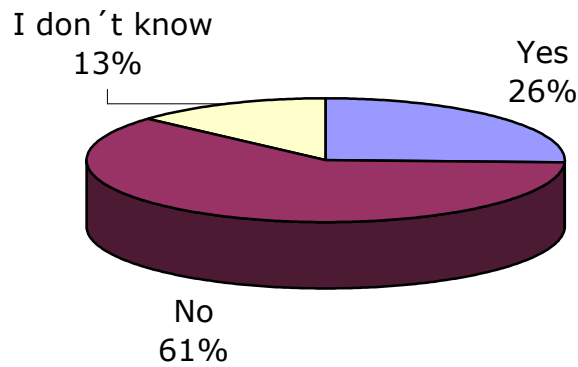
Graph 9. Areas where immigrants are an advantage

8. In which areas do you feel immigrants are a disadvantage?



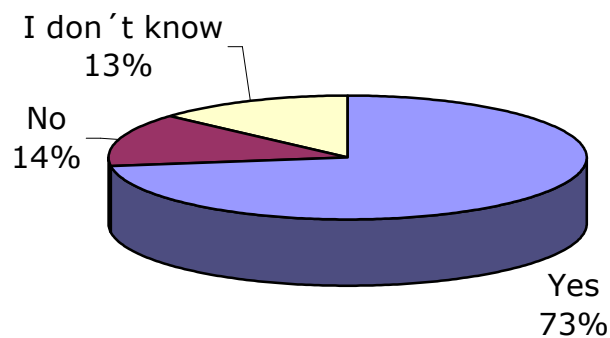
Graph 10. Areas where immigrants are a disadvantage

9. Have your employment opportunities been affected by immigrants?



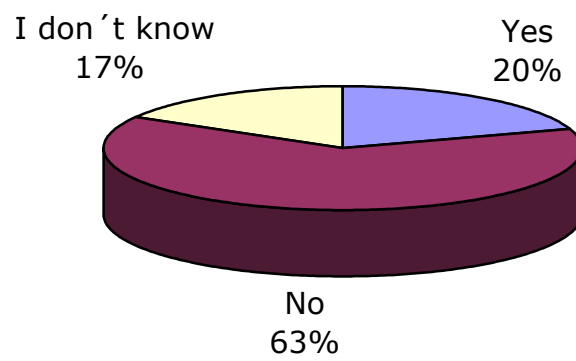
Graph 11. Affect on respondents employment

10. Do you feel that the Health and Council Services have been put under pressure due to the high number of immigration?



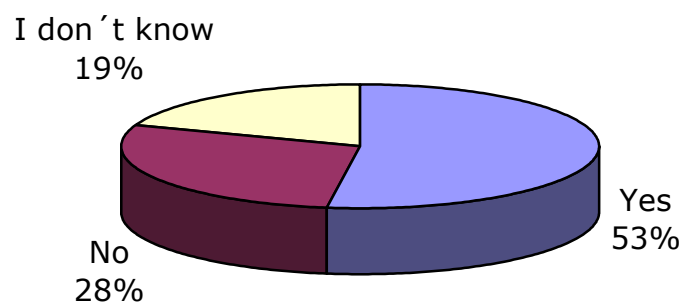
Graph 12 Affect on the Health and Council Services

11. Do you think its fair that immigrants are getting UK benefits?



Graph 13. Benefits for immigrants

12. Would you live abroad?



Graph 14. Life abroad

6.1.4 Respondent's comments

I would like to publish comments which respondents have added to the questionnaires. They are split into a Man and Woman sections.

Men comments:

Immigrants are very good workers

Immigrants work very good.

Why are immigrants blamed for all disadvantages?

I do not mind benefits for them if they are going to be proper citizens.

This government is disadvantage, not immigrants. I blame the government.

Criminal immigrants should be deported straight away.

Due to the high number of them, there is less jobs to share out.

I would go abroad only to get away from immigration.

Women comments:

Immigrants are an advantage - they help to increase the culture variety.

I am happy with immigrants as long as they do not abuse the system.

Uncontrolled immigration is damaging.

Britain is a small island, we do not have resources to deal with uncontrolled immigration.

It's fair to give them benefits, but only where they contribute to the system.

I do mind unlicensed drivers in area.

Generally, immigrants are a nuisance creating an unfair Britain for British people.

6.2 How to live in the UK and not get lost

6.2.1 Preface

This brochure has been designed to provide Newcomers to United Kingdom with information on rights, responsibilities, services, support and expectations when living in the UK. This should assist when coming to the UK.

Brochure is divided into 8 sections, which are considering and giving practical advice.

These sections are:

Housing – how to find a house, what do you need to know when renting a property, ...

Employment – finding a work, workers rights, ...

Rights – what are your rights in the UK

Banking – how to open a bank account, which documentation you need, ...

Transport – driving in the UK

Health – what to do if you need a doctor

Education – English classes

Benefits – which benefits you might be entitled to and their explanation

6.2.2 Housing

To buy or rent? About two thirds of people in Britain either own, or are in process of buying, their own home. Most others live in houses or flats that they rent from a private landlord, the local council or a housing association.

Those people who buy their own property almost always pay for it with a special loan called a mortgage, which they must repay, with interest, over a long period of time, usually 25 years. A bank, building society, or estate agent can explain the different types of mortgage that are available, and in particular how much they are likely to cost.

Buying a house

Help from a solicitor in buying or selling a property is almost essential, especially if the other person is using a solicitor. The system of house purchase is different in Scotland from elsewhere in the UK. A solicitor will be able to advise you on this. If you are thinking of buying a house or a flat, the first place to start is with an estate agent, or in Scotland usually a solicitor, who can give you details of properties for sale in your price range. Estate agents advertise in local papers, they have shops in all towns and cities, and many of them have web sites with pictures and details of homes for sale.

The estate agent will make an appointment and arrange for you to look at any property that particularly interests you – although do not forget that the estate agent always represents the interests of the seller.

Making an offer

When you find a house or flat that you would like to buy, it is quite acceptable to offer a slightly lower price than the seller is asking. This is one of the few occasions when people in Britain haggle over the prices and do not necessarily expect to pay the figure that is being asked. Any offer you make must be said to be „subject to contract“ so that you can still withdraw if there are reasons why you can not complete the purchase.

Solicitor

Once you have agreed the price, contact a solicitor, who will carry out a number of important legal checks. These include making sure that the person selling the house really does own the property, and checking that there are no plans for new developments, such as road building, that are like to affect the property that you are intending to buy. The solicitor will also draw up the legal agreement for you to buy the property and deal with the company from which you have obtained the mortgage.

Rented accommodation

Rented accommodation in Britain is normally available in one of three ways: from the **local authority**, from a **housing association** and from a **private landlord**.

The local authority

Anyone is entitled to apply to be housed by their local authority, often called „the council“, although it is important to note that there is a shortage of council accommodation in many areas and a long list of people wanting to be housed. Anyone seeking housing from the local authority must apply to have their name placed on the housing register. The form for this is available from the local authority housing department. If a person's application to be placed on the housing register is accepted, their needs are assessed, and points are awarded according to their circumstances. Priority is given to those living in overcrowded or unsanitary conditions and to families who have young children or where the woman is expecting a baby. In many areas, people can face a long wait for council accommodation, but applicants have a right to know how their application is progressing and to be given some idea how long they can expect to wait for rehousing.

Housing associations

Housing associations are independent, not-for-profit organisations, providing homes for people in housing need, and are the country's major provider of new homes for rent. Many also run shared ownership schemes to help people who can not afford to buy their own home outright. There is usually waiting list for this kind of accommodation. Information on this, and application procedures, is available from the housing department of your local authority offices.

Private landlord

This is the most common way for Newcomers how to find quickly accommodation. Details of privately rented property can be found through local newspapers, estate agents and letting agents, who specialise in rented property. The law does not allow estate and letting agencies to charge you for information about housing, or lists of vacancies. They charge the landlord instead. The rent for a room, house or flat will vary considerably, depending on the size of the accommodation and the area in which it is located.

6.2.3 Employment

If you are a national from a country within the European Economic Area (EEA), you do not need permission to work in the UK.

However, workers from EEA countries that joined the EU on 1 May 2004 and who wish to work for more than one month in the UK are required to register under the Workers Registration Scheme (WRS) as soon as they find work.

To apply for the WRS applicants are required to submit to the Home Office an application form 'WRS' with a fee of £70 as well as passport / ID card, two photographs and a contract or letter of employment.

After twelve months of continuous employment applicants will have full rights of free movement and will no longer need to register on the WRS. You can then obtain a residence permit confirming your right to live and work in the UK.

EEA countries are: Austria, Latvia, Belgium, Liechtenstein, Cyprus, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Denmark, Malta, Estonia, Netherlands, Finland, Norway, France, Poland, Germany, Portugal, Greece, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Iceland, Spain, Ireland, Sweden and Italy.

Finding work and applying for jobs in the UK

There are several ways of finding employment in the UK:

Job Centre

The **Jobcentre Plus** is a public service listing local and national job vacancies that are regularly updated. This government led service provides help and advice on finding and applying for employment and a benefit advice and making a claim.

If you do not speak good English, the Jobcentre has access to interpreters.

Recruitment Agencies

Recruitment Agencies are companies who specialise in getting people into work. You will need to register with these agencies, giving information about yourself, your skills and experience. The agency will then contact you if and when they have suitable work available. Job vacancies are usually advertised on the recruitment agencies websites.

Notice boards

Job vacancies are often advertised on shop and supermarket notice boards. There will usually be a number and/or person to contact. Obtaining employment in this way can leave you less protected than obtaining a job through the Jobcentre, a recruitment agency, or an established website. Ensure that the work you are doing is legal.

Word of Mouth

It is important to talk with friends, colleges or community members to find out if they know of jobs vacancies and to request them to let potential employers know that you are looking for work.

How do I make a job application?

An employer will inform you of the method that they wish you to use to apply for the job.

This may require you to:

- Complete an online application form
- Request and apply using an application pack
- Send a cover letter explaining your interest in the job and a Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Undertake an interview by telephone
- Enquire at the location of employment

There is no standard application method and each employer will require different information about you. Check carefully what is required of you and the application method that is requested, otherwise you may be penalised.

If possible type applications CVs with covering letters, as this look more professional.

Are my qualifications valid in the UK?

If you have obtained qualifications from another country and you wish to find out how they compare to similar qualifications in the UK, you can do so by contacting the National Academic Recognition Information Centre. This Centre can issue you with a free document stating the equivalent UK qualification you have obtained. To receive this document, you will need proof of your qualification and it will need to be recognised.

What should I include in my CV?

A CV is a document commonly used in the UK to quickly show a person's qualifications and experience. It normally is not more than 2 sides of A4 paper to enable an employer to find out quickly whether a person is suitable for the job.

The format of a CV is usually consists of:

- Name, address, contact details (phone number, email address)
- A paragraph about the person's aims and experience.
- Details about current and previous employment including company name, address, length of employment and job responsibilities. This should be in chronological order with the most recent position first.
- Details about qualifications and grades alongside the institution at which they were gained and the years attended.
- A list of other relevant skills, such as first-aid qualified, driving licence etc.
- Although not required, it can be useful to briefly list other interests such as sports, reading etc., if you think it could help your application. You should include references.

What kind of references do I need?

Most employers will request that you supply them with the contact details of two referees to give a verbal or written statement (reference) about your suitability for work. Your referees, who will be professional people, such as a previous employer or college tutor, will be contacted before offering you employment. You should notify those people to let them know that they may be contacted.

What can I expect from an interview?

If an employer finds your application suitable then you may be invited for an interview. This will be a session during which the employer will find out more about you, in order to ensure that you are the best person for the job.

An interview could consist of:

- A section where you will be asked questions. Your answers will tell the employer more about your suitability for the job.
- A test on a skill relevant to the job.
- You may be asked to prepare and deliver a presentation about a specific topic requested by the employers. You will usually be notified about this before the interview so that you have time to prepare.
- Employers will normally expect to find out a little about you as a person. Be prepared to be asked about yourself, your interests, and what kind of a person you are. This will also help the employer to decide if you are the right person for the job.

It is extremely important to be honest about yourself, on your CV, application form and in any interview you may have. If you give false information and this is later discovered, you may lose your job.

Rights and responsibilities at work

Rights are a set of agreed guidelines to protect both employees and employers in the workplace.

National Insurance and Income Tax

You should have a National Insurance (N.I) number to work legally in the UK.

- If you earn more than £80 per week then you and your employer pay National Insurance contributions – a form of tax.
- Income Tax is paid as a percentage of the amount of money that you earn. This percentage is identified by a tax code. All employees are allocated a tax code which determines the amount of tax that you pay. If you are starting your first job then you may have to pay ‘emergency tax’ until a tax code has been set up.
- If you are offered employment without paying National Insurance or Income Tax, then this is against the law. If you take this work, you may find that you cannot enforce your working rights.
- Employers do not have the right to hold your passport or identity documents. They may make copies only for their records.

Minimum Wages in the UK

In the UK there is a National Minimum Wage.

The rates that were finalised on the 1st October 2005 are:

- For workers aged 22 or over, £5,05 per hour.
- For 18-21 year olds and those in accredited training, £4,25 per hour
- For 16-17 olds, £3,00 per hour

Working Hours

You should not have to work any more than 48 hours on average each week. This is an average limit. For example, you may work fewer than 48 hours one week and then more than 48 hours in another week. But the average should not be more than 48 hours. If you wish, you can sign an agreement to lose the right of this protection.

Rest Breaks

If you are an adult and your daily working time is more than 6 hours then you are entitled to a rest break. The break should be during the six-hour period and not at the beginning or end of that time. If there is no written agreement about the length of this break then it should be for a period of not less than 20 minutes and it should be uninterrupted. You are also entitled to spend the time away from your workstation.

6.2.4 Rights**Your rights in the UK**

The Human Rights Act passed by the government in 1998 protects everyone in the UK. Every one has a right to:

- Life
- Prohibition of torture, slavery and forced labour
- Liberty and security
- A fair trial
- No punishment without law
- Respect for their private and family life
- Freedom of thought, conscience and religion
- Freedom of expression
- Assembly and freedom of association
- Freedom to marry
- Prohibition of discrimination
- Protection of property
- Education
- Free elections

Equal rights and discrimination

It is against the law in England and Wales for employers to discriminate against someone at work because of their:

- sex
- nationality, race, colour or ethnic group
- disability
- religion
- sexual orientation

This means that a person should not be refused work, training or promotion because of their sex, the colour of their skin, their country of origin, their sexuality, religion or because of a disability. The law also says that men and women, who do the same job at work, or work of equal value, should receive equal pay.

At the moment it is not against the law to discriminate against someone because of their age, although this is likely to change by 2006.

6.2.5 Banking

More than nine out of ten adults in the UK have a bank account. Many employers pay salaries directly into a bank account. In large towns there are a number of banks to choose from, and if you have time, it is a good idea to compare the benefits that each offer.

There are many banks in the UK and they offer different arrangements and levels of service. You should spend some time finding the bank which offers the best service for you.

To open a bank account in the UK you will need to show the bank documents that prove who you are and where you live in the UK. Banks normally accept a passport, immigration document or driving licence as forms of identification, and a tenancy agreement or household bill (for example electricity, gas or phone bill), containing your name and address. Banks will also accept a letter from someone such as a doctor or a social worker, confirming your name and address.

6.2.6 Transport

Drivers in Britain must be 17 years of age to drive a car or motorcycle, 18 years to drive a medium size lorry and 21 years old to drive a large lorry or bus.

If you are visiting the UK from a country within the **European Economic Area EEA** and have a valid driving licence then you are allowed to drive in the UK for as long as your licence remains valid.

How are you expected to drive:

Anyone who drives a motor vehicle on a public road must have a driving licence. It is an offence to drive without a driving licence.

When you are driving or are a passenger in a private vehicle in the UK, you are required by law to wear a **seatbelt**. Currently children under the age of 3 years must be secured into an approved child seat.

It is against the law to use a **mobile telephone** whilst driving. There are serious penalties for doing so, you can receive a fine, points on your licence or could cause an accident. If you need to speak on your mobile, find a safe place to stop. If you are caught using a mobile phone whilst driving, you can be fined.

Driving after consuming **alcohol** or taking **drugs** is against the law and there are serious penalties for doing so such as a fine, a ban on driving or even a prison sentence if you injure another person. Driving after taking alcohol or drugs is a major cause of accidents.

Drive at the legal **speed limit**. If you are caught speeding you will face penalties such as fines or points on your licence. Speeding is one of the main reasons people are hurt or killed on the roads.

Speed limits for cars and motorcycles are:

30 mph (50 km/h) in built-up areas, unless otherwise shown

60 mph (100 km/h) on single carriageways

70 mph (113 km/h) on motorways and dual carriageways

What documents do you need to drive in the UK:

If you are driving in the UK, you should ensure that you have all of the correct documentation:

- a valid **driving licence**
- a valid **car insurance**
- a valid **tax disc** and
- if your car is more than 3 years old, a valid **MOT certificate**. (Ministry of Transport test)

If you **do not have all of these documents**, then you are driving illegally. If the police or the Driving Vehicle Licensing Authority (DVLA) catches you, you may be:

- Fined
- receive points on your licence
- be banned from driving
- liable for cost towards personal injury and property or
- imprisoned if the offence is serious.

Car Insurance

To drive in the UK, you must have a valid insurance certificate. It is advised that you gather several quotations for insurance before you decide on the appropriate insurance to purchase. These can be gathered direct from insurance companies or from insurance brokers who search for the best quotes for you.

Tax Disc

It is a legal requirement for all vehicles on the road to have a valid tax disc displayed on the windscreen.

Tax discs are purchased for either six or twelve months from major Post Offices.

You will need to show the following documents:-

- V10 application form (obtained from Post Offices or the local DVLA Office)
- Insurance certificate (original only)
- MOT certificate (original only)
- Registration Certificate (V5C). This document lists the vehicle and keeper details.

If you are keeping your vehicle off of the road for a period of time you need to declare SORN (Statutory Off Road Notification). To declare SORN you need to complete a V890 application form available from Post Offices or the DVLA Office

MOT (Ministry of Transport test)

Everyone who uses a vehicle on the road is required to keep it in a roadworthy condition. The MOT test is required by law for vehicles over three years old. Its purpose is to ensure that vehicles are checked at least once a year to ensure that they comply with key roadworthiness and environmental requirements.

If your car fails the MOT it is illegal to drive it away until the faults are corrected.

6.2.7 Health

The National Health Service (NHS) was set up in 1948, and it is one of the largest organisation in Europe. It tries to provide all citizens with the highest level of medical care. Treatment is free.

Family doctors in Britain are known as General Practitioners usually called GPs. They often work together in a group practice, normally made up of at least five doctors. You may find this described as a Primary Health Care Centre.

The GP that you choose to register with will ask about your personal details (name, address, phone number etc), medical details and details of your previous doctor. Doctor surgeries allocate approximately 10 minute to each appointment. To remain within this timeframe be clear on what your problem is and try to write down your symptoms to assist you to explain. If you cannot attend your appointment, contact your Doctors surgery as soon as possible. This will enable your appointment to be allocated to another patient.

How can I see a specialist?

Some health conditions cannot be dealt with by doctors, but must be passed on to specialists. An example of this could be a severe skin condition which needs to be treated by a dermatologist or an injury which needs a physiotherapist.

Your doctor will contact the specialist who will contact you directly with an appointment. Often patients need to wait for a long time for an appointment, unless it is extremely urgent or serious. When you receive the letter from the specialist, make sure you know the place, date and time of your appointment.

Ask for an interpreter to be booked if you need one.

For non-emergency treatment or health advice you can also visit the NHS Walk-in Centre. NHS Walk-in Centres offer a range of NHS services including health information, advice and treatment for a range of minor illnesses (coughs, colds, infections) and minor injuries (sprains, sprains, cuts). Experienced NHS nurses run the centres, and you do not need to make an appointment.

How do I register with a Dentist?

You can register with a dentist surgery as either a private or National Health Service (NHS) patient. If you are a private patient, you pay the full price for treatment. If you are a NHS patient, you pay the cheaper NHS costs for treatment or you may be eligible for free NHS treatment.

Are you eligible for NHS Dental treatment?

You are eligible to receive dental treatment free of charge from the National Health Service (NHS) if you are:

- Under 18 years old
- Aged 18 and in full time education
- Pregnant, or have had a baby in the previous 12 months
- An NHS in-patient at the hospital dentist
- You (or your partner) is in receipt of Income Support (IS), Income based Jobseekers Allowance.
- You have a valid NHS tax credit exemption certificate

How do you get medication?

After examining your illness / complaint, your doctor or the hospital will give you a prescription to take to a pharmacy / chemist to exchange for medication.

On the reverse of the prescription there is a **list of people who do not have to pay for their medication**. Those people are:

- Under 16
- Under 19 years of age and in full time education
- Over 60 years of age
- Pregnant or have had a baby in the last year
- Suffering from a specific medical conditions
- Receiving income support

If you are not one of these categories then you may be expected to pay the cost of the medication which is currently **£6.40 per item**.

6.2.8 Learning English

There are many courses available for people who wish to improve their skills in speaking, reading, writing and understanding English. Courses are generally available at all levels. They are usually known as ESOL courses – English for Speakers of Other Languages. They are normally held in community and training centres or Further Education (FE) colleges.

Some courses help with basic English, others provide more advanced training and may be linked to particular profession. Demand for courses can vary in some areas so there may be a waiting list. Many courses are free, or cost very little. Good English language skills are an important route to improving employment prospects.

6.2.9 Benefits

You **might be entitled** to claim and receive benefits from government if you either:

- have a disability
- are unable to find employment
- are a carer for a friend or relative
- or have a low income

These benefits are:

Child Benefit, Housing Benefit, Council Tax Benefit, Job Seekers Allowance, Income Support, Working Tax Credit, Incapacity benefits, etc

If you are a national of some of the new European Union states, which has joined the EU in May 2004, you must register as a worker and work for one year before becoming entitled to claim some of Social Security benefits.

Please note that the rates shown in this section are weekly rates.
The actual amount paid may vary in individual cases.

Child Benefit

Is paid to the person responsible for a child, regardless of income, National Insurance contributions or savings.

Child Benefit is paid for each child under 16 and for children between 16 and 18 continuing in full-time further education. Child benefit can not be paid where the child is in higher education (of degree standard or equivalent).

Usually, both the child and the person claiming must be resident and present in Great Britain.

How much?

For eldest qualifying child	£16,50
For each other child	£ 11,05

Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit

These benefits can help towards your rent and Council Tax.

The local authority (City Council) pays them. You do not have to be receiving any other benefits to qualify.

But Housing Benefit does not cover all your housing costs. You could apply if you are on a low income and you need help to pay your rent or council tax.

How much?

The amount will depend on personal circumstances, income, savings, rent and other people sharing the home. It will also depend upon general level of rents in the area for the property type.

Job Seekers Allowance

Jobseekers allowance is for people who are currently out of work, or who work less than 16 hours per week. They must also be available for and actively seeking work.

This benefit is available from the age of 18: for men up to the age of 65 and for women up to 60.

There are two types of Jobseekers allowance:

Contribution based – this is for people who have paid sufficient National Insurance contributions. If your income is still below the minimum level the law says you need to live on, you may be able to get additional income-based Jobseekers Allowance.

Income based – this is for people who have not paid enough National Insurance contributions and their income and savings are below the minimum that the law says you need to live on. The amount paid will depend upon their personal circumstances, including other family members and dependants.

How much?

Person aged 16 – 17	£ 33,50
Person aged 18 – 24	£ 44,05
Person aged 25 and over	£ 55,65

Income Support

Income Support is for people aged 16 up to age 60. If you or your partner are aged 60 or over you may be entitled to Pension Credit.

The main groups of people for who is this designed for include: people who cannot work because of illness or disability, lone parents, people who have to stay at home to look after elderly, sick or disabled relatives and people who are registered blind.

How much?

The amount vary and it depends on: age, whether you have a partner, whether you have disability, your weekly income and savings.

For example:

Lone parent 18 years and over	£ 55,65
Single person 18 to 24 years	£ 44,05
Couple, both over 18	£ 87,30

Working Tax Credit

Tax Credits are designed to make work pay. There are two types of tax credit – Working Tax Credit for working people on a low income and Child Tax Credit payments to support families with children.

6.3 *Jak žít ve Velké Británii a přitom se neztratit*

6.3.1 *Předmluva*

Tato brožura byla vytvořena pro nově příchozí do Velké Británie (VB). Poskytuje informace týkající se práv a povinností, možných služeb, podpory a očekávání pro ty, kteří chtějí žít ve Velké Británii. To by mělo pomoci při příchodu do VB.

Brožura je rozdělena do 8 sekcí, ve kterých naleznete praktická doporučení a rady.

Tyto sekce jsou:

Bydlení – jak najít dům, co potřebujete vědět když si pronajímáte dům, ...

Zaměstnání – hledání práce, práva pracovníků, ...

Právo – jaké máte práva ve VB

Bankovníctví – jak si otevřít bankovní účet, jaké dokumenty přitom potřebujete, ...

Doprava – řízení auta ve VB

Zdravotnictví – co dělat když potřebujete lékaře

Studium Angličtiny

Příspěvky – na jaké příspěvky můžete mít nárok a jejich vysvětlení

6.3.2 *Bydlení*

Koupit nemovitost, nebo si ji pronajmout? Zhruba dvě třetiny lidí ve Velké Británii vlastní, nebo si právě kupují jejich vlastní domov. Ti ostatní si dům nebo byt pronajímají od soukromých majitelů, městského úřadu nebo bytového družstva.

Lidé, kteří si kupují vlastní dům nebo byt za něj téměř vždy platí zvláštním úvěrem, který se nazývá hypotéka. Tu musí splácet i s úroky po dlouhou dobu, obvykle 25 let. Banka, stavební spořitelna nebo realitní agent Vám vysvětlí rozdíly u jednotlivých typů hypoték a také Vám poradí, kolik Vás to bude celkem stát peněz.

Koupě nemovitosti

Při prodeji nebo koupi nemovitosti, je téměř nutné poradit se s právníkem.

Zvláště v případech kdy druhá strana svého právníka má. Systém koupě nemovitosti ve Skotsku je odlišný od způsobů kdekoli jinde ve VB.

Pokud přemýšlíte o koupi nemovitosti, Vaše první kroky by měli směřovat k právníkovi pokud jste ve Skotsku, nebo k realitnímu agentovi pokud jste jinde ve VB. Ti Vám poskytnou informace o nemovitostech které jsou právě k prodeji. Mnoho realitních agentů inzeruje v místním tisku, v obchodech a internetových stránkách, na kterých jsou fotografie a informace o domech k prodeji.

Realitní agent si s Vámi domluví schůzku a podíváte se s ním na nemovitost, která Vás zajímá. Nikdy nezapomeňte na to, že realitní agent jedná vždy v zájmu prodávajícího a podle toho přistupuje k jednání.

Nabídka ceny

Jakmile naleznete nemovitost kterou byste chtěli koupit, je zcela akceptovatelné nabídnout nižší cenu než jakou žádá prodávající. Toto je jedna z mála příležitostí, kdy Angličané smlouvají o ceně a neočekávají, že zaplatíte plnou částku.

U cenové nabídky musí být řečeno že je platná pouze ve formě smlouvy.

To znamená, že když si koupí rozmyslíte, tak můžete od smlouvy odstoupit.

Právník

Jakmile se domluvíte na ceně nemovitosti, zkontaktujte právníka, který provede důležité právní kontroly. Ujistí se, že osoba která nemovitost prodává, je jejím vlastníkem.

Také zkontroluje zdali nejsou další plány s nemovitostí, například výstavba silnice přes pozemek. Další nabízenou službou právníka je pořídit úřední odhad ceny nemovitosti.

Právník s Vámi sepíše kupní smlouvu a bude jednat Vaším jménem se společností od které máte hypotéku. Není nutné uzavřít smlouvu s právníkem písemnou formou.

Nutno počítat s tím, že právní služby ve VB nejsou levné.

Pronajaté ubytování

Pronájem ubytování je ve Velké Británii obvykle proveden třemi cestami:

Od orgánu místní správy, bytového družstva nebo soukromého majitele nemovitosti.

Orgány místní správy

Všichni lidé mají právo si požádat o ubytování od orgánů místní správy, které se často nazývají "Městský úřad". Musíte si však uvědomit nedostatek tohoto typu ubytování a připravit se na dlouhý seznam čekatelů. Kdokoliv si žádá o ubytování od Městského úřadu se musí zapsat na Domovní registr. Formuláře jsou k dispozici od orgánů místní správy. Pokud je Vaše registrace přijata, určí se priority a získáte určitý počet bodů které záleží na podmínkách v jakých žijete. Přednost mají ti, kteří žijí v přelidněných domech bez sociálního zařízení, rodinám s malými dětmi nebo těhotným ženám.

V mnoha případech musíte čelit dlouhému čekání, ale žadatel má právo vědět jak se jejich případ vyvíjí a jak dlouho budou ještě čekat na ubytování.

Bytové družstvo

Bytová družstva jsou nezávislé a nevýdělečné organizace, které poskytují domovy pro lidi v nouzi. Jsou také hlavním dodavatelem nových domovů k pronájmu. Mnoho z nich nabízí společné vlastnictví pro ty, kteří si nemohou dovolit koupit jejich vlastní domů.

Na tento typ ubytování jsou obvyklé delší čekací doby. Informace o bytových družstvech jsou dostupné na bytovém oddělení Městského úřadu.

Soukromý majitel pronajaté nemovitosti

Toto je nejobvyklejší způsob pro nově příchozí jak si rychle najít ubytování. Informace o soukromých pronájmech naleznete v místním tisku, u realitních agentů a agentur které se specializují na pronájem. Dle zákona není stanoven poplatek za poskytnuté informace o bydlení a seznamu prostor k pronájmu. Náklady za informace o bydlení hradí majitelé domů. Nájemné za pokoj, byt nebo dům jsou různé, záleží na velikosti a oblasti, ve které je nemovitost.

6.3.3 Zaměstnání

Pokud jste občanem země Evropského Ekonomického Prostoru (European Economic Area EEA), tak nepotřebujete pracovní povolení ve Velké Británii.

Přesto pracovníci z EEA zemí, které vstoupily do evropské Unie 1. května 2004, a přejí si pracovat ve VB déle než jeden měsíc, se musí zaregistrovat do Registru Pracovníků (Workers Registration Scheme WRS) ihned, jakmile najdou práci.

Žádost do Registru Pracovníků se posílá na Ministerstvo Vnitra (Home Office) s poplatkem £70 a cestovním pasem / občanským průkazem, dvěma fotografiemi a pracovní smlouvou / dopisem potvrzujícím zaměstnání. Po dvanácti měsících zaměstnání má pracovník plné právo na neomezený pohyb a již nepotřebuje registraci u Ministerstva Vnitra a může obdržet povolení k pobytu, které potvrzuje právo na život a zaměstnání ve VB.

Země patřící do Evropského Ekonomického Prostoru jsou: Rakousko, Litva, Belgie, Lichtenštejnsko, Kypr, Litva, Česká Republika, Lucembursko, Dánsko, Malta, Estonsko, Holandsko, Finsko, Norsko, Francie, Polsko, Německo, Portugalsko, Řecko, Slovensko, Slovinsko, Maďarsko, Španělsko, Irsko, Island, Švédsko a Itálie.

Hledání zaměstnání a žádost o práci ve Velké Británii

Je několik cest jak si najít zaměstnání ve VB.

Pracovní Úřad

Pracovní úřad je služba veřejnosti která uvádí seznam místních i národních pracovních příležitostí, které se pravidelně obnovují. Tato vládní služba pomáhá a radí občanům při hledání zaměstnání a žádání o zaměstnání. Také poskytuje poradenství o státních příspěvcích a možnostech jak je získat. Pokud nemluvíte dobře anglicky, pracovní úřad Vám poskytne tlumočnicka. Tato služba je bezplatná.

Pracovní agentury

Pracovní agentury jsou společnosti, které se specializují na poskytování práce. Musíte se zaregistrovat u agentury, tzn. poskytnout informace o sobě, Vašich schopnostech a zkušenosti. Agentura Vás zkontaktuje když bude mít pro Vás vhodnou práci. Pracovní nabídky jsou často zveřejněny na reklamních tabulích a internetových stránkách.

Informační tabule

Pracovní nabídky jsou často zveřejněny na informačních tabulích v obchodech a supermarketech. Obvykle je v nich i kontaktní osoba a telefonní číslo. V takto získaném zaměstnání můžete být méně právně chráněni než v zaměstnání získaném přes Pracovní úřad nebo profesionální agenturu. Ujistěte se, že práce kterou děláte je legální.

Známosti

Je dobré mluvit se svými přáteli, kolegy nebo členy Vaší komunity, kteří již ve VB nějakou dobu pracují a ptát se, jestli neví o pracovní možnosti a požádat je aby se o Vás zmínili u potencionálních zaměstnavatelů.

Jak se ucházet o práci

Potencionální zaměstnavatel Vás bude informovat o tom, jakým způsobem si přeje abyste se ucházeli o práci.

Může Vás požádat o:

- Vyplnit aplikační formulář online
- vyplnit aplikační balíček informací
- poslat životopis a průvodní dopis s vysvětlením proč se ucházíte o tuto pozici
- podstoupit rozhovor po telefonu
- podstoupit rozhovor v místě práce

Neexistuje žádná universální metoda žádosti o práci a každý zaměstnavatel může po Vás vyžadovat jiné informace. Pozorně si zkontrolujte jaké informace jsou požadované. Pokud je to možné, tak napište svůj životopis a průvodní dopis na počítači, vypadá to více profesionálně.

Jsou Vaše kvalifikace platné ve VB?

Pokud jste obdrželi kvalifikaci v jiné zemi a chtěli byste zjistit k čemu ji přirovnat ve VB, můžete tak učinit když zkontaktujete Národní Akademické Rozpoznávací Informační Centrum (National Academic Recognition Information Centre). Toto centrum Vám zdarma vydá dokument který udává ekvivalent anglické kvalifikace kterou jste získali mimo VB. K tomu abyste obdrželi tento dokument, musíte prokázat získanou kvalifikaci.

Co zahrnout v životopise

Životopis je běžně používaný dokument ve VB, který poskytne rychlé informace o vaší kvalifikaci a zkušenostech. Obvykle není delší než dvě A4 strany a pomáhá zjistit zaměstnavateli, zda-li jste vhodným kandidátem pro pracovní pozici.

Životopis se obvykle skládá z:

- jméno, adresa, kontakt (telefonní číslo, email)
- odstavec o Vašich cílech a zkušenostech
- informace o vašem současném i předchozím zaměstnání. Zahrnuje to jméno firmy, jejich adresa, délka pracovního vztahu, Vaše pozice a stručný popis práce. To by mělo být v chronologickém pořadí začínající Vaším posledním zaměstnáním.
- informace o Vašich kvalifikacích a jejich hodnocení a datum, kdy byly získány.
- Vaše další dovednosti, např. řidičský průkaz, práce na počítači apod.
- můžete stručně popsat Vaše další zájmy, např. sport, hudba, apod. Pokud si myslíte, že Vám to pomůže k získání pozice.
- reference

Jaké reference potřebujete?

Většina zaměstnavatelů bude po Vás požadovat kontakt na dva referenty kteří potvrdí, jestli jste vhodný pro vybranou pozici. Vaši referenti musí být profesionálové, například Váš minulý zaměstnavatel nebo učitel. Tito lidé budou zkontaktováni ještě před tím, než Vám bude pozice nabídnuta. Měli byste oznámit referentům, že budou zkontaktováni.

Co očekávat od pohovoru?

Pokud zaměstnavatel rozhodne že jste vhodný pro nabízenou práci, můžete být pozváni na pohovor. Toto je schůzka při které zaměstnavatel získá o Vás více informací a ujistí se, že jste nejvhodnějším kandidátem pro nabízenou pozici.

Interview se skládá z:

- sekce kdy jsou Vám kladeny otázky. Vaše odpovědi řeknou zaměstnavateli více o Vás a jestli jste vhodný pro nabízenou práci
- testování Vašich schopností pro nabízenou práci
- můžete být požádáni o prezentaci na požadované téma. Ve většině případů budete o tomto předem informováni, takže budete mít čas se připravit.
- zaměstnavatel obvykle očekává, že zjistí něco o Vaší osobnosti. Buďte připraveni že se Vás zeptá na Vaše zájmy a typ osobnosti. To pomůže při rozhodnutí, jestli jste tím nejvhodnějším kandidátem.

Je velice důležité, abyste byli vždy o sobě upřímní v životopise, aplikačním formuláři nebo při pohovoru. Pokud by jste podali nepravdivé informace, které by byly později odhaleny, můžete přijít o práci.

Práva a povinnosti v práci

Práva jsou souborem směrnic a pokynů k ochraně zaměstnanců i zaměstnavatelů na pracovišti.

Národní pojištění a daň z příjmu

Měli byste mít číslo Národního pojištění (National Insurance) k tomu, abyste mohli legálně pracovat ve VB.

- pokud vyděláváte více než £80 týdně tak Vy i Váš zaměstnavatel platíte příspěvek do Národního pojištění, což je způsob daně.
 - daň z příjmu se platí jako procento z celkové částky kterou vyděláte. Procento je definované Vaším daňovým kódem, který je určen každému zaměstnanci a určuje výši daně. Pokud začínáte první práci, můžete platit tzv. nouzovou daň do té doby, než Vám bude udělen daňový kód.
 - pokud Vám někdo nabídne zaměstnání bez placení Národního pojištění a daně, je to protizákonné. Pokud tuto práci přijmete, riskujete ztrátu Vašich pracovních práv.
 - zaměstnavatel nemá právo zadržovat Váš cestovní pas nebo občanský průkaz.
- Může pouze udělat kopii.

Minimální mzda ve VB

Ve VB je určená minimální národní mzda. Tyto sazby byly schválené 1. října 2005:

- pracovníci starší 22 let : £5,05 na hodinu
- pracovníci od 18ti do 21ti let: £4,25 na hodinu
- pracovníci od 16ti do 17 let: £3,00 na hodinu

Pracovní doba

Neměli byste pracovat více než 48 hodin týdně. Toto je průměrný limit. To znamená, že jeden týden můžete pracovat méně než 48 hodin a poté více než 48 hodin jiný týden. Ale průměr by neměl přesahovat 48 hodin. Pokud si přejete, můžete podepsat smlouvu ve které se vzdáváte tohoto práva.

Přestávky

Pokud jste dospělý člověk a vaše denní pracovní doba je více než 6 hodin, máte nárok na přestávku. Ta by měla být během této 6ti hodinové periody a neměla by být ani na začátku ani na konci pracovní doby. Pokud nemáte uvedenou délku přestávky v pracovní smlouvě, pak by tato doba neměla být kratší než 20 minut a neměla by být přerušena. Také máte nárok strávit pauzu mimo Vaše pracoviště.

6.3.4 Právo

Vaše práva ve VB

Zákon O lidských právech schválený vládou v roce 1998 chrání každého ve VB.

Každý má právo na:

- Život
- Zákaz mučení, otročení a nucených prací
- Spravedlivý soud
- Není trestu bez zákona
- Úcta k soukromí a rodinnému životu
- Svoboda názorů, svědomí a víry
- Svoboda vyjádření
- Shromažďování a svobodu sdružování
- Svobodu sňatku
- Zákaz diskriminace
- Ochranu majetku
- Vzdělání
- Svobodné volby

Rovnoprávnost a diskriminace

V Anglii a Walesu je protizákonné pro zaměstnavatele diskriminovat někoho v práci z důvodu jejich:

- pohlaví
- národnosti, rasy, barvy pleti nebo etnické skupiny
- invaliditě
- vyznání
- sexuální orientace

To znamená, že nikomu nesmí být odepřena práce, školení nebo povýšení kvůli jejich pohlaví, barvy pleti, zeměmi původu, sexuální orientace, vyznání nebo invaliditě.

Zákon také udává, že muž a žena, kteří dělají stejnou nebo podobnou práci, by měli být stejně zaplacení.

V této době není protizákonné diskriminovat kvůli věku, ale to se pravděpodobně změní v roce 2006.

6.3.5 Bankovníctví

Více než 9 z 10ti dospělých ve VB vlastní bankovní účet. Mnoho zaměstnavatelů platí mzdy přímo na účet. Ve městech je velký počet bank, proto je dobré porovnat jejich výhody. Ve VB je mnoho bank, které nabízejí různé úrovně služeb. Proto by jste měli investovat čas a najít banku, která Vám nabídne nejlepší služby.

K tomu abyste si otevřeli účet ve VB potřebujete ukázat v bance dokumenty prokazující Vaši totožnost a adresu na které žijete ve VB. Banky obvykle akceptují cestovní pas, občanský nebo řidičský průkaz k ověření Vaší totožnosti. K ověření Vaší adresy potřebujete buď nájemní smlouvu nebo účet (za telefon, vodu, elektriku nebo plyn), které prokazují Vaše jméno a adresu. Banka také akceptuje dopis od důvěryhodné osoby (lékaře nebo sociálního pracovníka), která potvrdí Vaše jméno a adresu.

6.3.6 Doprava

K tomu abyste mohli řídit auto nebo motorku ve VB, musíte být starší 17ti let. Pro řízení středně velkého nákladního auta 18 let a pro velká nákladní auta a autobusy musíte být starší 21ti let.

Pokud jedete do VB ze země patřící do Evropského Ekonomického Prostoru a máte platný řidičský průkaz, můžete řídit po celou dobu, kdy je Váš řidičský průkaz platný.

Každý, kdo řídí motorové vozidlo na veřejné cestě, musí mít platný řidičský průkaz. Řízení bez něj je trestný čin.

Jak řídit?

Zákon přikazuje používání **bezpečnostních pásů** všem osobám v osobním vozidle. Děti do 3 let musí mít dětskou bezpečnostní sedačku.

Použití mobilního telefonu během řízení je protizákonné. Jsou za to vysoké pokuty, můžete získat trestné body a způsobit dopravní nehodu. Pokud potřebujete použít mobilní telefon, zastavte na bezpečném místě.

Řízení pod vlivem alkoholu nebo drog je nezákonné a jsou za to vážné penalty – pokuta, zákaz řízení nebo dokonce vězení, pokud by jste někoho zranili. Řízení pod vlivem alkoholu nebo drog je hlavním důvodem nehod ve VB. Je tolerováno jen minimální množství alkoholu, všeobecně jedno pivo.

Dodržujte předepsanou rychlost. Pokud budete přistiženi při rychlé jízdě, budete čelit pokutě a trestným bodům v řidičském průkazu. Rychlost je hlavním důvodem ublížení na zdraví a smrti na silnicích.

Rychlostní limity pro auta a motorky jsou:

- 30 mph** (50 km/h) v obcích a městech, pokud není jinak vyznačeno
- 60 mph** (100 km/h) na komunikacích mimo obce a města
- 70 mph** (113 km/h) na dálnicích

Dokumenty které potřebujete abyste mohli řídit ve VB

Pokud řídíte ve VB, ujistěte se, že máte veškerou dokumentaci:

- platný řidičský průkaz
- platné pojištění na auto
- platný daňový disk (doklad o zaplacené silniční dani)
- pokud je Vaše auto starší než 3 roky, potřebujete platný certifikát o technické způsobilosti vozidla (MOT certificate).

Pokud nemáte všechny výše uvedené dokumenty, tak řídíte nelegálně. Pokud Vás zastaví policie nebo Licenční úřad pro motorová vozidla (DVLA), můžete:

- obdržet pokutu
- obdržet trestné body do Vašeho řidičského průkazu
- obdržet zákaz řízení
- být zodpovědní za veškeré náklady tímto způsobené (poranění, poškození majetku, atd.)
- jít do vězení, pokud byl přestupek závažný

Motorové pojištění

Abyste mohli řídit ve VB, potřebujete mít platný certifikát o pojištění. Doporučuji Vám získat návrhy cen od několika pojišťoven, ceny jednotlivých pojišťoven se mohou velmi lišit. Cenové návrhy můžete získat přímo od jednotlivých pojišťoven anebo od pojišťovacích agentů a makléřů, kteří Vám zjistí nejlepší nabídku.

Daňový disk (doklad o zaplacené silniční dani)

Platný doklad o zaplacení daně vystavený za předním sklem vozidla je právní požadavek pro všechna motorová vozidla na cestách. Daňový disk lze koupit na dobu 6ti a 12ti měsíců, koupíte ho na každé větší poště. Ke koupi budete potřebovat:

- V10 aplikační formulář (je k sehnání na poště a dopravním úřadu DVLA)
- certifikát pojištění motorového vozidla (originál)
- certifikát o technické způsobilosti vozidla MOT (originál)
- certifikát o registraci vozidla V5C, kde jsou uvedeny údaje o vozidlu a jeho majiteli

Certifikát o technické způsobilosti vozidla – MOT

Každý kdo používá vozidlo na cestě ho musí udržovat v dobrém technickém stavu. MOT test je zákonný požadavek pro všechna vozidla starší 3 let. Je to z toho důvodu, aby všechna vozidla na cestách byla bezpečná a ekologicky nezávadná. Pokud Vaše auto neprojde MOT testem, nesmíte ho řídit do té doby, než budou všechny chyby opraveny a budete mít platný MOT certifikát.

6.3.7 Zdravotnictví

Státní Zdravotní Péče (NHS) byla založena v roce 1948 a je jednou z největších organizací v Evropě. Jejím cílem je poskytovat všem občanům vysoký standart zdravotní péče. Léčba je zdarma.

Rodinní lékaři ve VB jsou praktičtí lékaři (General Practitioners - GPs). Většinou spolupracují ve zdravotních střediscích, minimálně 5 lékařů.

Při registraci se Vás bude Váš lékař ptát na Vaše osobní údaje (jméno, adresa, telefonní číslo apod.) a zdravotní údaje. Schůzka u lékaře trvá zhruba 10 minut. Během této doby buďte struční a jasně vymeďte Váš problém. Pokud se nemůžete dostavit na domluvenou schůzku, zkontaktujte lékaře a objednejte se na jindy.

Jak získat schůzku u specialisty?

Některé druhy onemocnění nemůže léčit praktický lékař, ale specialista. Například v případech kožního onemocnění, úrazu, apod. První musíte jít k Vašemu praktickému lékaři, který zkontaktuje specialistu a domluví Vám s ním schůzku. Pacienti musí často dlouho čekat na schůzku, pokud není jejich zdravotní stav velice závažný. Jakmile obdržíte pozvánku od specialisty, ujistěte se, že víte datum, místo a čas schůzky. Pokud nemluvíte dobře anglicky, můžete požádat o tlumočnicka. Tato služba je bezplatná.

Registrace u zubního lékaře

Můžete se zaregistrovat u soukromého nebo státního zubního lékaře. Pokud budete u soukromého lékaře, budete si léčbu plně hradit. Pokud budete u státního zubaře, budete platit levnější státní náklady na léčbu nebo můžete mít nárok na NHS léčbu zdarma.

Kdy máte nárok na státní zubní léčbu zdarma?

Nárok na zubní léčbu zdarma máte, pokud:

- jste mladší 18ti let
- máte 18 let a studujete
- jste těhotná nebo jste porodila dítě v posledních 12ti měsících
- jste pacientem u zubního lékaře ordinujícího v nemocnici
- Vy nebo Váš partner dostáváte podporu příjmu nebo podporu v nezaměstnanosti
- vlastníte platný certifikát potvrzující osvobození od daně

Jak získat léky

Po vyšetření Vám dá lékař recept na léky, které si vyzvednete v lékárně.

Na zadní straně receptu je seznam lidí, kteří nemusí platit za léky. Jsou to osoby:

- mladší 16ti let
- studenti do 19ti let
- osoby starší 60ti let
- těhotné ženy nebo ženy s dětmi mladšími 1 roku
- lidé trpící vážným onemocněním
- lidé kteří dostávají podporu příjmu

Pokud nepatříte do žádné z těchto kategorií, budete platit minimální poplatek **£6.40**, a to za každý vyzvednutý lék.

6.3.8 Studium Angličtiny

Pro ty, kteří si chtějí zdokonalit své schopnosti v konverzaci, psaní a pochopení Anglického jazyka je k dispozici mnoho jazykových kurzů.

Kurzy jsou obvykle nabízeny ve všech úrovních.

Často jsou nazývány ESOL kurzy (English for Speakers of Other Languages), což je Angličtina pro osoby mluvící jiným jazykem. Obvykle se konají v komunitních centrech a centrech pro další vzdělávání (Further Education Centre), například školy.

Některé kurzy pomáhají se základy Angličtiny, jiné jsou na vyšší úrovni a pomáhají k určité profesi. Poptávka po těchto kurzech se liší podle oblasti, proto musíte počítat s čekací dobou. Mnoho těchto kurzů je zdarma nebo za nízký poplatek.

Dobrá znalost Angličtiny je hlavní cestou jak získat lepší zaměstnání.

6.3.9 Příspěvky

Můžete mít nárok na získání vládních příspěvků, pokud:

- máte zdravotní postižení
- nemůžete najít zaměstnání
- máte v péči rodinného příslušníka nebo přítele
- máte nízký příjem

Tyto příspěvky jsou:

Příspěvky na dítě, příspěvky na bydlení, příspěvky na městskou daň, podpora při nezaměstnanosti, podpora příjmu, daňové kredity pro pracující, příspěvky při nemohoucnosti, atd.

Pokud jste občanem některého státu Evropské Unie, který vstoupil do EU v Květnu 2004, musíte se zaregistrovat jako pracovník a pracovat po dobu 1 roku než Vám vznikne nárok na požádání o příspěvky sociálního zabezpečení.

Poznámka: Níže uvedené částky jsou placeny týdně. Vyplacená částka se může lišit, protože o každé žádosti se jedná individuálně.

Příspěvky na dítě

Jsou placeny každému, kdo se stará o dítě a nezáleží na jeho příjmu, příspěvcích do Národního pojištění ani jejich spoření.

Příspěvek na dítě se platí na každé dítě mladší 16ti let a na dítě ve věku 16 až 18 let, pokud studuje (neplatí to pro univerzitní studium)
Obvykle musí být dítě i osoba která se o něho stará na území VB a jejími občany.

Kolik?

Pro nejstarší dítě	£16,50
Pro další děti	£ 11,05

Příspěvky na bydlení a Příspěvky na městskou daň

Tyto příspěvky pomáhají s placením nájemného a městské daně. Vyplácí je Městský úřad. Tyto příspěvky nezahrnují veškeré náklady na bydlení. Můžete si zažádat o celkové pokrytí nákladů na bydlení (nájemné a městská daň), jen pokud máte nízký příjem.

Kolik?

Vyplacená částka závisí na Vašich osobních podmínkách, příjmu, úspor, nájemném a na počtu spolubydlících.

Podpora při nezaměstnanosti

Tato podpora je pro lidi momentálně bez práce a pro ty, kteří pracují méně jak 16 hodin týdně. Tito lidé si musí aktivně hledat zaměstnání.

Podpora je pro osoby starší 18ti let. Pro muže do 65ti let a pro ženy do věku 60ti let.

Jsou dva druhy podpory při nezaměstnanosti:

Založena na příspěvcích – je pro ty, kteří již zaplatili příspěvek do Národního pojištění. Pokud je Váš příjem stále pod hranicí životního minima, můžete získat podporu založenou na Vašem příjmu.

Založena na příjmu – je pro ty, kteří ještě nezaplatili dostatečný příspěvek do Národního pojištění a jejich příjem je pod hranicí životního minima. Výše příspěvku záleží na osobních podmínkách a příjmu ostatních členů rodiny.

Kolik?

Osoba ve věku 16 – 17 let	£ 33,50
Osoba ve věku 18 – 24 let	£ 44,05
Osoba ve věku nad 25 let	£ 55,65

Podpora příjmu

Podpora příjmu je pro osoby ve věku od 16ti do 60ti let. Pokud jste Vy, nebo Váš partner starší 60ti let, můžete získat Penzijní kredit.

Skupiny lidí pro které je tento příspěvek určen jsou: lidé kteří nemohou pracovat z důvodu nemoci nebo postižení, rodič bez partnera, lidé kteří musí zůstat doma a starají se o nemocné, postižené nebo staré příbuzné a pro registrované slepce.

Kolik?

Částka se liší a záleží na: věku, jestli mate partnera, jestli jste postižený a na Vašem týdenním příjmu.

Například:

Osamělý rodič starší 18ti let	£ 55,65
Svobodná osoba od 18ti do 24 let	£ 44,05
Pár, oba starší 18ti let	£ 87,30

Pracovní daňové kredity

Daňové kredity jsou vytvořeny k tomu, aby se vyplatilo pracovat.

Jsou dva typy daňových kreditů:

Pracovní daňové kredity – pro osoby s nízkým příjmem

Daňové kredity na dítě – podpora rodinám s dětmi.

7 CONCLUSION

The historical trend in Czechoslovakia was always to emigrate out of the country, rather than to immigrate in. The reason for emigration was mainly political. Until the year 1989, citizens from Czechoslovakia who emigrated did so without any possibility of coming back. Since 1990 the immigration process has worked in both directions– incoming and outcoming.

At the present, the key reason for increasing immigration in the UK was the expansion of the EU in May 2004. Net inflows of non-British EU citizens to the UK increased from 14 000 in 2003 to 74 000 in 2004. Citizens of the ten EU accession countries made up an estimated four fifths of the increase between 2003 and 2004.

The Home Office is the government department responsible for public protection. It is responsible for the police in England and Wales, national security, the justice system and immigration. At Home Office, people can apply for British Citizenship if they have lived legally in the U.K. for at least three years (if they are married to a British citizen) or five years if they are not married to a British citizen. They also need to and meet other requirements set up by the Home Office.

The analysed area for the questionnaire used in the thesis is Peterborough. It is situated in the United Kingdom, lies mid-way between the East Anglian coast and the Midlands in Cambridgeshire. There is a total of 156 072 people as resident in Peterborough and its area is over 34 000 hectares. At the present the unemployment rate in Peterborough is 4,4 %, which is higher than the average in the UK.

The objective of the **survey** was to analyse the opinions of British citizens about the increasing number of immigrants. The level of immigrants in Peterborough is higher than the average in the UK.

The total number of respondents for the questionnaire is 150. The outcome is very interesting, but not surprising. In the survey, women were more critical than men, as they suffer more from job opportunities, they are more likely to think that there are too many immigrants and the number of them should be reduced. I would like to briefly introduce some of the results.

13 % of respondents are unemployed.

45 % of all respondents think that Peterborough has a higher than average number of immigrants and it is too many of them.

63 % of all respondents think that the number of immigrants should be reduced.

73 % of all respondents feel that Health and Council Services have been put under pressure due to the high number of immigrants. Immigrants are causing longer waiting list for nearly all services.

Only 8 % responded stated that there are no disadvantages of having immigrants, compared to the 20 % who felt there were no advantages.

This suggests that the perception is that the overall presence of immigrants is a disadvantage and British people would like to have Britain as it used to be many years ago.

I have also created a brochure called **“How to live in the UK and not get lost”**. It provides useful information for Newcomers to the UK. Brochure is giving a practical advice about housing, employment, rights in the UK, banking, transport, health, education and benefits.

I believe that many people will find the brochure very useful due to the lack of information available.

The brochure has been designed in Czech and English language.

The Czech version **“Jak žít ve Velké Británii a přitom se neztratit”** will be available for students of Tomas Bata University in Zlin and will be also offered to agencies providing travel arrangements for those intending to live and work in the UK.

It will be also offered to a City library in Zlin and to bus companies travelling to the UK.

The English version “How to live in the UK and not get lost” will be offered to the Centre of further education and to the community centre New Link, where are many foreign people coming every day. In the future it could be also offered at the airports, for those who are flying to the UK. I trust that all Newcomers will find the brochure very useful.

8 FOREIGN-LANGUAGE SUMMARY

Jedním z hlavních cílů této bakalářské práce je pomoc pro nově příchozí do Velké Británie a analýza veřejného mínění britských občanů na téma imigrace ve VB.

Během mého pobytu ve VB jsem se denně setkávala s Českými a Slovenskými občany, kteří přijeli do VB za prací, zkušenostmi a za lepším životem. Práce tlumočnicka ve zdravotnictví a veřejných službách mi umožnila s nimi mluvit a přitom jsem si uvědomila nedostatečnou informovanost těchto lidí.

I já jsem byla kdysi „nová“ a nevěděla jsem, jaká jsou má práva a povinnosti, jak si najít zaměstnání nebo jak si otevřít bankovní účet. Vše bylo nové a Britský systém se velmi liší od Českého. Vypracování brožury, která podá nutné a základní informace o tom jak žít ve VB a přitom se neztratit, se mi jevil jako výborný nápad. Tuto brožuru chci nabídnout jak v České republice, tak i ve VB.

Česká verze „Jak žít ve Velké Británii a přitom se neztratit“ bude volně dostupná pro studenty Univerzity Tomáše Bati, kteří často odjíždějí do VB za zkušenostmi. Také ji chci nabídnout v agenturách, které zprostředkovávají pobyty v VB a dopravním společenstvem, které mají linky do VB. Brožura bude nabídnuta zdarma, ale firmy, které o ni budou mít zájem si musí pořídit kopie na vlastní náklady. Tuto verzi jistě ocení i Centrum pro další vzdělávání v Peterborough a Komunitní centrum New link, kde se denně schází mnoho českých a Slovenských občanů. Těmto centrům chci nabídnout i anglickou verzi, kterou jistě ocení občané jiných národností, například Polští a Litevští občané, kteří jsou v Peterborough v hojném zastoupení.

Jak je výše uvedeno, anglickou verzi brožury „How to live in the UK and not get lost“ chci nabídnout Centru pro další vzdělávání v Peterborough a Komunitnímu centru New link, kde se denně setkává mnoho cizinců. V budoucnu může být brožura nabídnuta i některým Britským letišťm, kde denně přijíždí tisíce lidí plni očekávání nového života nebo krásné dovolené. Všichni jistě ocení stručnost a organizaci brožury, která dává stručný přehled o tom nejdůležitějším, s čím se můžete ve VB setkat.

Další důležitou částí bakalářské práce je analýza veřejného mínění britských občanů na téma „Co si myslíte o vzrůstajícím počtu imigrantů ve Velké Británii?“. Důvodem, proč jsem si vybrala toto téma, je nadprůměrný počet imigrantů v analyzované oblasti v porovnání s celkovým průměrem ve VB.

Oblast na kterou jsem se zaměřila v analýze je Peterborough, město s více než 150 000 obyvateli ležící ve střední Anglii v oblasti Cambridgeshire.

Respondentů je celkem 150. Snažila jsem se rovnoměrně dotazovat ženy i muže, což bylo úspěšné. Dotázaných je celkem 71 žen a 79 mužů. Výsledky je velmi zajímavé.

Celkově ženy jsou mnohem kritičtější ve věci imigrantů. Může to být způsobeno tím, že více trpí nedostatkem práce a proto si myslí že je v Peterborough až moc imigrantů a jejich počet by se měl proto snížit.

Ráda by jsem ve stručnosti uvedla několik zajímavých výsledků.

13 % dotazovaných jsou nezaměstnaní, což je nad průměr nezaměstnanosti ve VB. Přičemž nezaměstnanost v Peterborough se pohybuje kolem 4,4 %.

45 % dotázaných si myslí že v Peterborough je nadprůměrný počet imigrantů a je jich tam až příliš mnoho.

63 % dotázaných si myslí, že počet imigrantů by se měl snížit.

73 % si myslí, že služby ve Zdravotnictví a na Městských úřadech jsou pod tlakem, a to díky velkému počtu přistěhovalců. S tímto tvrzením zcela souhlasím, protože seznamy čekatelů na zdravotní péči jsou mnohem delší a Městské úřady nyní vyřizují mnohem více žádostí o státní příspěvky a podporu než bylo dříve zvykem.

Pouze 8 % dotázaných necítí žádné nevýhody imigrantů, v porovnání s 20 % Britských občanů, kteří si myslí, že imigranti nepřinášejí žádné výhody pro Británii. Tyto procenta napovídají, že imigranti jsou celkově vnímány jako nevýhoda pro Británii a mnoho Britů by chtěli zpět takovou Británii, jaká bývala před mnoha lety.

Práce se také zabývá tématem historie migrace v Československu. Ve stručnosti, trendem bývalo emigrovat ven z Československa, raději než emigrovat do země. Důvodem emigrace byla především politická situace. Lidé, kteří emigrovali, tak často činili bez možnosti návratu. Od roku 1989 začala emigrace fungovat obousměrně, ven z Československa i do země.

Dalším tématem je migrace ve Velké Británii. Popisuje minulost i současnost. V práci je uveden graf ukazující migraci i emigraci v letech 1995 až 2004. Připojením několika států k Evropské Unii v květnu 2004 migrace do VB prudce vzrostla. Lidé z nově připojených států do Evropské Unie tvoří neuvěřitelné čtyři pětiny celkové migrace do VB v roce 2004.

V práci jsem se také zajímala o právech osob žijících ve Velké Británii, jak lze získat Britské občanství a Ministerstvem Vnitřních věcí (Home Office).

Pevně věřím, že tato práce bude užitečná pro všechny, kteří se zajímají o život ve Velké Británii.

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10 LIST OF USED SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

UK	United Kingdom
VB	Velká Británie
EEA	European Economic Area
EU	European Union
CV	Curriculum Vitae
NI	National Insurance
NCS	The Nationality Checking Service
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
WRS	Worker Registration Scheme
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions
MOT	Ministry Of Transport test
DVLA	Driving Vehicle Licensing Authority
SORN	Statutory Off Road Notification
NHS	National Health Service
GP	General Practitioner
IS	Income Support
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
FE	Further Education

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13 LIST OF ENCLOSURES

Worker Registration Scheme Form – Home Office

Claim form for Housing and Council Tax Benefit

Child Benefit claim form

Tax credits claim form

Income support claim form