

Cross Party Group on China

13th June 2012 – Committee Room 6 18.00h

Minutes of meeting

Attendees

Jamie McGrigor MSP
Zhang Hong
Neil Phillips
Yuwen Fortune
John Oates
Carole Couper
Graham Thompson
Kevin Smith
Robert Dalzell
Chic Brodie MSP
Ye.Liu
Judith McKerrecher
Meryl James
Helena Brown
Judith McClure
Jamie Kerr
Jie Chen
Graeme Pearson MSP

Apologies

Ken Robinson
Douglas Reid
Jim Webster
James Trolland
Peter Kwok
Cathy Gu
Ruairidh Nicolson
Ya Ping Wang
Eric Balish
Jackie Baillie MSP
Simon MacAulay
Anna Tomlinson
Jane Duckett
Donna Malone
Carol Turnbull
Robert Brennan

Programme

1. Presentation from John Devlin, from TalentScotland Relocation Advisory Service

Students of many nationalities enjoy studying in Scotland and after graduating some are keen to remain here and obtain a job. Since the post study work visa route closed in April 2012, most international graduates will look to apply for a Tier 2 visa which involves being sponsored by an employer.

Tier 2 is part of the points based system and is a visa for those who have a graduate level job offer from a UK company. This type of visa can lead to obtaining settlement in UK.

To be qualified for Tier 2 visa you need 70 points: 50 points from a job offer at the correct skill level that pays the correct salary, 10 points awarded automatically by completing the studying in UK, and 10 points from the ability of maintenance, such as £900 for 90 days.

2. Round-up of current projects that members are involved in by Graeme Pearson, MSP

Graeme summarised what we had delivered as a cross party group the various presentations we had experienced. He also indicated CPG had recruited a number of new members particularly from solicitors working in Scottish/ Chinese business. He referred to the initiatives due over the Autumn led by X Party members featuring Education Initiatives in towns across Scotland, and finished by indicating the possibility of Professor Wong, formerly of the World Bank coming to speak to us over the winter on the topic of municipal finances across China. In conclusion Graeme invited members to offer subject areas CPG on China should provide in the year ahead and thank all members for their interest, support and continued commitment.

Next meeting

The next meeting will take place in September 2012. The date, time and programme will be communicated in due course.