



JERSEY COMMUNITY RELATIONS TRUST

Friday 21st January 2022

Migration and Population Review Panel Common Population Policy Review – call for evidence

The Jersey Community Relations Trust (“JCRT”) note that the call for evidence, in relation to the above matter, raised several specific queries. The JCRT is unable to respond to many of these queries but would like to provide the following three points for consideration:

1. The stated aim of the JCRT is: “To seek to eliminate discrimination on any ground including, but not limited to, grounds of colour, race, nationality or ethnic or national origins, gender or sexual orientation, disability of age, by promoting good relations between all members of society, and seeking to achieve equality of treatment and opportunity within our community.” In developing this policy further, clear consideration and data should be provided to show that migrant workers are afforded the appropriate rights and support. Evidence-based policy is key to show that the concerns raised within the focus group research is being considered. The policy must put at its heart the development of our community – one that is inclusive and fair to all in the community. A policy that fails to do so, and one lacking in robust data, will inevitably fail to be inclusive or fair. It will almost certainly look prejudicial.
2. The JCRT has long been a supporter of enhancing and appropriately funding the education provision in Jersey. Many of the reports that the JCRT has been involved with highlight how education can improve social mobility, create a fairer society, change attitudes and encourage social inclusion. The current policy document highlights this point but needs further detail and analysis. The development of an education strategy that pulls together and cohesively binds the policy to other existing or developing policies is essential.
3. The JCRT note that the policy document identifies the collation of robust data as a key component to the creation and execution of an effective policy. The work undertaken by the JCRT, on various themes, supports this point. In the absence of detailed analysis any policy implemented will likely fail to meet its purpose – indeed, critically, its purpose will likely be incorrectly identified and lead to the implementation of a deficient and damaging policy.

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