



Home Office

Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP  
Minister for Border Security &  
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Rt Hon Dame Karen Bradley DBE MP  
Chair, Home Affairs Select Committee  
House of Commons  
London,  
SW1A 0AA

5 August 2025

Dear Karen,

### **IMMIGRATION RULES CHANGES**

I am writing to inform you of changes to the Immigration Rules which are being laid today.

One of the Government's top priorities is to dismantle the Organised Crime Groups who facilitate migrants crossing the Channel in small boats and reduce irregular migration to the UK. Organised Immigration Crime is a global threat which transcends national boundaries. Tackling it requires an international response, with governments working together to develop strategic and innovative solutions. As such, the UK and France have agreed to pilot a brand-new arrangement which provides for both readmission of those people crossing the channel in small boats to the UK and a safe route for those seeking to come to the UK. The pilot seeks to undermine the Organised Crime Group model, deter illegal journeys and save lives. The UK and France will jointly monitor the effectiveness of this pilot and adapt the processes in response throughout the project to respond to changes in migrant behaviour and to test effectiveness.

Due to the risks of Organised Crime Gangs adapting their methods, and to prevent unnecessary journeys by small boat, or to France under misinformation on eligibility for the UK/European Applicant Transfer Scheme, details of the route have been kept classified until operational. These changes will come into effect on the date on which the Treaty between the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the French Republic concerning the prevention of dangerous journeys enters into force.

A copy of this letter will be placed in the Libraries of both Houses.

With best wishes,

**Dame Angela Eagle DBE MP  
Minister for Border Security & Asylum**