



# APPG on Social Integration Proposal for Regional Policy



1. In August 2016 the All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Integration launched an inquiry into how immigration policy could more effectively promote integration.<sup>1</sup> Their interim report sets out six principles that they believe could promote better integration, by which they mean the extent to which people conform to shared norms and values and lead shared lives.

2. The six principles are outlined below:

a) The government must develop a comprehensive and proactive national strategy for the integration of immigrants from an economic, civic and social perspective. This should focus on access to the labour market; awareness of the UK's laws, traditions and culture; democratic participation; and the extent to which people of different backgrounds come into contact with each other.

b) Local authorities must be required to draw up and implement local integration action plans. The Controlling Migration Fund should be implemented and consideration given to an Integration Impact Fund.

c) Government must reassess its current 'one size fits all' approach to immigration policy. Consideration should be given to co-designing a regionally-led immigration system, with devolved and local authorities, drawing on the Canadian model.

d) For new immigrants, integration should begin upon arrival in the UK. Migrants should speak English on arrival or be enrolled in compulsory English lessons and should be automatically placed on pathways to citizenship

e) Better data on the integration of immigrants.

f) The government should demonstrate strong political leadership on immigration in order to build public confidence and facilitate successful integration of new arrivals at a regional and local level. Integration as a two way street should be promoted as should the role that migrants play in the local and national

1 [http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/themes/570513f1b504f500db000001/attachments/original/1483958173/TC0012\\_AAPG\\_Interim\\_Report\\_Screen.pdf?1483958173](http://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/themes/570513f1b504f500db000001/attachments/original/1483958173/TC0012_AAPG_Interim_Report_Screen.pdf?1483958173)