



Home Office



Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP  
Minister of State for Immigration

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Ms Solange Valdez-Symonds  
PRCBC, Migrants Resource Centre  
Derry House, 20 Penfold Street  
London  
NW8 8HJ

CTS Reference: M463/18

30 JAN 2018

*Dear Ms Valdez-Symonds*

Thank you for your email of 8 January to the Home Office regarding the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration (ICI) report on the application of the good character requirement in the registration of young people as British citizens. I am replying as the Minister of State for Immigration.

The Home Office accepted the ICI's recommendations in its response published on 13 July 2017. The Home Office is carefully reviewing the good character guidance to ensure it reflects our commitment to:

- not differentiate between young persons and adults when assessing criminal convictions and immigration offences and breaches of controls in relation to the good character requirement; and
- clarify the scope for caseworkers to exercise discretion when applying the good character requirement to young persons, and ensure compliance with the Home Office's statutory responsibilities in relation to safeguarding and to making the best interests of the child a primary consideration.

Publication of the guidance has been delayed but will be made available on GOV.UK as soon as possible. We remain committed to implementing the ICI's recommendations at the earliest opportunity.

*Yours sincerely  
Caroline Nokes*

**Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP**