Call for Evidence: Shortage Occupation List Review

Dear Professor Manning,

In relation to the recent Call for Evidence on the review of the Shortage Occupation List, we noted in the guidance that only national shortages would qualify. Any shortages that were localised to Northern Ireland or where the Northern Ireland economy was proportionately more dependent, would therefore not be considered. Consequently, while we alerted Northern Ireland employers to this consultation, we did not canvas them further to respond, nor did we submit an NISMP response.

We have also noted the more recent White Paper on “The UK’s future skills-based immigration system”, where it is stated that the MAC will be invited to compile a Northern Ireland specific Shortage Occupation List. We very much welcome this positive development and look forward to working with you to engage a wide range of employers in responding, once the terms of reference for this consultation and the engagement schedule is clear.

Best regards

Cllr Alex Baird
Chair, NISMP