

Evaluation of the membership and function of COSLA's Strategic Migration Partnership Board

The vision of COSLA Strategic Migration Partnership is:

To work across the spheres of government in Scotland and with other key stakeholders to ensure that Scotland is a welcoming place for new migrants, and to support the retention and integration of people in a way that helps meet our country's demographic needs.

We see the Board as one of the key mechanisms for achieving this. The Board should play a strategic role in managing migration in and to Scotland. It should represent the interests of the key stakeholders involved in managed migration in Scotland and should ensure that there is strong political representation.

In order to ensure we meet our strategic objectives we need to be guided by our members. The response to the questionnaire sent out was not as good as we hoped for and we therefore wanted to spend a bit of time today to garner your thoughts.

As a quick reminder a list of the questions can be seen below:

1. To what extent is the COSLA Strategic Migration Board successful in meeting these aims?
2. Do you have any ideas about how the Board could be improved or developed to better meet these aims?
3. Do we feel that attendees are at the right level within their organisations to ensure the forum is truly strategic?
4. Do we have the right stakeholders represented at the meeting?
5. Have you any ideas about how the membership could be changed to ensure we meet our aims? Any new members?
6. To what extent does the Board's agenda cover the range of policy issues relevant to migration? Are there policy areas missing?
7. At the meetings themselves do you find the roundtable discussions useful?
8. Are the regular updates from UKBA/SG/COSLA/JCP Plus useful?
9. Are the presentations from external agencies useful?
10. What could be done to improve/make the agendas more relevant/engaging?
11. Is there any further support the policy team could offer to ensure members can fully participate in the meetings?

The future is uncertain for most organisations and there will be a constant theme of change running through much of what we all do in the coming months and years. Given this we are keen to explore what more we can do for you to create more synergy in the future which links in with local, national and international priorities.