

National Transfer Scheme consultation questionnaire proforma (local authorities)

This questionnaire should be considered alongside the Ministerial letter of 28 August 2020 with regard to the attached proposal paper. Please expand the boxes to answer.

Please return your completed questionnaire to
NTSconsultation@homeoffice.gov.uk by 30 September

1. What is your feedback on the proposal outlined at Annex A?

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

2a. It remains our clear preference that participation in the NTS is on a voluntary basis. How likely is it that your local authority would participate in a rota based NTS as outlined at Annex A?

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

2b. If unlikely, please explain why not and what barriers to participation remain.

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

3. Should efforts to increase participation on a voluntary basis fail, it may be necessary to exercise the provisions of the Immigration Act 2016 to mandate transfers under the NTS.

This could operate either as a permanent replacement to the voluntary NTS as the primary mechanism for transfers or deployed only when required by exceptional circumstances.

While a mandatory scheme is not our preference, we would be grateful for your views on a potential mandatory approach to transfers if participation in the voluntary scheme does not achieve a more equal distribution of UASC?

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

4. The threshold at which a Local Authority can make referrals to the NTS is currently reached when it is supporting UASC at, or above, 0.07% of their general child population. This threshold is also used to determine the rate for additional Home Office funding to Local Authorities for UASC in their care.

What are your views on the current threshold? For example, should the 0.07% also include the number of former UASC care leavers within a local authority or be adjusted in some other way?

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

5. Who do you think is best placed to run a voluntary rota based NTS? The Home Office (as now) or someone else? Please give details.

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)

6. Do you have any other suggestions on how the NTS could be improved?

(Please expand box as necessary to provide your full response)