

[UN Human Rights Council 42 – Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner on Cambodia](#)

The United Kingdom thanks the Special Rapporteur for her report.

The UK is deeply concerned at the human rights situation in Cambodia. We share the Special Rapporteur's concerns about the severe regression of political rights and freedoms marked by the continued lack of a credible opposition following the dissolution of the Cambodia National Rescue Party in 2017 and the ban on the majority of CNRP officials from political activity. We urge the Government to enable credible multi-party democracy and free debate.

We urge the Government to ensure that opposition and civil society voices are heard and given a meaningful role in policy making. The transfer of former opposition leader Kem Sokha to his family home was a move in the right direction, but he still remains in detention. We urge the Government to drop all charges against him, and to take the necessary further steps to ensure the widening of political participation.

We echo the Special Rapporteur's recommendations that the political culture should focus on issues rather than persons, and regarding the need for stronger judicial protection of the freedoms of assembly and expression. We urge the government to explore ways in which the international community can support the implementation of the Special Rapporteur's recommendations.

Mr President,

Whilst we acknowledge the small steps taken by the Cambodian Government since the 2018 election, we would welcome the Special Rapporteur's views on what further steps she believes the government is willing to take to ensure greater, and fairer, political participation in Cambodia.

[Circular 008/2019: Schedule 7 to the Terrorism Act 2000](#)

The Notice of Detention provides information to a detained person about their rights and obligations under Schedules 7 and 8 of the 2000 Act.

This Notice of Detention clarifies the conditions under which a person's fingerprints and non-intimate samples can be taken in England, Wales and

Northern Ireland or Scotland. It replaces the previous Notice of Detention, which was published as an annex to the [March 2015 Schedule 7 Code of Practice](#).

Between February and April 2019, the government [consulted on a revised version of the Schedule 7 Code of Practice](#) following passage of the Counter-Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019. The government will publish the result of that consultation in due course with the view to laying the revised code before Parliament at the earliest opportunity.

Until the revised code of practice is approved by Parliament, police officers who exercise these Schedule 7 and 8 powers must use the revised Notice of Detention attached to this circular.

[New Chief Executive appointed to HM Land Registry](#)



Simon Hayes has today (25 September) been appointed by the Business Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Lord Duncan as the new Chief Executive and Chief Land Registrar of HM Land Registry.

Simon will take up leadership of HM Land Registry in November 2019. He will bring considerable experience from previous roles in the Home Office to lead HM Land Registry in delivering its business strategy and become the world's leading land registry for speed, simplicity and an open approach to data.

Business Minister Lord Duncan said:

I am delighted to announce Simon Hayes as the new Chief Executive and Chief Land Registrar of HM Land Registry. Simon brings with him a wealth of experience from his previous roles in the Home Office and will ensure the organisation continues its transformation into a world leading land registry, delivering a first rate, digital service to its customers.

I would also like to thank Mike Harlow for all of his work as Acting Chief Executive and Chief Land Registrar since January.

Simon Hayes said:

I am delighted to be appointed to this role at such an exciting and important time for HM Land Registry. I look forward to working with everyone within the organisation as we continue on our transformation journey, delivering outstanding service to our customers, and benefits for all our partners.

Simon Hayes biography

Simon Hayes is Director of Visas & Citizenship, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). UKVI is part of the Home Office and is responsible for managing the United Kingdom's border and immigration systems. As Director of V&C, Simon's responsibilities include oversight of all visitor, tourist, work, study and citizenship routes, as well as the immigration sponsorship system.

Simon joined the Home Office in 1997. He held a number of positions across police, criminal justice, and immigration policy, and spent two years as Private Secretary to the Deputy Home Secretary, Paul (now Lord) Boateng. From 2005 to 2008, he served as Chief of Staff to the CEO of the UK Border Agency. In 2008 he became UKBA's first Regional Director for the Americas, based in Washington DC. He returned to the UK in 2012 and became UKVI's International Director, responsible for the overseas visa operation, our global network of visa application and decision-making centres, and our international migration partnerships, before taking on his current role in 2014.

Notes for editors

- The Chief Executive and Chief Land Registrar of HM Land Registry is a public appointment made by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. It follows an open competition
- the appointment was made under the previous parliament by Lord Henley in his role as Under Secretary of State for Business with responsibility for HM Land Registry. The role is currently held by Lord Duncan
- Simon will take up his post on 11 November 2019. He replaces Mike Harlow who has been Acting Chief Executive and Chief Land registrar since January 2019
- Simon Hayes is currently Director of Visas & Citizenship, UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) which is part of the Home Office
- HM Land Registry's mission is to guarantee and protect property rights in England and Wales
- HM Land Registry is a non-ministerial government department created in 1862. Its running costs are covered by the fees paid by the users of its services. Its ambition is to become the world's leading land registry for speed, simplicity and an open approach to data

- HM Land Registry safeguards land and property ownership valued at £7 trillion, enabling more than £1 trillion worth of personal and commercial lending to be secured against property across England and Wales
- Find further information about [HM Land Registry](#)

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1. 14 October 2019 Welsh translation added.
2. 25 September 2019 First published.

[UN Human Rights Council 42 – Interactive Dialogue with the UN High Commissioner on Libya](#)

Deputy High Commissioner, the UK welcomes your work and that of your Office, which is critical in ensuring greater accountability in Libya. We also welcome the Government of National Accord's commitment to work with OHCHR and this Council.

The UK is gravely concerned by the significant deterioration in the human rights situation in Libya. The international community must think afresh about how to hold those responsible to account.

We condemn all violations and abuses of human rights and international humanitarian law, including unlawful killings, sexual and gender-based violence, and attempts to silence journalists, members of civil society and human rights defenders. We are deeply concerned by the continued disappearance of House of Representatives member, Seham Sergiwa, and call on the relevant authorities to investigate the matter urgently.

The conflict in Libya has cost the lives of over 100 civilians and displaced over 100,000. More must be done to protect civilians, including migrants and refugees in recent weeks. The abhorrent attacks on civilians, including on the Tajoura Detention Centre in July, are completely unacceptable.

The UK is clear that an immediate ceasefire and a return to a UN-led political process is essential to improve the human rights situation in Libya. To this end, we fully support the efforts of the Special Representative, Ghassan Salamé, and call on all parties to engage meaningfully.

High Commissioner,

We would appreciate an update on OHCHR's efforts to prevent impunity and

ensure accountability in Libya. What impact has the conflict had on this work and how can the Council further support your efforts?

[Proud to be naturally inclusive](#)

Proud of who we are

On 25 August 2019 in Manchester, something great happened. We flew the flags and righteously supported the Manchester LGBTQ+ community. We marched with colleagues from BPDTS, the Department for Work and Pensions, HMRC, Home Office and many other government departments under one unified banner – A Proud Civil Service. We stood strong and shoulder to shoulder with our civil service allies and told Manchester just how proud we are of our LGBTQ+ colleagues.

The theme of the day was deep space, imagining a world with total equality. From inflatable aliens, to pink wigs, bubble guns, gender bending cyborgs right through to what matters... smiles from ear to ear, we celebrated bursting with pride about who we are, what we do and where we come from.

Naturally Inclusive

Creating a naturally inclusive environment where people can be themselves, thrive, celebrate their differences and succeed is so important to us at BPDTS. Our goal is to make diversity and inclusion part of everything we do, rooted deep into our culture, policies, strategies and the way our people think and act.

Diversity to us, means understanding that each person is unique and individual. We recognise these differences and acknowledge that they may be visible and they may not. Differences can include anything from gender and ethnicity through to beliefs, disability, sexuality and family status.

Inclusion to us, means understanding and valuing individual differences. We strive to build a culture within our organisation for our people to prosper and flourish. This means our individuals are supported, respected, engaged, have a voice, and are able to develop skills and talents in line with BPDTS's values, aims and goals.

By creating an environment in which people can be authentic and true to themselves, we'll help them to unlock their potential and support them to be their very best. Working with colleagues from diverse backgrounds will bring fresh ideas, make us more creative and innovative – and we'll deliver more.

We help build digital solutions for a rich and diverse nation, so we want the

diversity of our people to reflect this.

Proud of what we have done so far

Over the past few years we have worked hard to build the foundations of an organisation where diversity and inclusion runs through our DNA. Whilst we have ambitious plans as to how much more we want to do, we're proud of the progress we have made to date.

For example:

- our BPPTS Women in Digital Network run events across the country promoting and supporting women in digital and technology roles
- we've been awarded Disability Confident Employer status
- we have an apprenticeship scheme in place, encouraging a wider range of people to embark upon a digital career or progress within the digital community, regardless of socio-economic background
- trained mental health first aiders to support our people who are both living with mental health issues and caring for those who experience mental issues
- we've worked closely with other areas of the civil service to ensure our people have access to some really great and established people networks
- we've signed and committed to the Tech Talent Charter – a commitment by organisations to a set of undertakings that aim to deliver greater inclusion and diversity in the UK tech workforce

Our Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

But we know that there is much more to do. So we've developed a Diversity and Inclusion Strategy that sets out what we'll do to embed our approach and commitment to diversity and inclusion. For 2019 to 2020 we will focus on 3 main areas.

Supporting our people

This means being able to be who we are, recognising our differences and respecting each other. It's about listening to each other and letting people be heard, raising our awareness of our individual and collective needs.

Creating our environment

Creating the kind of place where we all want to work, free from discrimination and harassment, with fair working practices and where we can feedback. Somewhere we can be understood and gain recognition for who we are and what we've achieved.

Attracting and retaining diverse talent

For example looking at how we recruit people – the way job adverts are written attract different people, they may have a gender bias or be off

putting for people with certain needs. This also needs to include opportunities that come up internally and for people returning to work.

Underpinning and delivering this strategy will be an action plan delivered by our Diversity and Inclusion Group and people networks, self-organising teams of volunteers, dedicating time to delivering our goals.

Joe Tetley, Diversity and Inclusion Group chair says:

We want everyone at BPDTS to be happy in the workplace and to be able to be who they are. Our mission is to give advice to corporate teams and take practical action to support diversity and inclusion.

Our Employee Pledge

We've launched also an Employee Pledge so that we can all commit to champion diversity and inclusion:

- I will treat all my colleagues as equals, respecting, acknowledging and valuing who they are as an individual
- I will create a space and a culture where we can all be ourselves, free from discrimination or unfair treatment
- I will stand by all of my colleagues as an ally

It has been signed by hundreds of people already.

At BPDTS we're creating a naturally inclusive environment where people are supported and encouraged to be themselves and to flourish. Manchester Pride was such an amazing opportunity for us to stand up and shout about it. To everyone who marched, everyone who watched and everyone who helped – you have my heart and my eternal thanks! Here's to next year...