

Student loan repayment has a new home

The new home for student loan repayment information is right here on GOV.UK. You can find information on when and how to repay, repayments, interest and what to do if you go overseas.

We hope the move will create a better experience for our customers by providing a central point for repayment information.

Visit our [repayment guide](#), or why not follow us or ask us a question on [Facebook](#)?

Commissioning letter to the Biometrics and Forensic Ethics Group 2019

The Biometrics and Forensics Group (BFEG) has been commissioned to provide independent advice to ministers on ethical issues related to the use of biometrics and forensics.

The BFEG has been asked to consider and provide advice on a number of important issues including:

- the Home Office biometrics programme and governance review
- the use of live facial recognition
- the use of large and complex datasets
- the development of the Home Office Data Ethics framework
- forensic information and database policy and projects
- the biometric elements of the future borders and immigration system design
- policy related to retention of biometrics from convicted persons

Immigration advice fraudster sentenced

A man who posed as an Immigration Adviser to con £11,000 from refugees he met in social centres in Nottingham was today sentenced to 8 months imprisonment, suspended for 12 months and 100 hours of unpaid work.

Eugene Byass, 49, of no fixed address, was sentenced at Nottingham Crown Court after pleading guilty to eight counts of providing unqualified

immigration advice and services between November 2015 and late December 2017.

He was also ordered to pay compensation to his victims in full, a total cost of £11,507.

Mr. Byass befriended his victims at community and refugee centres in the Nottingham area while pretending to be an immigration adviser and legal expert. He was not qualified as an Immigration Adviser and his business, B & L Legal Consultancy was unregulated.

The offences, against vulnerable refugees and immigrants, initially took place at his offices in Vernon House, Friar Lane, Nottingham and later the Concord Business Centre, Nottingham Road, New Basford, Nottingham. In sentencing HHJ Burgess said: "Over 22 months you acted as an Immigration Adviser. You were not qualified or registered. People who seek immigration advice are vulnerable, they cling on to people who say they can help. These are serious matters, people deserve proper representation".

Speaking about the decision, Deputy Immigration Services Commissioner, Dr Ian Leigh, said, "This is not a technical or victimless crime, Eugene Byass was advising vulnerable people who could not handle their immigration cases on their own. They trusted him and he betrayed that trust. I urge people to check with the appropriate regulatory body, such as the OISC, to confirm their adviser is qualified."

1. The OISC is an independent public body, established under the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999, to regulate the provision of immigration advice and services in the UK.
2. For further media information contact Cornelius Alexander, OISC Corporate Communications Officer on 0207 211 1617.

Dstl and Lockheed Martin Sign Collaboration Agreement

A new collaboration agreement between Dstl and Lockheed Martin ensures 'open and flexible' relationship in Strategic Systems



Last month, Lockheed Martin UK Ampthill Managing Director and Vice President, Alan Lines, hosted Gary Aitkenhead, Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) Chief Executive at its Ampthill site. The event marked the official signing of the collaboration agreement between the two organisations, which will set the foundation of how they will work together, in partnership, to achieve strategic goals. This is an opportunity for Lockheed Martin and Dstl to work together in an innovative way to ensure joint investments are maximised.

The contractual work carried out under this agreement will be delivered through the Lockheed Martin Special Projects Team headed by Dave Sparrow, Director for Special Projects and Mission Support.

This long-term collaborative agreement is a pledge made between the two organisations which acknowledges the benefits of shared visions and commitments to deliver UK Sovereign capability development and joint research; maximising the benefits to the Strategic Systems domain for the UK. This is key for Lockheed Martin, it demonstrates that its expertise in this field is recognised by the UK Government and that Lockheed Martin is comfortable taking on a co-ordinating role that will leverage the broader supply chain and academia. This agreement stemmed from the Lockheed Martin Prosperity Agenda Framework which was signed by the [then in post] Secretary of State during Farnborough Airshow last year.

Managing Director of Lockheed Martin, Alan Lines, said:

I see this as an exciting opportunity to work differently with Government, managing an open and flexible relationship will maximise the development and relevance of UK capability. This is a credit to our expertise and skills here at Ampthill.

Gary Aitkenhead, Chief Executive at Dstl, said:

This is a great opportunity for Dstl. Working with Lockheed Martin will enable us to strengthen and grow the UK's capability, skills and knowledge in this area. Partnership with industry is absolutely the way for Dstl and its customers to stay at the cutting-edge of innovation.

Lockheed Martin UK and Dstl teams with Alan Lines (front left) and Gary Aitkenhead (front right) As part of the visit, the group took the opportunity to tour Ampthill facilities so that Gary and his team could see first-hand what the Ampthill site has to offer.

Jessup Brothers appointed to deliver final 300 homes at Lightmoor Village

- Jessup Brothers appointed to deliver 300 new homes at Lightmoor Village, Telford
- The development will significantly contribute towards the local housing need and marks the final phase in the long-term joint venture between Homes England and Bournville Village Trust

Homes England and Bournville Village Trust have appointed developer Jessup Brothers to deliver the final phase of 300 homes and a new park at Lightmoor Village, Telford.

Lightmoor Village is a joint venture between housing association Bournville Village Trust and Homes England. The final phase of 300 homes will include private rental properties and affordable homes, making a significant contribution towards the local housing need.

Lightmoor is one of Telford's most significant housing developments of the last decade, with 638 homes developed so far and a further 99 homes currently in development. The Village also has its own primary school and village centre, which includes GP facilities, an extra care housing scheme, nursery, shop, café, and areas of open space and parks.

Stephen Kinsella, Executive Director for Land at Homes England said:

"We are committed to building strength and depth across the house building sector and working with ambitious partners to unlock land. Lightmoor Village is the result of a collaborative partnership with Bournville Village Trust and I'm delighted to see SME developer Jessup Brothers playing a role in delivering much needed new homes in Telford."

Martin Rogers, Land Manager for Jessup Brothers said:

"We are delighted to have been selected to deliver over 300 homes at Lightmoor and are now working to secure reserved matters for this high-quality development. Jessup are working with Bournville Village Trust who will take some of the properties and manage the open spaces created, which will link into existing open space under BVT management."

Pete Richmond, Chief Executive of Bournville Village Trust, said:

“Lightmoor is one of Telford’s most significant housing developments of the last decade with its own community and distinct identity. This last phase isn’t just a key milestone in the wider development but will provide 300 new homes for social rent, private rent and sale, helping to create an inclusive and mixed community that meets local housing need. We are really pleased to be working with both Homes England and Jessup Brothers, which has a proven track record of developing great places to live across the Midlands, to deliver the final part of Lightmoor.”

ENDS.

For more information contact Kate Hall, Communications Officer at Homes England on 0115 852 6900 or email kate.hall@homesengland.gov.uk