

# Immigration proposals could exacerbate labour shortages

Over half of UK businesses employing non-UK nationals say they would be negatively impacted by government proposals for the UK's future immigration system, according to new research released by the British Chambers of Commerce and global job site Indeed.



## 53%

of businesses report they would be negatively impacted by proposals requiring all skilled migrant workers to earn a **minimum annual salary of £30k** once the UK leaves the EU.



## 57%

of employers say they would be adversely affected by plans to impose a **12-month work and residency limit** on lower skilled migrants, requiring workers to leave the UK for at least a year once their visa had expired.



## 34%

would be negatively impacted by an extension of the **Immigration Skills Charge** to EU nationals. The charge is currently paid by businesses for each migrant worker they recruit from outside the EU, adding to the upfront cost of employment.

The BCC and Indeed have created a **Hiring Handbook** to help businesses find and recruit the best people.



"When businesses are unable to recruit skills and labour at a local or national level, the UK's new immigration system must allow them to access non-UK workers quickly and cost effectively. The survey results reflect the extent of business concerns about future restrictions, charges and thresholds, as these will exacerbate recruitment costs and barriers."

**Jane Gratton** Head of People Policy at the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC)



"Record high employment and declining interest of European jobseekers in British jobs mean businesses in many sectors are finding it increasingly difficult to hire workers with the right skills. Like in any open economy, migration flows are one way to release that pressure valve but as our survey found, new proposals do not appear to flex and breathe depending on employers' needs."

**Pawel Adrjan** UK Economist, Indeed Hiring Lab