



UK Immigration Minister: Brandon Lewis MP

Brandon Lewis MP was appointed Minister of State for Immigration on 11 June, 2017.

Who is he?



Studied economics at the University of Buckingham followed by an LLM at King's College London



Elected in Great Yarmouth, a swing seat which he won from Labour in the 2010 general election



Qualified barrister



Worked on the Work and Pensions Select Committee and Regulatory Reform Select Committees



Director of a private school provider in Essex in his early career



Appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Communities and Local Government in 2012



Borough Councillor in 1998 and leader of the Brentwood Borough Council from 2004-2009



Subsequent promotions to Housing and Planning Minister in 2014 and Minister of State for the Home Office in 2016

About his constituency



Great Yarmouth was a Labour seat held between 1997-2009, but has been held by the Conservatives since 2010 when Brandon Lewis was selected by the party to stand in the area. The coastal town in Norfolk has a population of around 98,700, which is predicted to grow to 105,400 by 2021 .

In the Brexit referendum, 71.5% of the residents of Great Yarmouth voted to leave the European Union.

His views on immigration



Having campaigned for the UK to remain in the EU, Brandon Lewis is now a stronger supporter of Theresa May's Brexit plans and recently wrote an article for The Times on the importance of her remaining as the Prime Minister.



Following his recent appointment, Mr Lewis tweeted that he was "honoured and delighted" to join the Cabinet and to work with "the superb Amber Rudd" at the Home Office.



"Whilst I fully believe that some migration is necessary for jobs and growth within the UK, we do not want our benefits system acting as a lure."



Voted against guaranteeing residency rights for EU citizens currently living in the UK.



"We want to see migration levels come down to sustainable levels, which we think is tens of thousands, over the course of the next parliament."



Has been a strong supporter of tougher sanctions for immigration-related criminal offences, such as driving and working whilst disqualified from doing so due to immigration status.



Voted in favour of repealing the Human Rights Act 1998.

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