

Pastor Leon Coates - Quennevais Evangelical Church – 24th February 2023

In short – The Work Permit Policy is not something I have interacted with or had questions about from people in our community. Though I know people who have had issues with accommodation, I don't know for definite if they are under the WPP.

My own observations from the policy (after a quick read!):

1. To facilitate or encourage families to be apart for such a long time is not good for them or society as a whole.
2. What is the definition of adequate accommodation?
3. Does the migrant worker have to pay for accommodation or does the employer bear the cost? If the migrant worker bears the cost is this factored into the minimum salary requirements (is £30k enough to include accommodation costs?)
4. Appendix 3 presents some low salaries, especially if they need to pay accommodation costs from this.

These observations/questions lead me to wonder if the welfare of permit holders is sufficiently promoted by the policy. Furthermore, how is the policy policed? How is support provided to permit holders – are they aware such support exists?

I'm pleased to have been made aware of the WPP review. I'll seek to have my ears open to feedback into such initiatives in future.