

Lord Wallace of Saltaire



Government Whips Office

House of Lords

Telephone: 020 - 7219 3131

Lord Lucas
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

9 November 2010

Dear Lord Lucas,

IMMIGRATION DEBATE ON 21 OCTOBER

During the debate on 21 October you referred to obstacles in the way of foreign students coming to independent schools in the UK. I was unable to get round to your concerns during my response but should like to do so now.

The UK Border Agency worked extremely hard over the summer, which is the peak time for student applications, to process the applications quickly, in time for the start of the autumn term, while at the same time paying due care and attention and subjecting these applications to the levels of scrutiny required to ensure the safety of our border. Regrettably, the Agency became aware of a number of delayed applications made by pupils wishing to study at our independent schools, but staff at posts overseas have worked closely with the individual schools concerned to resolve any problems and conclude applications swiftly.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wallace Wallace', with a horizontal line underneath.

LORD WALLACE OF SALTAIRE