

JOELSON WILSON

UPDATE FROM OUR EMPLOYMENT TEAM
28 FEBRUARY 2008
NEW AND FORTHCOMING CHANGES

JOELSON WILSON LLP
Solicitors
30 Portland Place
London W1B 1LZ

T: (+44) (0)20 7580 5721
F: (+44) (0)20 7580 2251
E: info@joelsonwilson.com
W: www.joelsonwilson.com
DX: 9001 West End

JOELSON WILSON

UPDATE FROM OUR EMPLOYMENT TEAM **28 FEBRUARY 2008** **NEW AND FORTHCOMING CHANGES**

Immigrant Workers

From **29 February 2008** employers could be fined up to £10,000 for employing illegal workers without making the proper checks. There is also the risk an unlimited fine and a prison sentence for employing a person knowing that they are not entitled to work in the UK.

A new points-based system for visa applications will be phased in throughout this year. Visas will be granted according to how many points an applicant is awarded in different categories.

Most visa applicants will need to find an employer to sponsor their application. The employer will have to certify that the person is able to do a particular job. The employer will then have an ongoing responsibility to report if the person stops doing the job or breaks any rules.

The first phase starts on **29 February 2008** when any highly skilled foreign nationals currently working in Britain who want to extend their stay will need to apply under the new system.

Compensation for Unfair Dismissal

On **1 February 2008** the maximum compensatory award for unfair dismissal rose from £60,600 to £63,000.

New Statutory Maternity Pay

From **6 April 2008** statutory maternity pay will increase to £117.18 a week.

JOELSON WILSON

Need to know more?

Ask us. For information/advice on employment issues, please contact:

Jennifer Maxwell-Harris

Joelson Wilson LLP

30 Portland Place, London W1B 1LZ

Telephone: +44 (0) 20 7580 5721

Fax: +44 (0) 20 7580 2251

E-mail: jmh@joelsonwilson.com

Web: www.joelsonwilson.com

This document is not intended to be a comprehensive review of all developments in the law or practice, or to cover all aspects of those referred to. Readers should take legal advice before applying the information contained in this publication to specific issues or transactions.

Joelson Wilson LLP

February 2008