

## THE PROS AND CONS OF MIGRATION

There are many arguments about the advantages and disadvantages of migration and how it has affected us locally.

### Impacts on host countries

#### **Positive**

- Job vacancies and skills gaps can be filled.
- Economic growth can be sustained.
- Services to an ageing population can be maintained when there are insufficient young people locally.
- The pension gap can be filled by the contributions of new young workers and they also pay taxes.
- Immigrants bring energy and innovation.
- Host countries are enriched by cultural diversity.
- Failing schools (and those with falling numbers) can be transformed.

#### **Negative**

- Depression of wages may occur but this seems to be temporary.
- Having workers willing to work for relatively low pay may allow employers to ignore productivity, training and innovation.
- Migrants may be exploited.
- Increases in population can put pressure on public services.
- Unemployment may rise if there are unrestricted numbers of incomers.
- There may be integration difficulties and friction with local people.
- Large movements of people lead to more security monitoring.
- Ease of movement may facilitate organised crime and people trafficking.