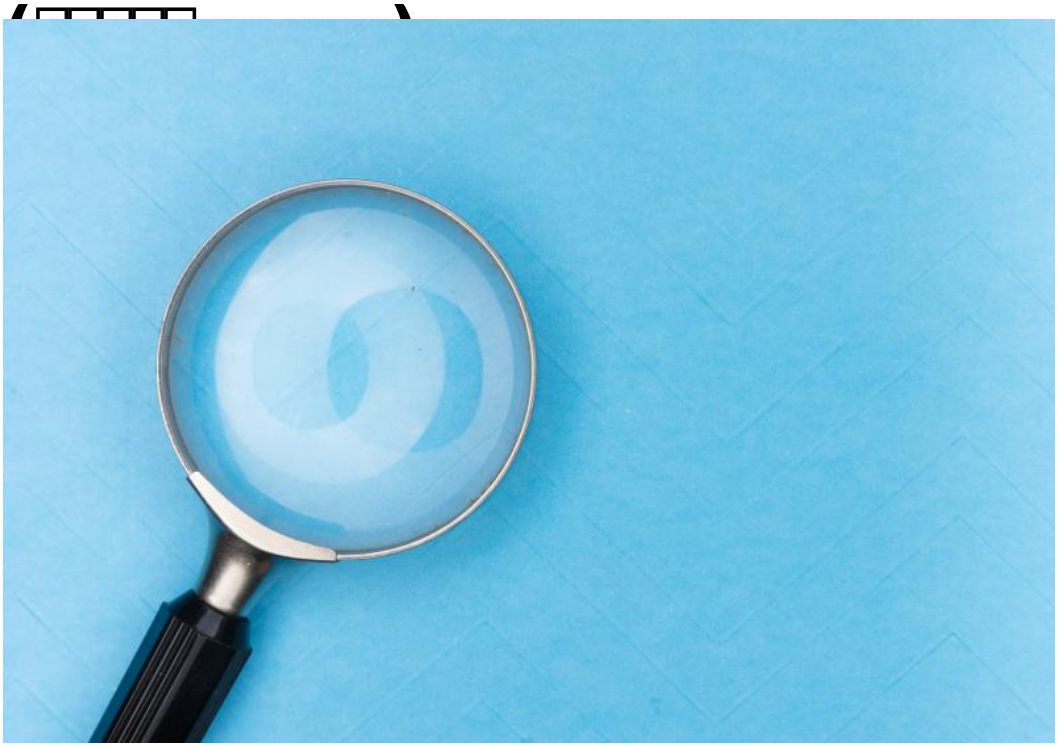


Government guidance related to Hong Kong Welcome Programme

Welcome: a guide for Hong Kong British National (Overseas) visa holders in the UK - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Hong Kong British Nationals (Overseas) Welcome Programme – information for local authorities - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Research and articles on the BN(O) visa holders in the UK

Overview:

From HK to UK: Hong Kongers' new lives in Britain (Conducted by Welcoming Committee for Hong Kongers, November 2023)

This research was conducted from a representative sample of 2,000 Hong Kongers who have come to the UK under the new British Nationals (Overseas) visa, introduced in 2021. The report covers issues including work, the cost of living, integration, belonging, language, location, future plans and the challenges that Hong Kongers are facing in the UK.

The migration intentions of British National (Overseas) status holders in Hong Kong (Prepared by the Migration Observatory at University of Oxford, December 2021)

This briefing presents key findings from the first round of a survey conducted in Hong Kong in February-April 2021 about the migration intentions of British National (Overseas) (BN(O)) status holders in Hong Kong.

Briefing Paper: Hong Kong British National (Overseas) visa (Prepared by House of Commons Library, May 2021)

Demography:

UK Hongkongers' Demographic (Conducted by UKHK, August 2022)

Where will Hongkongers stay in Britain? Survey Report on Hong Kong BN(O) Arrivals' Preferred Destinations (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, April 2021)

This survey is the first conducted by a UK-Hongkongers civil society showing UK-wide location preferences of Hongkongers moving to the UK.

Life in the UK:

Hong Kongers Facing Higher Risk Of Destitution In The UK Than Expected (Written by Lucy Leon, Researcher, Global Exchange on Migration and Diversity, January 2025)

The Welcome Programme for Hong Kong BN(O) status holders includes funding for local authorities in England to provide support to BN(O) status holders who are destitute or at risk of destitution. However, there is a large gap between the numbers of Hongkonger households applying for the change of conditions and those receiving the support from their local authority to do so. There is a need for better transparency on the Change of Conditions data in the UK, clearer information on rights and entitlements for Hongkongers and local authorities and a review of the use of the NRPF condition for Hongkongers on the BN(O) scheme given the increasing need for the change of conditions procedure.

Visas, security and access to services for Hongkongers living in the UK (Prepared by House of Commons Library, October 2024)

This was a briefing paper for a Westminster Hall debate on visas, security and access to services for Hongkongers living in the UK on 17 October 2024, opened by Connor Rand MP.

Exploring the Needs of Community Safety and Security amongst UK Hongkongers (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, August

2023)

This study covers the perceived and actual safety and security issues facing UK Hongkongers; their challenges in dealing with these threats; and the threats' impact on UK Hongkongers' social participation, freedom of expression and international travel.

Employment:

Working it out: Hong Kongers, employment and the cost of living (Conducted by Welcoming Committee for Hong Kongers, October 2024)

This research examines the challenges facing BN(O) Hong Kongers in finding work and dealing with the cost of living in the UK.

Survey Report on Work and Employment for Recently Arrived Hongkongers in the UK (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, October 2021)

This is a report of an in-depth online survey of recently arrived Hongkongers in the UK on their skills and experience, current employment status, intention for employment and/or maintaining labour market mobility, sources of information about the UK labour market, perceived and actual employment

prospect and obstacles in the UK, as well as policy recommendations. This survey is the first conducted by a UK-Hongkonger civil society focussing on the topic of work, career, employment and employability.

NHS Recruitment Survey Results (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, October 2021)

This survey aims to understand more about a new potential UK labour force of health & social care and nursing professionals from Hong Kong, in relation to occupations currently with the highest shortages in the NHS.

Education:

BN(O) Children with SEND: Addressing Educational and Caregiving Needs (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, July 2024)

The survey focuses on four aspects: a) The needs and challenges of BN(O) children with SEND and their parents in navigating the education system; b) The experience of BN(O) SEND children and their parents in accessing and using the school's SEND support services; c) The parenting experience of the parents of BN(O) children with SEND; and d) The caregiving burden of the parents of BN(O) children with SEND.

New in class: How schools can help children and families from Hong Kong to settle and integrate (Conducted by Welcoming Committee for Hong Kongers, April 2023)

This research gains the perspective of schools to understand more about how they are welcoming and integrating children and young people from Hong Kong. It finds that schools in England could do more to help newly-arrived children from Hong Kong to settle and integrate. While support varies from school to school, it also highlights examples of best practice to help schools welcome Hongkonger children.

Unlocking potential: Meeting the educational needs of Hongkongers in Britain (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, February 2023)

This is the first UK-wide survey conducted by a UK-Hongkonger civil society organisation that focuses on the topic of educational needs amongst Hong Kong arrivals in the UK.

Housing:

Briefing on Housing Situation of Hong Kong BN(O)s Arriving in the UK (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, April 2021)

The briefing highlights that finding accommodation is the top area of concern/difficulty for Hong Kong BN(O) new arrivals in the UK, and lists some of the most popular accommodations so far for them. It also outlines the deciding/driving factors for new arrivals searching for accommodation, and reflects the immediate issues around finding accommodation, along with recommendations for the government.

Mental Health:

Survey Report of Mental Health Amongst Hong Kong Arrivals in the United Kingdom (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, May 2022)

This report discusses the mental health situation for recent Hong Kong arrivals living in Britain as of April 2022, as well as participation levels in the NHS, interventions, and treatment preferences related to mental health in this population.

Integration:

Leaping into a new life: Are we Hongkongers finding our feet in the UK? (Conducted by Hongkongers in Britain, July 2024)

This study covers UK HongKongers' integration progress in economic, psychological, social, and political aspects. The report highlights the challenges facing UK Hongkongers, reasons for

moving to the UK and returning to Hong Kong.

A Study Report on Hong Kong Migrants Recently Arrived in the UK (Conducted by Department of Geography and Planning, University of Liverpool, June 2023)

The University of Liverpool conducted a nationwide online survey between November 2022 and December 2022 to examine the integration conditions of Hong Kong migrants who recently arrived in the UK. The survey addressed key questions regarding the demographic profile, geographical distribution, causes of migration, return intention, and current integration circumstances of Hong Kong migrants.

Settling in: Hong Kongers and their new lives in the UK (Conducted by Welcoming Committee for Hong Kongers, July 2022)

This study examines all aspects of Hongkongers' integration into the UK. It finds that, while people are navigating practical issues such as finding a house, job and school places for children, efforts to welcome Hong Kongers to the UK and help them settle in local communities are going well.

Rise to the Challenges: Civic engagement and social integration of BN(O) Hong Kongers in the UK (Conducted by UK Welcome Refugees and the Good Neighbour Church, England, July 2022)

This study shows that extraordinarily strong potentials were found among this group of newcomers: Most of them were highly motivated and passionate about social integration in the UK. Findings also suggest that many Hong Kongers have developed a sense of trust towards the British society, and many of them started to identify this country as their home — a place where they are longing to have a fresh start and where they are awaiting to make economic, social as well as political contributions.

UKHK Integration Project Survey (Conducted by UKHK, February 2022)

The research is to understand the BN(O) visa holders' needs and help shape the contents and services UKHK will offer.

Recommendations of support to Hongkongers in the UK

Supporting Hongkongers to settle in the UK (Prepared by Hongkongers in Britain, January 2021)

Hongkongers in Britain (HKB) was invited by the Greater London Authority (GLA) to draw up recommendations for services that should be made available to incoming immigrants. In partnership with organisations Hackney Chinese Community Services (HCCS) and the Hong Kong Assistance and Resettlement Community (HKARC), the group drafted a nine-page report, which it presented in January at a meeting with the GLA, the Metropolitan Police, and London Councils.

□□□□□□□

Updated: 20/10/2025

□□□□□□□□□□□□□ Facebook□□□

Source URL: *https://www.migrationyorkshire.org.uk/hong-kong-hub/information-local-authorities-and-vcses*