

DIRECT DEMOCRACY & SORTITION ASSEMBLIES

A Civic Architecture for the British Isles

DDSA-MIG-001

**CIVIC MIGRATION AND PROTECTION
ARCHITECTURE**

The Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles

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"We do not turn time back; we move forward with the wisdom its patterns reveal."

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This document constitutes a foundational constitutional framework within the DD&SA civic architecture for the British Isles. It establishes the principles, institutions, processes, and rights architecture governing the movement of people into, within, and through the territory of the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles. It does not constitute immigration policy in the legacy sense. It constitutes a constitutional settlement — one that is evidence-based, dignity-centred, and democratically anchored through the sortition assembly process.

No NSA Civic Rule, no Regional Civic Assembly decision, and no Local Civic Assembly resolution may conflict with the foundational principles set out in Part I of this document. Those principles are constitutionally entrenched and may be amended only through the Foundational Rule amendment process. All other provisions of this document may be amended through the standard NSA deliberative process, provided that any amendment is assessed against the Foundational Principles prior to passage.

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PART I

FOUNDATIONAL PRINCIPLES

1.1 The Constitutional Position

The governance of human movement is, in the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles, a constitutional matter — not a political football, not a lever of electoral strategy, and not a subject to be determined by media-generated moral panic or the anxieties of incumbent governments seeking re-election. This document establishes the constitutional settlement that governs how the Civic Commonwealth thinks about, deliberates upon, and makes decisions about the movement of people across its borders.

The constitutional position of the Civic Commonwealth rests on three interconnected propositions. First, that every human being possesses inherent dignity that no governance framework can legitimately extinguish or suspend. Second, that decisions about migration and protection must be grounded in evidence about the actual effects of movement on communities, public services, cultural life, and the economy — and that this evidence, taken in its totality, is considerably more nuanced and more positive than the legacy political discourse suggests. Third, that the citizens of the Civic Commonwealth are, through the National Sortition Assembly and the Regional Civic Assemblies, the legitimate and competent arbiters of how migration frameworks are designed and calibrated — provided that they deliberate from an honest evidence base and within the limits set by this document's foundational principles.

This is not a framework of open borders. Nor is it a framework of exclusion, hostility, or deterrence. It is a framework of ordered, humane, evidence-based governance — one that takes seriously both the legitimate interests of communities within the Civic Commonwealth and the legitimate interests and inherent dignity of those who seek to join it.

1.2 Core Principles

The following principles are constitutionally entrenched. They may not be overridden by any NSA Civic Rule, Regional Civic Assembly resolution, Local Civic Assembly decision, or executive action of any Civic Commonwealth institution. They may be amended only through the Foundational Rule amendment process, which requires a supermajority of the National Sortition Assembly confirmed by a majority of Regional Civic Assemblies.

PRINCIPLE 1: Universal Human Dignity

Every person who comes into contact with the migration and protection architecture of the Civic Commonwealth — whether as an applicant, a transit passenger, a protection claimant, a settled inhabitant, or any other category — is a human being possessed of inherent and inalienable dignity. No process, no determination, and no consequence within this architecture may treat any person as less than fully human, as an administrative category without moral weight, or as a problem to be managed rather than a person to be treated with respect.

PRINCIPLE 2: Evidence-Based Deliberation

All decisions made within the migration and protection architecture — whether by the NSA, by Regional Civic Assemblies, by the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal, or by any other institution — must be grounded in the best available evidence about the actual effects of migration and protection frameworks on communities, public services, labour markets, cultural life, and civic cohesion. Evidence must be presented in a form that is accessible to lay deliberators. Evidence that has been selectively curated to support a predetermined conclusion is prohibited.

PRINCIPLE 3: Non-Refoulement as Absolute

The Civic Commonwealth will not return any person to a territory where they face a real risk of persecution, serious harm, torture, or death. This principle admits of no exceptions, no derogations, and no conditions. It applies regardless of the person's conduct, regardless of any bilateral agreements, and regardless of any NSA Civic Rule purporting to authorise return to risk.

PRINCIPLE 4: Democratic Ownership Within Constitutional Limits

The citizens of the Civic Commonwealth, deliberating through the sortition assembly process, own the design and calibration of migration frameworks — subject to the constraints set by Principles 1, 3, and 5. The NSA may set admission levels, design pathway criteria, and determine integration architecture. It may not suspend the dignity floor, override protection obligations, or introduce measures whose purpose or predictable effect is the persecution of any group.

PRINCIPLE 5: Children First

The best interests of any child are a primary consideration in every decision made under this architecture. No child may be detained as a consequence of their own or their parent's or guardian's migration or protection status. No child may be separated from their parent or guardian except where separation is necessary to protect the child from immediate harm. The welfare of unaccompanied children is the direct constitutional responsibility of the Civic Commonwealth.

PRINCIPLE 6: Anti-Exploitation

The migration architecture must not, and shall not, create conditions in which people are rendered exploitable — by employers, landlords, traffickers, or any other actor — by virtue of their migration or protection status. Any provision of this architecture that would foreseeably create or sustain a class of persons who cannot access justice, report exploitation, or assert their rights without risk to their status is constitutionally impermissible.

1.3 Evidence Over Anxiety: The Research Landscape

The Civic Commonwealth's migration architecture is grounded in an honest reading of the research on migration's effects. That research — conducted across multiple countries over many decades — yields the following well-evidenced findings, which are incorporated into the constitutional record of this document as the evidence base from which NSA deliberation must proceed.

On economic effects: the weight of economic research finds that migration, in aggregate, contributes positively to economic output, fiscal balance, and innovation. Migrant workers — including those in lower-wage sectors — typically contribute more in taxes and civic participation than they draw in public services, particularly in the early years of settlement. Wage displacement effects, where they exist, are concentrated in specific labour market segments and are amenable to targeted labour market interventions rather than to migration restrictions per se.

On public services: pressure on public services is a function of population growth and service capacity investment, not of migration per se. Communities that perceive pressure on services attributed to migration are, in the evidence, typically experiencing the effects of sustained underinvestment in service capacity. The constitutional response to service pressure is service investment, not migration restriction.

On social cohesion: the evidence on social cohesion and migration is nuanced. Contact theory suggests that well-managed, positive contact between communities reduces social distance and builds cohesion over time. Integration programmes, language support, and community-level investment are the evidence-based instruments for building cohesion — not restriction or deterrence.

On crime: there is no robust evidence that migration increases crime rates. Multiple meta-analyses across different national contexts find no significant relationship between migration levels and crime, and some find negative correlations. The narrative linking migration to crime is a political construction, not an evidence-based finding.

These findings do not mean that migration raises no challenges or that communities have no legitimate interests in how movement is governed. They mean that those challenges and those interests must be addressed with instruments proportionate to the actual evidence — and that policy levers driven by fear, hostility, or political expediency are both constitutionally impermissible and empirically unjustified.

1.4 The Relationship to Inhabitant Status

This document operates in close constitutional relationship with DDSA-NAT-INH-001 (The Nationality and Inhabitant Status Act of the Civic Commonwealth). That document establishes the categories of Civic Inhabitant status, the pathway from arrival to full Civic Inhabitant standing, and the rights associated with each status tier. This document establishes the broader migration and protection architecture within which those pathways operate — including the admission frameworks, the protection obligations, the deliberative process, and the enforcement architecture.

Where this document and DDSA-NAT-INH-001 address the same matter, they are to be read together as a single constitutional settlement. Where they appear to conflict, the matter shall be referred to the National Sortition Assembly Interpretive Council for binding constitutional guidance.

PART II

DEFINITIONS AND CONSTITUTIONAL VOCABULARY

2.1 Persons and Categories

The following definitions apply throughout this document and throughout the migration and protection architecture of the Civic Commonwealth. They replace all equivalent legacy legal terminology and are the authoritative constitutional vocabulary for this domain.

DD&SA Term	Definition and Constitutional Meaning
Inhabitant	Any person lawfully present within the territory of the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles, of whatever status tier. As defined in DDSA-NAT-INH-001.
Pathway Applicant	A person who has made a formal application to enter or remain within the Civic Commonwealth under one of the four Civic Pathways established in Part III of this document.
Protection Claimant	A person who has made a formal claim that they face persecution, serious harm, torture, or death if returned to their country of origin or last habitual residence, and who has not yet received a final determination of that claim.
Recognised Protected Person	A person whose protection claim has been determined as well-founded by the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal. Carries specific rights and protections as set out in Part IV.
Unaccompanied Minor	A person under the age of 18 who is present within the Civic Commonwealth without a parent or legal guardian.
Stateless Person	A person who is not considered a national by any state under the operation of its law, as determined by the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal applying the 1954 Convention definition.
Trafficked Person	A person who has been recruited, transported, transferred, harboured, or received through threat, force, coercion, deception, or abuse of power for the purpose of exploitation. As defined and protected under Part VIII.
Civic Sponsor	An existing Civic Inhabitant who accepts legal and civic responsibility for supporting a Pathway Applicant through the settlement process, as specified in Part III.

2.2 Processes and Instruments

DD&SA Term	Definition
Civic Pathway Application	A formal application made under one of the four Pathways established in Part III of this document.
Protection Determination	The formal process by which the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal assesses whether a Protection Claimant meets the grounds for recognition as a Protected Person.

Civic Integration Agreement	A voluntary agreement between a Pathway Applicant and the Civic Welcome Programme setting out mutual commitments for the integration process.
Pathway Review	A periodic assessment of a Pathway Applicant's progress, conducted by the Civic Migration and Protection Service.
Foundational Rule Amendment	The constitutional amendment process applicable to the entrenched principles of this document.
NSA Migration Framework Review	The periodic NSA deliberative process for reviewing and calibrating the migration framework, as set out in Part VI.
Non-Refoulement Assessment	A formal assessment of the risk faced by any person proposed for return to another territory. Mandatory prior to any removal.

2.3 Institutions

Institution	Function
Civic Migration and Protection Service (CMPS)	The operational body responsible for processing Pathway Applications, managing the Integration Programme, and coordinating the migration architecture. Replaces the legacy Home Office immigration function.
Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal (CMPT)	The independent constitutional tribunal responsible for Protection Determinations, appeals, and constitutional review of migration decisions. Established under Part VII.
National Sortition Assembly (NSA)	The primary legislative body of the Civic Commonwealth. Responsible for setting migration frameworks through the deliberative process described in Part VI.
All-Island Civic Migration Council (AICMC)	The joint body responsible for cross-border movement architecture within the British Isles, including Ireland. Established under Part X.
Civic Welcome Programme	The national integration programme established under Part IX, delivered through Regional Civic Assemblies and Local Civic Assemblies.
Independent Epistemic Secretariat (IES)	The body responsible for curating and quality-assuring the evidence base presented to the NSA for migration framework deliberations, as established in DDSA-DISS-001.

2.4 Prohibited Terms

The following terms from the legacy immigration system are prohibited within the constitutional architecture of the Civic Commonwealth. They carry assumptions — of hostility, of exclusion, of administrative convenience over human dignity — that are incompatible with the foundational principles of this document. Where any Civic Rule, guidance document, or institutional communication uses these terms, it shall be treated as constitutionally defective and shall be returned for revision.

Prohibited Term	Constitutional Replacement
Illegal immigrant / illegal alien	Person without current pathway status (if applicable) — no person is illegal
Failed asylum seeker	Person whose Protection Claim was not upheld at first determination (appeal rights apply)

Immigration offender	Person in breach of Pathway conditions — the breach is the subject, not the person
Removal	Return (where safe and lawful) — and prohibited where non-refoulement applies
Detention centre / Immigration Removal Centre	Prohibited: administrative detention on migration grounds is abolished under this architecture
Hostile environment	Constitutionally impermissible — expressly prohibited under Principle 6
Bogus / fraudulent asylum claim	Claim not meeting the grounds for recognition — assessed without pejorative framing
Economic migrant (as pejorative)	Civic Contribution Pathway Applicant — all pathways carry equal dignity

PART III

CATEGORIES OF MOVEMENT AND ADMISSION

3.1 The Four Civic Pathways

The Civic Commonwealth operates four Civic Pathways for the admission of persons who wish to reside within its territory. These pathways are not hierarchically ranked in terms of dignity or moral worth — each represents a legitimate basis for seeking to build a life within the Civic Commonwealth, and each carries equal constitutional protection. The pathways are calibrated by the NSA through the deliberative process established in Part VI, in terms of the numbers admitted, the criteria applied, and the support provided.

Admission through a Civic Pathway is distinct from the protection claim process established in Part IV. A person may be both a Pathway Applicant and a Protection Claimant simultaneously, and both processes may run concurrently. A protection claim takes precedence over any adverse Pathway decision.

3.2 The Civic Settlement Pathway

The Civic Settlement Pathway is available to persons who have resided lawfully within the Civic Commonwealth for a continuous period determined by NSA Civic Rule (the baseline being five years), who have demonstrated a commitment to the Civic Commonwealth's civic values as set out in DDSA-NAT-INH-001, and who meet the health and character requirements established by NSA Civic Rule.

The Civic Settlement Pathway leads to full Civic Inhabitant status. It is the principal route through which long-term residents of the Civic Commonwealth acquire the full rights set out in DDSA-NAT-INH-001, including participation in sortition selection processes.

The health requirement for the Civic Settlement Pathway does not operate as an exclusion on grounds of disability or chronic illness. It operates as an assessment of whether the Civic Commonwealth's public health services can reasonably support the person's needs, and the default presumption is that they can. Exclusion on health grounds is permitted only where the person's condition would impose costs on public health services that the NSA has, through a specific deliberative decision, determined to be disproportionate. That determination must be reviewed every three years.

The character requirement for the Civic Settlement Pathway assesses whether the person has, during their period of lawful residence, engaged in conduct that is fundamentally incompatible with the civic values of the Civic Commonwealth. It does not operate as an automatic disqualifier for minor breaches of Civic Rules, for conduct that has been subject to restorative processes, or for conduct that would not constitute a serious breach were it committed by a Civic Inhabitant in equivalent circumstances.

3.3 The Civic Contribution Pathway

The Civic Contribution Pathway is the principal route for persons who wish to contribute their skills, experience, and labour to the economic and civic life of the Civic Commonwealth. It encompasses what the legacy system called work visas, skilled worker routes, and similar instruments — but it is framed not as the Civic Commonwealth selecting the most economically valuable humans, but as a mutual arrangement in which the Civic Commonwealth offers an opportunity and the applicant offers skills, energy, and commitment.

The Civic Contribution Pathway operates through two tiers. The first tier covers high-demand skills identified through the labour market assessment conducted annually by the Independent Epistemic

Secretariat and presented to the NSA. The second tier covers any skilled contribution that a registered Civic Employer wishes to sponsor, subject to a resident labour market test demonstrating that the role cannot reasonably be filled from within the existing Civic Inhabitant population.

The labour market test is not a barrier designed to exclude — it is an evidence requirement designed to ensure that the Contribution Pathway supplements the domestic labour market rather than displacing it in circumstances where displacement would harm Civic Inhabitants. Where evidence shows that displacement is not occurring, the test operates as a light-touch confirmation rather than a substantive barrier.

Persons admitted under the Civic Contribution Pathway carry full labour rights from the first day of their Pathway status. They may not be paid less than any other Civic Inhabitant performing equivalent work. They may organise, join civic associations, and access the civic dispute resolution architecture on equal terms. No employer may use Pathway status as leverage to suppress wages or deny rights.

3.4 The Civic Family and Kinship Pathway

The Civic Commonwealth recognises that family unity is a fundamental human value and that separation of families by migration architecture causes profound and lasting harm. The Civic Family and Kinship Pathway provides a constitutional basis for the reunion of immediate family members — spouses and civil partners, dependent children, and dependent parents — with Civic Inhabitants.

The Family and Kinship Pathway applies to the immediate family of any person holding Civic Inhabitant status of Tier 2 or above, as defined in DDSA-NAT-INH-001. It also applies, with specific provisions, to the immediate family of Recognised Protected Persons.

The Pathway does not require a financial threshold that would operate to exclude lower-income Civic Inhabitants from being joined by their families. The evidence is clear that financial thresholds for family reunion cause severe human harm and do not serve any legitimate public interest that could not be served by less restrictive means. A basic requirement that the sponsoring Civic Inhabitant can demonstrate stable housing and a commitment to support their family member is proportionate and permissible. A requirement that excludes, in practice, the majority of low-wage workers is not.

Extended family members — adult children, siblings, grandparents, and others not covered by the immediate family definition — may apply under the Family and Kinship Pathway subject to NSA Civic Rules specifying the criteria. The default NSA position is that extended family reunion is a matter for compassionate discretion exercised by the CMPT, not a blanket exclusion.

3.5 The Civic Study Pathway

The Civic Commonwealth values the presence of students from across the world as a contribution to the intellectual and cultural life of the Civic Commonwealth, and as an expression of the Civic Commonwealth's openness to the world. The Civic Study Pathway provides a basis for persons to reside within the Civic Commonwealth for the purposes of education at a registered Civic Learning Institution.

The Civic Study Pathway operates without a cap on numbers. The number of students admitted is determined by the capacity of registered Civic Learning Institutions and the choices of individual applicants, not by an arbitrary numerical limit. The NSA may review the overall scale of student admission in the context of its broader migration framework review, but may not set a numerical cap that operates as a deterrent rather than a capacity management instrument.

Persons admitted under the Civic Study Pathway may work for a number of hours per week determined by NSA Civic Rule, for the purpose of supporting themselves during study. They may not be denied access to healthcare, civic safety nets, or legal support by virtue of their Pathway status. Upon completion of their studies, they may transfer to the Civic Contribution Pathway subject to meeting its criteria.

3.6 Pathway Management and Capacity

The NSA sets, through its annual migration framework review, the overall capacity parameters for each Pathway. These parameters are evidence-based — drawn from labour market assessments, public service capacity assessments, housing availability data, and civic integration capacity assessments — and are not driven by political targets, media pressure, or electoral calculation.

The NSA may not set a net migration target. Net migration is not a policy instrument — it is an outcome of many intersecting decisions about admission, departure, economic conditions, and international events. Governing to a net migration target has, as the legacy system demonstrates repeatedly, led to perverse outcomes, genuine human harm, and the systematic degradation of migration governance. Targets are constitutionally prohibited.

Pathway Summary Matrix

Civic Settlement Pathway	Long-term residents seeking full Civic Inhabitant status
Civic Contribution Pathway	Skilled and economic contributors — all labour rights from day one
Civic Family & Kinship	Family reunion — no financial exclusion threshold
Civic Study Pathway	Students — uncapped, with work rights and welfare access

All pathways carry equal dignity. No pathway is superior in moral or constitutional worth.

PART IV

PROTECTION OBLIGATIONS

4.1 Constitutional Obligation to Protect

The protection of persons fleeing persecution, serious harm, torture, or death is not a discretionary act of generosity by the Civic Commonwealth — it is a constitutional obligation. That obligation arises from the foundational principle of universal human dignity, from the Civic Commonwealth's commitment to international protection instruments, and from the recognition that the historical record of what happens when nations refuse protection to those who need it is one of the darkest chapters of human history.

The protection obligation is given constitutional force by this document. No NSA Civic Rule, no Regional Civic Assembly resolution, and no executive action may reduce, suspend, or circumvent the protection obligations established in this Part. Any instrument purporting to do so is constitutionally void and shall be referred immediately to the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal for a declaration of invalidity.

The Civic Commonwealth is a signatory to the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, to the 1984 Convention Against Torture, to the European Convention on Human Rights as maintained within the Civic Commonwealth's own constitutional framework, and to all other relevant international protection instruments. These instruments are incorporated into the domestic constitutional order of the Civic Commonwealth and are directly enforceable before the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal.

4.2 Grounds for Protection

The Civic Commonwealth recognises protection claims on the following grounds. These grounds are to be interpreted generously, in the spirit of the protection instruments from which they derive, and not restrictively in the interest of reducing the number of recognitions.

1. **Refugee Status:** A person who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion, is outside the country of their nationality and is unable, or owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail themselves of the protection of that country.
2. **Complementary Protection:** A person who does not qualify as a refugee but who faces a real risk of suffering serious harm if returned to their country of origin, including torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, or serious and individual threat to life by reason of indiscriminate violence in situations of international or internal armed conflict.
3. **Climate and Environmental Protection:** A person who faces a real risk to life, physical integrity, or access to basic subsistence as a direct result of climate change impacts — including rising sea levels, extreme weather events, desertification, or the collapse of food systems — in their country of origin, where that country is unable or unwilling to provide adequate protection. The Civic Commonwealth is among the first constitutional frameworks globally to enshrine climate protection grounds at the constitutional level.
4. **Statelessness Protection:** A person who is stateless and faces a real risk of harm if denied protection and left without any effective nationality or civic status.
5. **Persecution by Non-State Actors:** A person who faces persecution by non-state actors — including criminal organisations, armed groups, and other entities — where the state of origin is unable or unwilling to provide adequate protection.

4.3 The Protection Determination Process

All protection claims are determined by the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal, as established in Part VII. The determination process is governed by the following constitutional requirements.

- Every Protection Claimant is entitled to a personal interview conducted in a language they understand, with a qualified interpreter, by a Tribunal member who is trained in trauma-informed interviewing techniques.
- Every Protection Claimant is entitled to legal representation by a Civic Advocate, at no cost to the Claimant, throughout the determination process.
- Every Protection Claimant is entitled to know the case against recognition — that is, to know what evidence or reasoning leads the Tribunal to consider that their claim may not meet the grounds for recognition — before that reasoning becomes determinative.
- Every Protection Claimant is entitled to a decision within a timescale established by NSA Civic Rule, and to regular updates on the progress of their claim.
- Every Protection Claimant is entitled to remain within the Civic Commonwealth during the determination of their claim and during any appeal, and may not be removed during this period under any circumstances.
- The standard of proof in protection determinations is whether the Claimant has demonstrated, to a reasonable degree of likelihood, that the grounds for protection are met. It is not the criminal standard of beyond reasonable doubt. Where evidence is difficult to obtain because of the circumstances giving rise to the claim, the benefit of the doubt is extended to the Claimant.

Recognised Protected Persons are granted an initial period of Protection Status by NSA Civic Rule, during which they have access to all civic support services, the right to work, the right to family reunion under the Family and Kinship Pathway, and the right to participate in the civic life of the Civic Commonwealth. At the end of the initial period, their Protection Status is reviewed. Where the grounds giving rise to the initial recognition persist, Protection Status is renewed. Where those grounds have materially and permanently ceased, Protection Status may be converted to an alternative Pathway at the Claimant's option, or the question of return may be assessed — with a full non-refoulement assessment and the right of appeal.

4.4 Climate and Environmental Protection

The climate protection ground in Section 4.2(3) represents a significant constitutional innovation. The Civic Commonwealth accepts that the movement of people driven by climate change is already underway, that it will intensify over the coming decades, and that a governance framework for the twenty-first century that does not address climate migration is constitutionally incomplete.

The climate protection ground applies to persons who face a real risk to life, physical integrity, or basic subsistence arising from the physical effects of climate change — not to persons who merely face economic hardship from climate-related disruptions, which may instead engage the Civic Contribution Pathway. The distinction is between harm to existence and harm to prosperity; the former engages the protection ground, the latter does not.

The climate protection determination requires the Tribunal to assess evidence about the physical conditions in the country of origin, the foreseeability and severity of risk, the country's capacity to provide adequate protection against climate impacts, and whether the risk is sufficiently specific and serious to engage the protection ground. The IES maintains a standing database of climate risk assessments by territory, updated annually, which informs Tribunal determinations.

The Civic Commonwealth commits to advocating internationally for the formal recognition of climate protection grounds within international refugee and migration law, recognising that its domestic constitutional innovation is most effective when it is part of a broader international framework.

4.5 Stateless Persons

Statelessness — the condition of being a person not recognised as a national by any state — is one of the most severe forms of legal vulnerability. Stateless persons lack access to the state protections and rights that most people take for granted: they cannot hold a passport, may not be able to marry legally, access education, open a bank account, or work lawfully. The Civic Commonwealth treats statelessness as a protection emergency.

The CMPT maintains a dedicated Statelessness Determination Process, separate from but coordinated with the protection determination process, through which persons may be formally recognised as stateless within the Civic Commonwealth's constitutional framework. Recognition as stateless triggers immediate access to Civic Commonwealth documentation, civic support, and a pathway towards full Civic Inhabitant status.

4.6 Non-Refoulement as Absolute Principle

Non-refoulement — the principle that no person may be returned to a territory where they face a real risk of persecution, serious harm, torture, or death — is an absolute principle within the Civic Commonwealth's constitutional order. It is not subject to exceptions on grounds of national security, public order, diplomatic considerations, or any other interest.

The absolute nature of this principle is not accidental. It reflects the recognition that the moment non-refoulement becomes conditional — the moment it is made subject to balancing against other interests — it ceases to function as a protection. The Civic Commonwealth's history, and the history of the world in the twentieth century, provides ample evidence of what happens when protection principles are made conditional: they are progressively eroded by political pressure until they afford no protection at all.

Before any person is returned from the Civic Commonwealth to another territory — under any circumstances and for any stated reason — a non-refoulement assessment must be conducted by the CMPT. That assessment is subject to appeal. No removal takes place while any appeal is pending.

PART V

RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS WITHIN THE CIVIC COMMONWEALTH

5.1 The Universal Dignity Floor

Every person present within the territory of the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles — regardless of their Pathway status, regardless of whether they are a Protection Claimant, regardless of whether they are in the process of return, and regardless of any breach of Pathway conditions — is entitled to the following rights. These rights constitute the Universal Dignity Floor and may not be suspended, limited, or conditioned by any NSA Civic Rule, institutional decision, or administrative action.

THE UNIVERSAL DIGNITY FLOOR — RIGHTS OF ALL PERSONS

1. The right not to be subjected to torture, inhuman, or degrading treatment — absolute, no exceptions.
2. The right to emergency healthcare, including mental health crisis support.
3. The right to know, in a language they understand, their status, their rights, and what processes apply to them.
4. The right to legal advice — at no cost — before any decision that may result in their removal from the Civic Commonwealth.
5. The right not to be detained on migration or protection grounds — administrative detention on these grounds is abolished.
6. The right to have their children's welfare assessed and protected at every stage of any process.
7. The right to report crimes, exploitation, or harm to Civic Policing without that report being used against their Pathway status.
8. The right to be treated with dignity and respect by every member of every Civic institution they interact with.

5.2 Rights Activated Immediately on Entry

The following rights are activated at the moment a person enters the territory of the Civic Commonwealth, including persons who have entered without a Pathway Application, persons at the point of entry, and Protection Claimants. They do not require any prior process or determination to take effect.

- The right to make a protection claim and to have that claim assessed.
- The right to emergency accommodation where the person has no means of securing it.
- The right to emergency food and basic necessities where the person has no means of securing them.
- The right to be safe from exploitation, trafficking, and violence, and to report such harms to civic authorities.
- The right to access healthcare for urgent or acute needs.
- The right to be assessed for vulnerability — including vulnerability arising from torture, trafficking, severe mental health conditions, or disability — and to have that vulnerability taken into account in all subsequent processes.

- For children: immediate access to education within a timescale determined by NSA Civic Rule.

5.3 Rights Activated Through Pathway Progress

The following rights are activated as a person progresses through the Pathway system. They are calibrated to the level of commitment and reciprocity that the Pathway system embodies, while ensuring that no person is left in circumstances of destitution or severe disadvantage.

Status / Stage	Rights Activated
Initial Entry — no Pathway	Dignity Floor; emergency support; protection claim right; vulnerability assessment
Pathway Application Lodged	Dignity Floor; full welfare support; right to work (after 90 days unless NSA Civic Rule specifies sooner); healthcare; civic dispute resolution access
Pathway — Active Status	All above plus: right to work immediately; full NBI Health Provision access; civic education rights; participation in civic cultural life; right to sponsor family
Recognised Protected Person	All Pathway Active rights plus: accelerated family reunion; enhanced integration support; access to Civic Settlement Pathway after minimum qualifying period
Full Civic Inhabitant (Tier 1)	Full constitutional rights as per DDSA-NAT-INH-001, including sortition eligibility after residency qualifying period

5.4 Protections Against Destitution

The Civic Commonwealth does not permit, by design or by inaction, persons within its territory to exist in conditions of destitution. Destitution — the state of having insufficient resources to meet basic human needs for food, shelter, warmth, and hygiene — is incompatible with the foundational principle of universal human dignity.

The CMPS operates a Civic Support provision for all Pathway Applicants and Protection Claimants. The support level is set by NSA Civic Rule and is reviewed annually against the cost of living. It may not be set below a level that genuinely meets basic needs. It may not be reduced as a punitive measure, as a deterrent, or as leverage to accelerate departure. The only legitimate purpose of determining the support level is ensuring that basic needs are met while the Pathway or protection process runs its course.

The Civic Support provision is not means-tested in a way that creates barriers to access. Any person who presents to the CMPS and demonstrates that they cannot meet their basic needs is entitled to support. The administrative burden of demonstrating need is minimal. The default presumption is that a person who presents as unable to meet basic needs is telling the truth.

5.5 Rights of Children

Children within the Civic Commonwealth's territory — including the children of Pathway Applicants, Protection Claimants, and persons in any other category — carry the full protections of the Thirty Inviolable Rights established in the DD&SA Constitutional Floor. In relation to the migration and protection architecture specifically, the following additional protections apply.

- No child may be detained on migration or protection grounds under any circumstances. This is an absolute prohibition.
- No child may be separated from their parent or guardian as a consequence of migration or protection proceedings, unless separation is necessary to protect the child from immediate harm.
- Every unaccompanied minor is immediately appointed a Civic Guardian by the CMPS, who has legal responsibility for the child's welfare throughout all processes.
- Every child has access to education within thirty days of entry, regardless of their or their family's Pathway status.
- The best interests of the child are a primary consideration — not merely a relevant consideration — in every decision that affects them under this architecture.
- No child born within the territory of the Civic Commonwealth is stateless. Every child born in the Civic Commonwealth acquires Civic Commonwealth documentation at birth.

PART VI

THE NSA DELIBERATIVE PROCESS FOR MIGRATION DECISIONS

6.1 Democratic Ownership of Migration Frameworks

Migration governance is, in the Civic Commonwealth, owned by its citizens through the National Sortition Assembly. This is a significant constitutional departure from the legacy system, in which migration policy was determined by elected governments with strong incentives to respond to media pressure and electoral calculation rather than evidence. The sortition-based NSA, by contrast, is not subject to electoral pressures, is not beholden to political party positions, and is constitutionally required to deliberate from a curated, balanced evidence base.

The NSA's ownership of migration frameworks is genuine — it is not subject to executive override, it is not constrained by manifesto commitments, and it is not shaped by what is politically convenient. It is, however, constrained by the foundational principles established in Part I of this document. Within those constraints, the NSA has full authority to design, calibrate, and revise the migration architecture.

This arrangement is designed to produce migration governance that reflects what citizens, deliberating from an honest evidence base with genuine respect for human dignity, would actually choose — as distinct from what governments, responding to tabloid headlines and electoral anxieties, have historically produced.

6.2 The Evidence Architecture for Migration Deliberation

Before any NSA deliberation on migration frameworks, the Independent Epistemic Secretariat is required to prepare and present the Civic Migration Evidence Dossier. This Dossier is not a government position paper, not a think tank publication, and not a media summary. It is a curated, balanced, academically reviewed summary of the best available evidence on the matters under deliberation.

The Civic Migration Evidence Dossier for each annual review must contain the following components.

6. Labour market analysis: the current and projected demand for skills and labour across the Civic Commonwealth's economy, broken down by sector and region, based on data from the Civic Commerce Architecture and Regional Civic Assembly economic assessments.
7. Public services capacity analysis: the current capacity and projected capacity needs of NBI Health Provision, civic education, civic housing, and other public services, with assessment of the marginal effects of different migration levels on service pressure.
8. Fiscal analysis: an assessment of the fiscal contribution of persons admitted under each Pathway over rolling one-year, five-year, and ten-year periods.
9. Social cohesion analysis: evidence from the Civic Integration Programme on integration outcomes, community relations, and the effectiveness of different integration approaches.
10. International protection analysis: data on the numbers and characteristics of Protection Claimants, the outcomes of determinations, and the circumstances in countries of origin relevant to protection grounds.
11. Climate migration projection: updated projections from the IES climate migration database on anticipated movements and the Civic Commonwealth's share of global responsibility.
12. Comparative analysis: evidence from comparator jurisdictions on the outcomes of different migration frameworks, presented without normative framing.

The IES must apply the Mandated Challenger System established in DDSA-DISS-001 to the migration evidence base — meaning that a designated reviewer is required to identify weaknesses, gaps, and contested interpretations in each component of the Dossier, and to present those challenges alongside the main findings. NSA deliberators see both the evidence and its limitations.

6.3 Deliberative Sequencing

The NSA migration framework review follows the standard DD&SA deliberative sequence, adapted for the complexity and sensitivity of migration issues.

13. Evidence immersion phase: NSA members receive the Civic Migration Evidence Dossier and have a minimum of four weeks to engage with it, supported by expert briefings from the IES and access to Civic Advocates who can answer questions.
14. Community hearings phase: Regional Civic Assemblies conduct structured community hearings at which Civic Inhabitants — including Pathway Inhabitants and Recognised Protected Persons — can present their experiences and perspectives to NSA members.
15. Deliberative assembly phase: NSA members meet in structured deliberative sessions to discuss the evidence, the community perspectives, and the range of framework options. Sessions are facilitated by trained civic facilitators and are recorded for public transparency.
16. Draft framework phase: the NSA produces a draft framework document setting out proposed Pathway criteria, capacity parameters, integration commitments, and any changes to the protection architecture within constitutional limits.
17. Public consultation phase: the draft framework is published and open for public response for a minimum of six weeks. Responses are summarised by the IES and presented to the NSA without editorial distortion.
18. Final deliberation and passage: the NSA considers the consultation responses, makes any amendments, and passes the migration framework as a Civic Rule by the required majority.

6.4 Prohibited Deliberative Inputs

The following inputs are constitutionally prohibited from the NSA migration deliberation process. Their exclusion is not censorship — it is quality control, ensuring that deliberation proceeds from evidence rather than from instruments of manipulation.

- Tabloid or populist media presentations: no NSA deliberation may be based on, or responsive to, media campaigns that present migration through fear-based or dehumanising framing.
- Unverified or selectively curated statistics: all quantitative evidence presented to the NSA must be sourced, qualified, and reviewed by the IES before presentation.
- Personal anecdotes presented as representative: individual stories have a place in community hearings as illustrations of human experience, but they may not be presented as statistical evidence of broader patterns.
- Industry lobbying materials: representations from industries seeking to shape migration frameworks for their own economic advantage must be declared as such and assessed for conflicts of interest before inclusion in the evidence base.
- Arguments that rely on prohibited framing: any argument in NSA deliberation that relies on the framing that persons of any particular national, ethnic, religious, or cultural background

are inherently problematic or unwelcome is constitutionally impermissible and shall be ruled out of order by the NSA presiding officer.

6.5 Review Cycles and Framework Stability

The NSA migration framework is reviewed on an annual basis, with a full comprehensive review every five years. Annual reviews address Pathway capacity parameters and any urgent adjustments required by changed circumstances. Five-year reviews address the fundamental architecture of the framework — the Pathways themselves, the protection architecture, the integration model, and the institutional design.

Framework stability is a value in its own right. Persons planning their lives under the migration architecture — whether Pathway Applicants, Civic Inhabitants who have family abroad, or employers planning their workforce — need reasonable certainty about the rules. The annual review cycle does not permit retrospective changes to the terms under which a person was admitted or made a protection claim. Any change to admission criteria applies prospectively, not to persons already in the system.

PART VII

THE CIVIC MIGRATION AND PROTECTION TRIBUNAL

7.1 Establishment and Constitutional Basis

There is hereby established, as a constitutional institution of the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles, the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal (CMPT). The CMPT is the principal judicial institution for the migration and protection architecture of the Civic Commonwealth. It is independent of the executive arm of the Civic Commonwealth, independent of the CMPS, and reports constitutionally to the National Sortition Assembly through an annual report to which the NSA must respond.

The CMPT exercises the following constitutional functions: the determination of protection claims; the determination of statelessness claims; the consideration of appeals against CMPS decisions on Pathway applications and status reviews; the constitutional review of CMPS practices and institutional conduct; the non-refoulement assessment prior to any removal; and the declaration of invalidity of any NSA Civic Rule or CMPS practice that conflicts with the foundational principles of this document or with the Civic Commonwealth's protection obligations.

7.2 Composition and Selection

The CMPT is composed of Tribunal Members appointed through a process that combines professional qualification with sortition-based oversight.

- Tribunal Members must hold qualification as a Civic Advocate with a minimum of seven years' practice, or equivalent academic or professional qualification in public law, migration law, or human rights law, assessed by the Civic Justice Standards Body.
- Appointments to the Tribunal are made by the Civic Justice Standards Body following open advertisement. Appointment decisions are reviewed by a panel including a sortition-selected Civic Inhabitant oversight panel to ensure that appointments reflect the diversity of the Civic Commonwealth.
- Tribunal Members are appointed for renewable terms of seven years. They may not be removed except for serious misconduct, as determined by a Tribunal Oversight Panel composed of a majority of sortition-selected members.
- The CMPT includes a minimum of twenty percent of Tribunal Members who have themselves experienced the migration or protection process, bringing direct lived experience to the Tribunal's work.
- Tribunal Members receive training in trauma-informed interviewing, cultural competency, and the evidence base on migration at the point of appointment and on an annual continuing basis.

7.3 Tribunal Processes

The CMPT processes are designed to be accessible, humane, and fair. They are not adversarial in the legacy legal sense. The CMPT's role is to find the truth of a person's situation as accurately as possible, not to conduct a competition between opposing legal teams.

- All CMPT hearings are conducted in a language the applicant or claimant understands, with a qualified interpreter provided at no cost.
- The CMPT provides, at no cost, a Civic Advocate to represent every applicant or claimant, unless the applicant or claimant chooses to be represented by a private Civic Advocate.
- Hearings are conducted in a setting that minimises the formality and intimidation of legacy court environments. Tribunal Members do not wear formal robes. Seating is arranged to facilitate dialogue rather than confrontation.
- The CMPT may receive evidence in any form that is relevant and credible, including oral testimony, documentary evidence, country of origin information, expert reports, and medical or psychological assessments. There are no strict rules of evidence that exclude relevant material.
- CMPT decisions are written in plain language accessible to the person affected, are provided in the relevant language, and include the reasons for the decision in sufficient detail to enable meaningful appeal.

7.4 Appeals Architecture

Every CMPT first-instance decision is subject to appeal. The appeals architecture operates across three tiers.

19. First Appeal: a review by a different CMPT Member of the first-instance decision on the merits — examining both the findings of fact and the application of the legal standards. The appeal is a genuine reconsideration, not a review limited to procedural errors.
20. Second Appeal: an appeal to the CMPT Appeals Panel — a panel of three senior CMPT Members — on questions of law and on first appeal decisions that appear to be inconsistent with CMPT jurisprudence or with the constitutional protection obligations.
21. Constitutional Challenge: a referral to the Civic Justice Architecture's constitutional review mechanism where a CMPT decision raises a question about the validity of a Civic Rule or institutional practice under the foundational principles of this document.

The right of appeal is automatic — no permission is required at the first appeal stage. At the second appeal stage, the Appeals Panel grants permission where the appeal raises an arguable question of law or where the first appeal appears to have reached a conclusion that no reasonable tribunal could have reached. Legal representation is provided at no cost at all stages.

7.5 Anti-Capture Provisions

The CMPT is an institution that is structurally vulnerable to capture — whether by political pressure to reduce recognition rates, by administrative pressure to process cases faster at the expense of quality, or by institutional cultures that normalise the rejection of claims that would have been recognised in a more careful process. The following provisions are designed to prevent capture.

- The CMPT publishes, on a quarterly basis, recognition rates by country of origin, by Tribunal Member, and by type of claim. Any significant and sustained divergence from the norm across Tribunal Members triggers an automatic quality assurance review.
- NSA or executive pressure on recognition rates — whether explicit or implicit — is constitutionally prohibited and constitutes an offence under the CTASA architecture.
- The IES conducts an annual independent audit of CMPT decision quality, with findings published in full.

- Tribunal Members are required to report any communication from any NSA Member, executive officer, or institutional actor that could be construed as pressure on decision-making.

PART VIII

ANTI-EXPLOITATION AND ENFORCEMENT ARCHITECTURE

8.1 The Nature of Enforcement in DD&SA

Enforcement within the migration architecture of the Civic Commonwealth is not punitive in character. Its purpose is to maintain the integrity of the Pathway system, to protect persons from exploitation, and to ensure that persons who are in the Civic Commonwealth in circumstances that do not accord with a Pathway can be supported towards a legitimate status or, where that is not possible, assisted to leave in a dignified manner. Enforcement is never the purpose; it is an instrument in service of legitimate governance.

The abolition of administrative immigration detention is among the most significant structural changes from the legacy system. The evidence on immigration detention is clear: it does not deter irregular entry or overstay; it causes severe and lasting psychological harm to those detained, including children; it is enormously costly; and it provides no benefit that cannot be achieved through community-based alternatives. No person in the Civic Commonwealth may be deprived of their liberty on the basis of their migration or protection status.

8.2 Prohibited Enforcement Methods

The following enforcement methods are constitutionally prohibited within the Civic Commonwealth's migration architecture. They were features of the legacy system and were associated with significant human rights violations. Their abolition is permanent.

- Administrative immigration detention: the detention of any person on the basis of their migration or protection status, without criminal charge or conviction.
- Fast-track processing that denies adequate time and support for protection claims to be fairly assessed.
- Charter removals: the use of charter flights for the mass removal of persons without adequate individual assessment of each person's rights and circumstances.
- Deeming clauses: provisions that deem a person's country of origin or a third country to be safe in a manner that is not amenable to challenge on the individual facts.
- Data sharing between the CMPS and employers, landlords, or service providers for the purpose of creating a hostile environment for persons of uncertain status.
- Removal of a person without completion of a non-refoulement assessment and exhaustion of appeal rights.
- The use of destitution as an enforcement tool: deliberately setting support levels below the basic needs threshold to coerce persons into leaving.

8.3 Trafficking and Modern Slavery

Trafficking and modern slavery are among the most serious violations of human dignity that occur within and across borders. The Civic Commonwealth treats trafficking victims as the primary concern of its response — not as immigration enforcement subjects. No person who is identified or suspected to be a trafficking victim is subject to migration enforcement action during the period in which their trafficking status is being assessed or in which they are receiving support.

The National Referral Mechanism for trafficking victims is integrated into the Civic Migration and Protection Tribunal's processes. Identification of trafficking victims is the responsibility of all civic institutions — not only the CMPS — and all civic workers who may encounter trafficking victims receive mandatory training in identification.

Trafficking victims receive a minimum recovery period of one hundred and eighty days, during which they cannot be removed, during which they receive full support, and during which they have access to specialist legal and psychological support. At the end of the recovery period, they may apply for recognition as a Recognised Protected Person on the basis of the protection grounds established in Part IV, or may apply under any other Pathway for which they qualify.

No person may be prosecuted for offences committed as a direct result of their trafficking — including offences related to illegal entry, illegal working, or other breaches of Civic Rules — where those offences were a direct consequence of their exploitation.

8.4 Employer Accountability

Employers within the Civic Commonwealth who knowingly exploit, underpay, or abuse persons by reason of their Pathway or protection status commit a serious breach of Civic Rules, subject to Consequences under the Civic Justice Architecture. The accountability framework for employers is designed to ensure that the migration architecture does not create a reserve of exploitable labour.

- Registered Civic Employers who sponsor persons under the Civic Contribution Pathway carry legal responsibility for ensuring those persons are paid and treated in accordance with their rights. Failure to do so constitutes a Tier Two breach under the Civic Justice Architecture.
- Employers who are found to have deliberately exploited Pathway status as leverage — including through threats of reporting to the CMPS, threats of withdrawal of sponsorship, or other coercive methods — commit a Tier Three breach and may face Organisational Consequence up to and including Organisational Dissolution under the Civic Justice Architecture.
- Persons who report employer exploitation cannot have that report used against their Pathway status. Reports of exploitation to the Civic Policing service or the CMPT are treated as protected disclosures.
- The CMPS conducts annual audits of registered Civic Employers, with unannounced visits where intelligence suggests exploitation may be occurring.

8.5 Housing and Accommodation Protections

Persons in Pathway status or Protection Claimant status are entitled to housing that meets the Civic Commonwealth's basic habitability standards, as defined by the Civic Building Architecture. No person with Pathway or Protection status may be required to live in substandard accommodation as a condition of their status.

The CMPS operates a housing support function that assists Pathway Applicants and Protection Claimants in securing and maintaining adequate accommodation. Where a person cannot secure accommodation independently, the CMPS provides accommodation directly or through contracted Civic Housing providers. Accommodation provided by the CMPS is integrated into the wider civic community — not in isolated detention-like facilities. Dispersal to different regions is managed to ensure that integration support is available and that community capacity is not concentrated in particular areas, but dispersal may not be used as a punitive measure and must take account of the person's existing community and family connections.

PART IX

INTEGRATION, COMMUNITY, AND CULTURAL ARCHITECTURE

9.1 The Integration Principle

Integration is a two-way process. It requires effort and commitment from those who have come to the Civic Commonwealth, and it requires openness, investment, and genuine welcome from the communities and institutions of the Civic Commonwealth. An integration framework that demands adaptation only from newcomers and nothing from established communities is not integration — it is assimilation under duress, which the evidence consistently shows to be less effective at producing social cohesion than genuine mutual accommodation.

The Civic Commonwealth's integration architecture is based on the following evidence-based propositions. First, that positive contact — meaningful, equal-status contact between people from different backgrounds — is the most effective instrument for building social cohesion. Second, that language support is an enabling condition for integration, not a marker of commitment — those who cannot communicate in the local language are not bad integrators, they are people who need language support. Third, that economic inclusion is integration's foundation — people who work, who contribute, and who have economic security are integrated people, regardless of cultural background. Fourth, that community investment matters — communities that feel their services and neighbourhoods are well-resourced welcome newcomers; communities that feel under-resourced blame newcomers for pressures that are not their fault.

9.2 The Civic Welcome Programme

The Civic Welcome Programme is the national integration framework of the Civic Commonwealth. It is delivered through Regional Civic Assemblies and Local Civic Assemblies, with national coordination by the CMPS. It is voluntary in character — participation cannot be made a condition of Pathway status — but the evidence shows that voluntary programmes with high-quality support have higher uptake and better outcomes than mandatory programmes with punitive elements.

The Civic Welcome Programme provides the following to all Pathway Applicants and Protection Claimants, free of charge.

- Civic orientation: an introduction to the civic architecture of the Civic Commonwealth, including the sortition assembly system, the rights architecture, the civic support systems, and the cultural values of the communities in which the person will settle.
- Language support: access to community language classes at a level appropriate to the person's starting point, with childcare provision where needed to enable participation.
- Employment support: skills assessment, qualification recognition assessment, employer introduction, and mentoring from Civic Inhabitants who have themselves been through the integration process.
- Community connection: structured introduction to local civic organisations, community groups, and civic life, including invitation to civic events and participation in Local Civic Assembly public sessions.
- Wellbeing support: access to NHS-equivalent mental health support, cultural community organisations, and peer support networks.
- Legal guidance: plain-language guidance on Pathway rights, Pathway obligations, and the civic dispute resolution architecture.

9.3 Language and Communication Support

Language support is not gatekeeping — it is an enabling right. The Civic Commonwealth provides language support to all Pathway Applicants and Protection Claimants who need it, and does not make Pathway progress conditional on reaching any particular language standard within any particular time frame. The language support provision is generous because the evidence shows that generous support produces better language acquisition outcomes than punitive approaches.

The Civic Commonwealth maintains a Civic Language Service that provides interpretation and translation across all civic functions — healthcare, civic proceedings, CMPS interactions, CMPT hearings, and Local Civic Assembly communications. No person in the Civic Commonwealth should be unable to access civic support or civic justice because of a language barrier. The cost of this service is borne by the Civic Commonwealth and is not charged to individuals.

9.4 Cultural Exchange Architecture

The Civic Commonwealth is enriched by the cultural, intellectual, artistic, culinary, and social contributions of people from across the world. The cultural exchange architecture does not treat newcomers as problems to be managed but as contributors to the civic and cultural life of a diverse, open, and outward-looking society.

Local Civic Assemblies are required to include civic cultural exchange programming in their annual civic life plans. This programming facilitates genuine exchange — not the performance of diversity for institutional tick-boxes, but the creation of genuine, sustained, mutual cultural engagement in which all communities are learners and all communities are teachers.

The Civic Commonwealth maintains a cross-cultural civic education programme within the Civic Education Framework, ensuring that children from all backgrounds learn about the histories, contributions, and cultures of the communities that make up the Civic Commonwealth. This programme is designed to build the civic common culture — the shared commitment to sortition democracy, to human dignity, and to evidence-based governance — that is the civic commonwealth of values that holds the Civic Commonwealth together.

9.5 Dispersal and Community Capacity

The CMPS manages the geographic distribution of Pathway Applicants and Protection Claimants in consultation with Regional Civic Assemblies and Local Civic Assemblies. The objectives of geographic distribution are to ensure that integration support is available to those who need it, to avoid the concentration of newly arrived persons in communities with the lowest service capacity, and to enable the positive cultural exchange and community cohesion that the integration architecture is designed to produce.

Dispersal is managed transparently and with genuine consultation with the persons affected. Persons are not moved away from family connections, established community ties, or healthcare needs without genuine justification and without their understanding and, where reasonably possible, their agreement. Dispersal decisions may be challenged before the CMPT.

PART X

ALL-ISLAND ARCHITECTURE: IRELAND AND THE BRITISH ISLES

10.1 The Special Relationship

The movement of people between the nations of the British Isles — England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Republic of Ireland — carries a particular constitutional significance within the DD&SA architecture. The British Isles share deep historical, cultural, familial, and economic ties that predate and transcend political borders. The DD&SA framework, as elaborated in DDSA-GOV-IRE-001 (All-Ireland Civic Operating System), acknowledges the special character of cross-island relationships and establishes an architecture for their governance that reflects their human reality.

The relationship between the Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles and the Republic of Ireland in particular is one of the most complex and historically significant in the DD&SA architecture. The legacy Common Travel Area arrangement, and the particular constitutional sensitivities around the island of Ireland arising from the peace process, require a bespoke constitutional treatment within this migration architecture. That treatment is set out in this Part and must be read in conjunction with DDSA-GOV-IRE-001.

10.2 Cross-Border Movement

Freedom of movement between the Civic Commonwealth and the Republic of Ireland is a constitutional commitment of the DD&SA architecture. It reflects the recognition that the families, communities, economic relationships, and cultural ties of the island of Ireland do not conform to the border between the north and south of that island, and that any governance framework that treats that border as an ordinary international frontier is one that has failed to understand the reality it is governing.

This freedom of movement does not mean that the migration architecture of the Civic Commonwealth applies identically at the Civic Commonwealth-Ireland border as it does at other international entry points. It means that the All-Island Civic Migration Council, established in Section 10.3, manages the specific border arrangements in a way that preserves the constitutional commitment to cross-border movement while maintaining the integrity of both the Civic Commonwealth's and Ireland's respective governance frameworks.

10.3 The All-Island Civic Migration Council

The All-Island Civic Migration Council (AICMC) is a joint constitutional body of the Civic Commonwealth and the Republic of Ireland, established to manage the migration and movement dimensions of the cross-island relationship. It is composed of representatives drawn from the National Sortition Assembly, the Regional Civic Assemblies of the relevant regions, and equivalent Irish civic institutions as agreed with the Irish government through constitutional dialogue.

The AICMC exercises the following functions.

- Coordinating the movement arrangements between the Civic Commonwealth and Ireland, including the administration of the Common Travel Area successor arrangements.
- Ensuring that movement arrangements do not create anomalies or gaps that could be exploited by trafficking networks or others seeking to undermine the integrity of either jurisdiction's migration architecture.

- Managing situations where persons who have entered Ireland seek to cross into the Civic Commonwealth, and vice versa, ensuring that protection obligations are honoured and that persons are not subject to chain refoulement.
- Facilitating the recognition of Pathway and Protection status between the two jurisdictions where this serves the interests of persons and is agreed between the jurisdictions.
- Reporting annually to both the National Sortition Assembly and to the Oireachtas on the functioning of the cross-border movement architecture.

10.4 Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories

The Channel Islands, the Isle of Man, and any Civic Commonwealth Overseas Territories operate under separate constitutional arrangements in relation to migration, as established by their respective constitutional instruments. This document does not apply directly to those territories. However, the foundational principles of this document — and in particular the non-refoulement principle, the prohibition on administrative detention, and the Universal Dignity Floor — apply to any person who enters the Civic Commonwealth from those territories or who transits through them.

The CMPS maintains liaison arrangements with the relevant authorities in Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories to ensure that the protection obligations of the Civic Commonwealth are not undermined by the use of those territories as transit points or processing locations.

PART XI

CLIMATE MIGRATION AND FUTURE PRESSURES

11.1 Climate Migration as Constitutional Reality

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and the International Organization for Migration project that hundreds of millions of people will be displaced by climate change over the coming decades. Sea level rise, extreme weather events, desertification, water scarcity, and the collapse of agricultural systems will render vast areas of the world uninhabitable. The movement of people in response to these conditions is not a future possibility — it is already underway.

A constitutional framework for the British Isles that does not address climate migration is one that will be overwhelmed by events. The Civic Commonwealth's decision to enshrine a climate protection ground in Part IV of this document, and to establish the anticipatory framework in this Part, is a recognition that governance must address the conditions of the coming century, not merely of the past one.

11.2 The Anticipatory Framework

The Anticipatory Framework for Climate Migration is a standing constitutional instrument that directs the NSA, the CMPS, and the IES to plan for climate-driven migration rather than respond to it reactively. Its key components are as follows.

- The IES maintains a rolling twenty-year climate migration projection, updated annually, assessing likely movement patterns and the Civic Commonwealth's anticipated share of global climate displacement.
- The NSA migration framework review includes, in every five-year comprehensive review, a dedicated session on climate migration projections and the Civic Commonwealth's planned response.
- The Civic Commonwealth maintains a Climate Migration Readiness Reserve — a dedicated allocation within the Civic Commonwealth's fiscal architecture — for the purpose of scaling integration and support infrastructure in response to increased climate migration flows.
- The CMPS maintains operational surge capacity plans that can be activated when climate events produce significant sudden increases in protection claim volumes.
- The Civic Commonwealth actively participates in and advocates for international frameworks for climate migration, including in the UNHCR Global Compact processes, the International Organization for Migration, and any successor international instruments.

11.3 International Leadership Role

The Civic Commonwealth of the British Isles, as a historically significant greenhouse gas emitter and as a high-capacity civic commonwealth, bears a particular moral responsibility in relation to climate migration. The atmospheric emissions that have driven climate change were disproportionately generated by industrialised nations including those of the British Isles. The communities most vulnerable to climate displacement are disproportionately located in lower-income countries that contributed least to the emissions causing that displacement.

This moral reality has constitutional weight in the DD&SA architecture. The Civic Commonwealth's climate migration framework is not calibrated to do the minimum; it is calibrated to reflect the Civic

Commonwealth's fair share of global responsibility, as assessed by the IES through a methodology that accounts for both historical emissions and current capacity. This fair share assessment is published, is subject to NSA scrutiny, and informs the Civic Commonwealth's international advocacy positions.

11.4 Internal Climate Displacement

Climate change will also produce internal displacement within the territory of the Civic Commonwealth — communities in low-lying coastal areas, river floodplains, and areas subject to increased extreme weather will face pressures that may require managed relocation. This internal displacement is not a migration matter in the international sense, but it shares structural features with migration and is addressed within this architecture for the sake of constitutional completeness.

Persons who are displaced from their homes within the Civic Commonwealth as a consequence of climate impacts are not migrants; they are Civic Inhabitants exercising their right to safety and to support from the Civic Commonwealth. They are entitled to the full suite of civic support, housing assistance, and community integration support. The Civic Building Architecture and the Civic Environmental Restoration Framework — including DDSA-ENV-WLD-001 and the broader environmental frameworks — provide the planning and land use context within which internal climate relocation is managed.

PART XII

TRANSITION FROM THE LEGACY SYSTEM

12.1 The Scale of Change

The transition from the legacy immigration system to the Civic Migration and Protection Architecture of the Civic Commonwealth is among the most complex institutional transitions in the DD&SA architecture. The legacy system is characterised by: a large backlog of unresolved asylum claims; a significant population of persons who entered years ago and have been unable to regularise their status through the operation of a system that was not designed to resolve cases but to manage them indefinitely; an institutional culture in the former Home Office that has been shaped by two decades of hostile environment policy; and a judiciary that has had to perform functions that should never have been left to the courts.

The Civic Transition Authority, established under DDSA-DISS-001, is responsible for planning and overseeing the transition. The transition plan for the migration and protection architecture is one of the largest components of the CTA's workload. It requires the simultaneous establishment of new institutions (the CMPT, the CMPS in its new form, the Civic Welcome Programme), the resolution of the existing case backlog, the regularisation of long-term residents without current status, and the cultural transformation of the entire apparatus from hostile to humane.

12.2 Case Transition Architecture

All pending legacy immigration and asylum cases at the point of transition are reviewed under the following framework.

22. Persons who have been in the Civic Commonwealth for ten years or more, regardless of the formal status of their case, are eligible for immediate consideration for Civic Settlement Pathway status under an Accelerated Legacy Review conducted by the CMPT. The default presumption for persons in this category is regularisation, not removal.
23. Persons whose asylum claims have been pending for more than two years at the point of transition are entitled to an immediate determination under the CMPT, conducted to the standards established in Part VII, within a timescale of twelve months from transition.
24. Persons whose claims were previously rejected under the legacy system but who would have met the protection grounds established in this document — including on climate grounds — are entitled to resubmit their claims to the CMPT for fresh consideration without being required to demonstrate any change in circumstances.
25. Persons who have outstanding appeals in the legacy tribunal system have those appeals transferred to the CMPT, which applies this document's standards rather than the legacy legal standards.
26. Persons who are currently subject to administrative immigration detention are released immediately upon transition, with appropriate support and Pathway applications processed as a priority.

12.3 Institutional Transition

The former Home Office immigration function is dissolved and replaced by the Civic Migration and Protection Service as established in this document. The institutional transition is managed by the Civic

Transition Authority in accordance with the Architecture of Dissolution (DDSA-DISS-001). Staff of the former immigration function are offered redeployment within the CMPS subject to assessment of their compatibility with the values and culture of the new institution. Staff who are found to have engaged in serious misconduct under the hostile environment policies of the legacy system are subject to the accountability mechanisms of the Civic Justice Architecture.

The institutional culture change from hostile environment to humane architecture requires structured investment. The CTA commissions a culture change programme for the CMPS that is led by people with lived experience of the legacy system, is informed by the evidence on organisational culture change, and is subject to independent evaluation.

12.4 Protection of Persons During Transition

The transition period is a period of heightened vulnerability for persons whose status is uncertain. The following constitutional protections apply throughout the transition period.

- No person is removed from the Civic Commonwealth during the transition period solely on the basis of a legacy determination that has not been reviewed under this document's standards.
- The Universal Dignity Floor applies to all persons from the moment the Civic Commonwealth's constitutional architecture comes into effect, regardless of the status of the transition.
- Emergency funding is allocated by the NSA to ensure that the Civic Support provision meets basic needs from day one of transition, without waiting for the full administrative architecture to be operational.
- The CMPT is constitutionally established and begins receiving cases from the first day of transition, with initial staffing sufficient to address the most urgent cases — including all persons currently held in any form of detention.

SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: Constitutional Principles Summary

The six constitutional principles entrenched in Part I of this document are reproduced here in summary form for ease of reference. They are unamendable except through the Foundational Rule amendment process.

Principle	Summary Statement
1: Universal Human Dignity	Every person in contact with this architecture is a human being of inherent dignity. No process may treat them otherwise.
2: Evidence-Based Deliberation	All decisions must be grounded in the best available evidence, curated and quality-assured by the IES.
3: Non-Refoulement as Absolute	No person may be returned to a territory where they face real risk of persecution, harm, torture, or death. No exceptions.
4: Democratic Ownership Within Limits	Citizens, through the NSA, own migration framework design — within the limits set by Principles 1, 3, and 5.
5: Children First	The best interests of any child are a primary consideration. No child may be detained. No child is left stateless.
6: Anti-Exploitation	The architecture must not create conditions of exploitability. Persons must be able to assert rights without risk to status.

Schedule 2: Pathway Matrix

Pathway	Eligibility Basis	Key Features
Civic Settlement	Lawful residence — NSA minimum period (baseline 5 years)	Leads to full Civic Inhabitant status; health requirement without disability exclusion; character assessment proportionate
Civic Contribution	Skills demand (Tier 1) or Civic Employer sponsorship (Tier 2)	Full labour rights from day one; no exploitation leverage; annual labour market evidence review
Civic Family & Kinship	Immediate family of Tier 2+ Civic Inhabitant or Protected Person	No financial exclusion threshold; extended family on compassionate discretion basis
Civic Study	Registered Civic Learning Institution enrolment	No numerical cap; work rights; welfare access; Contribution Pathway transfer on completion
Protection	Well-founded fear or real risk (refugee, complementary, climate, statelessness grounds)	Absolute right to claim; legal representation at no cost; full support; absolute non-refoulement

Schedule 3: Cross-Corpus Compliance Map

This schedule maps this document against the DD&SA constitutional corpus with which it is in direct constitutional relationship.

DD&SA Instrument	Relationship to DDSA-MIG-001
DD&SA Constitutional Floor	Primary constitutional constraint — all Parts of this document must comply with the Thirty Inviolable Rights
DDSA-NAT-INH-001 (Nationality & Inhabitant Status Act)	Conjoined instrument — defines Civic Inhabitant status tiers that this document's Pathway architecture feeds into
DDSA-DISS-001 (Architecture of Dissolution)	Provides the Civic Transition Authority framework governing the transition from legacy system, and the IES mandate
Civic Justice Architecture (CJA-001)	Governs employer accountability breaches and all CMPT enforcement matters
CTASA (Civic Transparency & Anti-Secrecy Architecture)	Governs transparency obligations of CMPS and CMPT, and prohibition on political pressure on recognition rates
Civic Security Architecture (DD&SA-CSA-001)	Interface on security assessment within protection determination process
NBI-HPS-001 (NBI Health Provision)	Governs healthcare entitlements referenced in Parts V and IX
DDSA-GOV-IRE-001 (All-Ireland Civic Operating System)	Conjoined instrument for cross-border movement architecture in Part X
Civic Education Framework	Cross-cultural civic education programming in Part IX
DDSA-ENV-WLD-001 & Environmental Frameworks	Interface on internal climate displacement in Part XI

Schedule 4: Prohibited Legacy Terms Glossary

This schedule provides an extended reference of legacy immigration system terminology that is prohibited in the Civic Commonwealth's constitutional architecture, with its constitutional replacement and the principle it violates.

Prohibited Term	Constitutional Replacement	Principle Violated
Illegal immigrant	Person without current Pathway status (if applicable)	Principle 1: Universal Dignity — no person is illegal
Illegal alien	Person without current Pathway status	Principle 1: Dehumanising language is constitutionally impermissible
Failed asylum seeker	Person whose Protection Claim was not upheld at first determination	Principle 1: Defines persons by failure in a vulnerable situation
Bogus claim	Claim not meeting the grounds for recognition	Principle 2: Prejudges evidence basis of claim
Economic migrant (pejorative)	Civic Contribution Pathway Applicant	Principle 1 & 4: Delegitimises a constitutionally recognised Pathway

Hostile environment	Constitutionally impermissible policy	Principle 6: Explicitly prohibited anti-exploitation principle
Removal	Return (where safe and lawful, non-refoulement satisfied)	Principle 3: Neutral term obscures human significance of the act
Detention centre	Abolished — no administrative migration detention exists	Principles 1 & 6: Administrative detention is constitutionally prohibited
Overstayer	Person in breach of Pathway duration conditions	Principle 1: Defines person by breach; breach is the subject
Net migration target	Constitutionally prohibited metric	Principle 2: Evidence-free political instrument that causes governance harm
Safe country of origin	Country of origin assessment (individual, challengeable)	Principle 3: Blanket designations incompatible with individual non-refoulement

Schedule 5: Constitutional Integrity Check

This Schedule records the constitutional integrity assessment conducted upon DDSA-MIG-001, certifying that no clause violates DD&SA principles, the Thirty Inviolable Rights, or the DD&SA Constitutional Floor.

Assessment Area	Finding
Thirty Inviolable Rights	All parts reviewed. No clause restricts or qualifies any Inviolable Right. The Universal Dignity Floor in Part V reinforces Rights 1, 4, 6, 14, and 15 specifically.
DD&SA Constitutional Floor	All foundational DD&SA principles preserved and reinforced. Non-refoulement and anti-exploitation provisions exceed Constitutional Floor minimum requirements.
Sortition Assembly Primacy	NSA deliberative ownership of migration frameworks confirmed in Part VI. No provision creates executive override of NSA authority. CMPT independence preserved.
Human Dignity Architecture	Administrative detention abolished; hostile environment prohibited; destitution as enforcement tool prohibited; dignity floor absolute. Full compliance.
Children's Rights	Five-principle children's rights architecture in Part V.5. No detention of children. Unaccompanied minor guardianship. Statelessness prevention. Full compliance.
Evidence Architecture	IES role confirmed; Mandated Challenger System applied; prohibited deliberative inputs specified. Full compliance with DD&SA epistemic architecture.
Anti-Capture Provisions	CMPT anti-capture provisions in Part VII.5; CTASA cross-reference confirmed; transparency reporting required. Full compliance.
Cross-Corpus Consistency	All cross-references verified against corpus at May 2026. No conflicts identified. DDSA-NAT-INH-001 interface confirmed as conjoined instrument.
Climate Architecture	Climate protection ground constitutionally innovative and internally consistent. IES climate database mandated. Anticipatory Framework constitutionally robust.

Transition Architecture	Legacy case backlog addressed. Accelerated Legacy Review constitutionally proportionate. No removal on unreviewed legacy determination. Full compliance.
Overall Assessment	DDSA-MIG-001 is constitutionally sound, internally consistent, and fully integrated with the DD&SA corpus at the date of issue. Certified for publication.

"We do not turn time back; we move forward with the wisdom its patterns reveal."

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