

# Global Watch

## International Assignment Services

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### Ireland

#### Irish Immigration Alert

#### In Brief

An International Assignment Services (IAS) Network Publication.

This article is intended to highlight general issues and is not a comprehensive statement of the topic or the laws of that country.

As part of their key priorities for 2012, the government plans to implement immigration programmes which will attract investors and entrepreneurs to Ireland. Additional immigration concerns deal with reviews by the DJEI (Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation), tax registration requirements, and the restrictions on Romanian and Bulgarian nationals.

#### Overseas Investors & Entrepreneurs Welcome

As part of their key priorities for 2012, the government plans to implement immigration programmes which will attract investors and entrepreneurs to Ireland. The aim is to significantly increase inward investment and provide job creation. Details of the programmes have not yet been made available but are expected in the coming months.

#### Green Card Check Up

The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (DJEI) are contacting employers in respect of randomly selected employees who were issued Green Card Permits and seeking up to date information in relation to the individual's employment status, salary level, etc. Employers should consider if action is needed to avoid any unpleasant surprises in the event of a review by the DJEI.

#### PwC secure DJEI agreement not to continue to impose tax registration requirement

The DJEI implemented a new on-line tracking system which identified employers by their Employer's Registered Number for PAYE. As a result, a foreign employer wishing to apply for Irish employment permits was required to register as an employer with Revenue, even if no tax registration requirement existed.



Following extensive lobbying by PwC, to both the DJEI and Revenue, the DJEI have now agreed not to impose a tax registration requirement, on foreign employers, where none exists. This may result in significant savings for many overseas entities wishing to assign individuals to work in Ireland as it removes the additional administrative burden associated with PAYE registration and monthly tax filings. It also removes a significant hurdle which had been seen as a deterrent to some overseas organisations with Irish-bound assignees.

to the Irish labour market for Bulgarian and Romanian nationals will continue until the end of 2013. Following their accession to the EU in 2007, transitional arrangements mean that Romanian and Bulgarian nationals continue to require an employment permit for an initial 12 month period in order to work legally in Ireland.

These restrictions will continue until the end of 2013 at which stage the 7 year transition period will come to an end and Ireland will be required to grant full labour market access to Romanian and Bulgarian nationals.

## Restrictions on Romanians and Bulgarians continue

The government announced last week that the current restrictions on access

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