Immigration Enforcement is clearly staffed by complete clowns

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AN ENDLESS STRING OF STUPID ERRORS

(Section 1 of 2)

Over a decade (minimum) of total incompetence —

Is Immigration Enforcement staffed by complete clowns? Rhetorical question. You'd have thought that they'd have learnt their lesson after the Windrush Scandal. But a Commons Public Accounts Committee (PAC) report released today suggests that they *still* have balloon animals coming out of their eyeballs over there.

In 2009/10, the issue was that the Home Office dumbly destroyed the landing cards Windrush immigrants who came here in the 1950's, 60's and 70's. These cards being the only official proof that they legally arrived here. Why didn't they raise this issue?

Also during the same time period, the Parliamentary Ombudsman issued the UK Border Agency (UKBA) with a rollocking rap on the knuckles for constant rubbish service and a brainless backlog of cases.

The Agency was also found to be plagued with a climbing number of complaints surrounding issues relating to asylum, residence and various other immigration applications (with a hefty 97% of which being upheld).

Then in 2013, the Agency pathetically put itself in line for another lambasting – this time from the Home Affairs Select Committee for incompetence.

This subsequently led to the UKBA being abolished and split up into two separate agencies – UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI), and Immigration Enforcement (IE). But this wouldn't stop IE officials and staff from sporting their woeful wigs and red noses.

Next, two reports from 2014 and 2016 found that IE operations were lazily based on "low-grade" intelligence, that the majority of raids were carried out without warrants and that the questioning of non-suspects was carried out in a moronic manner contrary to legal guidance.

This endless string of stupid errors brings us straight onto today's report by the PAC.

Firstly, the PAC found that IE officials were reliant on "disturbingly weak evidence" to analyse which of their policies actually worked.

Secondly, it found that they didn't have a Scooby Doo how many illegal immigrants were living in the UK.

Thirdly, it found that IE have "no idea of what impact it has achieved for the £400m spent each year."

OUT WITH THE CLOWNS, IN WITH THE COMPETENCE

(Section 2 of 2)

The population deserves to openly criticise public sector staff performance —

It's sensationally clear that Immigration Enforcement and other Home Office agencies have enough clowns to staff all of the world's circuses, several times over.

The British people both need and expect proper border security. They need and expect efficient immigration enforcement. They need and expect safeguards for foreign nationals coming here legally.

But what they've gotten instead is at least a diabolical decade of constant lethargic incompetence.

This issue is far from the same severity caused by any endless errors that occur in the private sector. Those cock ups are largely at the expense and the burden of the business.

But in the public sector, the burden is one directly placed onto the British population and taxpayer. That's why it's perfectly permissible to be unashamedly open and critical about poor public sector staff performance.

At the end of the day, they're employed and paid by the people. The taxpayer deserves to be a bit ticked off about their money being wasted. Hence why we need to be a bit more ruthless on public sector recklessness. So how do we try fix this problem?

We need to get to the root cause of this mess and fix it, once and for all —

Agency restructuring didn't rectify anything. So this suggests to us that the snag lies directly in the disastrous day-to-day running of Immigration Enforcement and other similar agencies.

I suspect that it doesn't matter how much we mess with Home Office structure – these staff will always end up spitting out worrying results whilst they squirt water out of their fake flowers.

To get to the root cause of this rotten pain in the backside, we need focus less on precisely *what* they're doing wrong and focus more on *why* they're doing wrong.

Commons select committees love their reports. So why not have them commission one which focuses firmly on what's so sloppy about these staff and officials?

Is this an issue instigated by a lack of training? Or is it simply an issue stemming from ignorant and incompetent attitudes?

If the reason is primarily the former, that's something that can be resolved with department wide training programmes.

But if it's mostly the latter, a full-scale overhaul of staff and officials would be the only answer. However, I can see it being a messy mixture of both.

Either way, one thing is certain – there's no way we can carry on as normal. There's no point in commissioning report after report if the findings aren't coupled with wholesale staff quality reform and change.

Administratively illiterate and incompetency should NEVER be tolerated in a body funded tirelessly by the taxpayer. Out with the clowns, in with the competence!