

Sydney

Briefing Paper

Introduction:

Demographics:**Key Points:****Background:****Issues:****Leadership/Governance:**

We, as Sydney, along with Australia require citizens to vote in all elections, so everyone who is a citizen has political representation in our city. With 28 percent of Australia's population being born overseas, there is a lot of diversity in our city and country. This gives more representation to migrants and marginalized groups when there is voting because everyone who is a citizen is required to vote. Since our city itself is so diverse and has many migrants, there are a variety of people who vote for the Councillors of the city and make it diverse.

Councilors of our city believe that they should listen to their constituents and have services that allow them to prosper and succeed. Since all citizens are required to vote the representation leans toward majoritarian rule because the elected officials serve the people who have voted for them and try to make laws in order to help them succeed.

Australia's policy of granting work visas to rural areas requires we as Sydney to not have a large flow of new immigrants. This helps our city because it reduces increased congestion in our city and gives more immigrants to smaller places in order to let those areas grow more. Limiting visas in Sydney allows for rural areas of Australia to grow and advance in all the ways we have done in recent years. Since we have become such an advanced city with new innovations, the ability for rural areas to have new people to help their city grow benefits the entire country.

Both we as Sydney, and Melbourne, Australia's major cities, support the policy of granting work visas to rural parts of Australia in order to ease congestion in our city. Many rural cities also encourage this new policy because it provides these smaller areas a new population that can help advance their cities. This helps both larger cities such as Sydney, but also smaller cities so that more cities across Australia can advance and grow.

We as Sydney, along with the country of Australia are pushing towards having visas in designated areas of the country that normally don't attract a lot of people. This gives areas other than the most popular cities new migrants that can help their towns and areas grow. In 2017 Australia as a country settled the second most refugees per capita, but the increasing number of migrants has caused problems in Sydney, that can be seen in many major cities. The increased population makes the cities more congested, and increase pollution in the air.

Upon arriving in Australia refugees and asylum seekers are given a medical assessment which many would have trouble affording otherwise. They also have access to hospital care and other state-funded services that they would not be able to have otherwise.

Currently, we run migrant support systems that offer visa applications with the condition that the migrant worker lives and works in that state for two years. If a migrant is not able to find work in their state, they have the opportunity to apply to move to other states in order to have more jobs. This plan helps improve the increased congestion in the major cities like Sydney that

have seen a recent inflow of migrants. Having incoming migrants going to rural areas helps grow towns that normally don't have an incoming amount of people.

Technology allows many people to have more access to information and resources about migration and being able to obtain the correct visas needed to live in Australia. Australia as a country has many resources online that provide information about getting visas to work and live in the country and technology as a whole can help provide information to people trying to live in Sydney. Access to search engines that can provide important information about immigration can increase the ability for marginalized groups to apply for visas in Sydney.

As our city continues to grow and become more populous, the incoming flow of new migrants has congested large cities such as Sydney. When a large number of migrants come to the major cities, it causes problems for the city. The city gets overpopulated and cannot function as it would normally. With currently two-fifths of the entire population of Australia living in the major cities of Sydney and Melbourne, we as Sydney would like to encourage new migrants to take up residence in the more rural areas. Along with bringing down the increasing congestion in Sydney, this would provide new people to the more rural areas of Australia, that would help these areas grow as fast as major cities like Sydney have grown.

Urban Planning:

Economic Integration:

Australia is a major powerhouse in the Asia-Pacific nation. We as Sydney contribute a major part to the Australian economy. We have had an expansion of our economy for the last 20 years. Sydney has a population of 5.48 million as of 2018. Our populations grow 2.71% per year and with it, the economy grows as well. The Gross Regional Product (GRP) for Sydney as of 2018 was \$121.14 billion.

Some of Sydney's most important sectors include retail, tourism, international education, creative and digital, tech startups, and finally finance and professional services. Through our booming economy, we are able to support small business owners and entrepreneurs in these sectors.

In the past migrants coming to Sydney have been used for cheap labor and temporary employment, but now they are arriving on work visas for specific jobs which require skill sets. Some of the many jobs on this list include a dentist, chef, locksmith, web designer, and more.

Migrants are hired by any businessman or women that are in need of assistance in their workforce. They are not necessarily turned away for their migrant status or chosen because of it.

$\frac{2}{3}$ of the migrants in Sydney have come to Australia on work visas, on arrival most immigrants plan on staying in their line of duty, although hardships may come between them and their perfect job, we have not found a correlation between the supposed informal markets of the Australian economy.

Immigration in Australia has to refocus to skilled migration rather than family migration since 1996. This shift was caused by the governments need to fulfill the needs of the labor market and skill shortages.

There are several programs that offer help to individuals seeking help in integrating into our city as well as finding work. Although our country's current stance is to decrease migration since we believe it leads to economic downturns within our society. We believe that immigrants take the jobs of Australians and therefore we would like to take as few as possible into our city.

Unemployment in Australia is at a modest 5.0% while immigrants have a higher rate of 7.0%. While compared to other similar nations like the U.S. who boast a 4.0% rate of unemployment. We are working to fill these jobs with native Australians and not with immigrants. We believe that Sydney is full and just can't cope with more migrants into our city's borders. We are looking only for highly skilled workers who can provide their skills when immigrating into our country.

Though most of the immigrants are taking positions that labor is needed it's hard to deny Australians from those jobs they need. We believe that there is no brain waste within our immigrants since they do the jobs we need of them such as elderly care and other jobs that are needed to be done.

Our nation does provide welfare to its citizens but in order to access them, they must stay at least 3 years. We do this to make sure that the immigrants want to stay in Australia and to save some costs. These costs are upwards of 1 billion if we offer welfare and benefits to all people as soon as the immigrate. We also hope that by doing this it will deter others from immigrating into Australia. These benefits include Concession cards as well as programs like Newstart as well. Hopefully, by offering delayed benefits, it will make it harder to stay in Australia and make immigrants want to go elsewhere.

Migrants do strain public and social services provided by the government such as public transportation, hospitals and most importantly schools. Many of these programs are being severely affected by the increased amount of people using them. Schools are at full capacity hospitals are taking longer to treat people waiting in the emergency room. Affordable housing is becoming harder and harder to accommodate the larger need for houses.

Our people perceive immigrants as the downfall of our society the same way Australia as a whole sees the, therefore, we all believe that we should take less of them. The government has decided to reduce the total immigration amount from a goal of 190,000 down to 160,000. The government and the people both believe this is the correct thing to do.

Migrants are seen as not contributing to the economy and therefore we would like to see a few of them as possible cross our borders into our nation and by-product our city. As a city, we would like for as few immigrants as possible since they increase traffic during commutes and stop them from clogging up public transportation as well as taking jobs from native Australians. We have also seen that immigrants lead to downturns in our society, therefore, we would like to have as few as possible.

Social Cohesion:

Youth/Education:

As one of the world's foremost authorities in primary and secondary education, Sydney is proud to lead the talks concerning the education of migrant and refugee children. While the recent massive influx of refugees and migrants are concerning to us, we are more than happy to accommodate those who have already established residence in Sydney through legal immigration channels. In the country of Australia education is compulsory from the ages of 5-6 to 15-17 dependent on region. Since Sydney falls under the jurisdiction of the state of New South Wales, of which it is the capital, the compulsory age of education is 16. However, until the age of 17, youth must either still be in schooling, within an apprenticeship, in full-time employment, or in a combination of schooling, work, and/or apprenticeship.

Greater Sydney has around 431,824 students attending primary and secondary public government schools, according to the 2016 Census by the Australian Bureau of Labor Statistics. This accounts for 62.1% of students in primary and secondary schools, with the rest attending private Catholic or other nongovernmental schools. 52% of enrollments in our public high schools is from students with a non-English background. Each citizen child in Sydney is entitled to enroll in the government school that is designated for the region, or intake area, within which their home is located. For travel in Sydney, we provide free or subsidized travel on public transport, as well as school bus service. For example, the School Opal Card gives students free public transportation between home and school on buses, light rails, etc.

As public education is free for citizens, the education budget is dependent upon the taxes paid by residents of Sydney and NSW, and also federal funding (Taxes on Australian citizens). Funding is of no issue, as the Australian Federal Government has agreed to allocate \$93.5 billion AUD along with a \$6.4 billion AUD fund that the NSW government has itself earmarked for the purpose of supplementing the \$15 billion AUD already spent on NSW public education annually. This approximately \$100 billion AUD is to be received over the course of the next decade, increasing the annual budget on education by 66%.

In primary schools, about 8 out of every 10 teachers are female, while in secondary schools, the percentage of teachers that are female is 58.1%. A little over 1% of teachers are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. 8.6% of government primary school teacher speak a language other than English at home. For secondary school teachers, this figure is 11.1%. Our school department also provides a range of enrolment and support options for children with a disability or special learning needs. This includes additional support for children in their local school as well as specialist support classes located in some regular schools and in schools for specific purposes (SSPs or special schools).

The governmental public schools are secular. However, according to The Independent Schools Council of Australia, a large percentage of non-governmental public schools (94%) have a religious affiliation, with the majority having a Catholic affiliation.

Mental health and substance abuse are some of the many issues that Australian youth have highlighted as prevalent within their own age group and community. Australia is proud to be recognized by the OECD as being the forefront of mental health care innovation not only among OECD members but the entire world. With our moves away from hospitalization and

toward community-based treatment, we have greatly reduced the stigmatization towards the mentally ill on a path towards full deinstitutionalization. The same could be said about our treatment of substance abuse. As a country, we focus more on rehabilitation and harm minimization rather than punitive measures.

Per the Migration Act, all unlawful noncitizen children and families must be detained until they are granted a valid visa or removed. Australia is responsible for ensuring that all children in its jurisdiction can enjoy all applicable human rights, including those in the *Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC)*, *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR)* and Refugee Convention. Thus, Sydney aims to promote physical and psychological recovery to migrant children, provides them with access to healthcare and medical services, and ensures their safety and security,

Migrant children are recognized as having the right to an education on the basis of equal opportunity with other children in Sydney. They have access to local government schools or are provided with education by qualified teachers within the facility. The curriculum of the state of NSW, as well as ESL curriculums, are taught to migrant children. Australia is ranked 7th in the world for the academic performance of migrant students.

Unaccompanied minors have faced several challenges to arrive in Australia and Sydney, all without family support. We recognize this vulnerability that these minors have, and thus we provide special assistance. They are detained while their asylum claims are processed. Similar to migrant children, they are guaranteed the provision of all rights in the CRC. A guardian who understands the unaccompanied minor's needs and has expertise in childcare is appointed to the child. The guardian is responsible for ensuring legal representation, suitable care, accommodation, education, language support, and health care provision both during and after refugee status has been determined, among other things.

There are numerous non-governmental organizations that our city works with. Some of these include The Australian Red Cross, which provides help and support to refugees, people seeking asylum, people in immigration detention and other people who are vulnerable as a result of migration, The SSI, Settlement Services International, which seeks to empower migrant families to gain independence and build strong connections in their new communities, and The Australian Refugee Volunteers, who provide social services and programs to refugee children and families.

Health:

Health care is available to all of our citizens, with universal Medicare coverage, and we encourage those above a certain income level to use private insurance. Medicare doesn't cover all costs, as there is still some out of pocket prices, especially for private hospitals.

Asylum seekers coming to Sydney are to get medical care if they have been determined by two doctors that healthcare is needed for them, otherwise, the rural cities where they migrate to will determine all if any medical care needed.

All citizens receive free medicare for health insurance, and, as covering subsidies based on income, those who have a low income pay little to no out of pocket costs for healthcare. This

applies to some long term or permanent non-citizen residents, otherwise, all residents should pay for private healthcare.

Our healthcare is one of the best there is in the world, even state leaders, such as Donald Trump, who said Medicare, our universal healthcare, is better than current healthcare plans for US citizens, and he could possibly even follow our example of healthcare. Medical services such as emergency rooms, mental health services, and pharmaceuticals are covered by Medicare and free of charge in emergency situations.

Medicare includes plans for treatments so that all our citizens receive quality healthcare, including coverage for the long term and short term care, including mental health treatments.

We are currently not accepting any incoming migrants due to overpopulation concerns. They will be populating the rural areas in Australia instead of our city and those rural areas will be in charge of caring for migrant health care using Medicare, the universal healthcare in Australia.

Due to overpopulation in our city, access to food has become a prevalent problem for 10% of our citizens as of May 2018 due to our geographical isolation and lack of suitable farming land, one of the main reasons we are not allowing migrants into our city as to not increase food shortages. The problem comes from lower income families not being able to afford nutritional food, due to increased prices with importation, but there are projects, such as the Food Business Incubator and food parcels, that help the populations dealing with lack of nutrition knowledge about nutritional food and giving them access to nutritional and canned foods. One population dealing with food scarcity is the indigenous people, who don't have direct access to general stores, which close during the night, or appliances such as stoves and kitchens to prepare nutritional foods. Instead, they go to food stores that stay open longer, such as fast food stores, which are also usually cheaper and not require kitchens but are less nutritional.

We are currently not accepting any incoming migrants due to overpopulation concerns. They will be populating the rural areas in Australia instead of our city and those rural areas will be in charge of caring for malnourished migrants.

We are currently not accepting any incoming migrants due to overpopulation concerns. They will be populating the rural areas in Australia instead of our city and those rural areas will be in charge of caring for malnourished migrants.

Medicare currently covers mental health issues, including treatments and psychologists, and trauma treatment, with emergency treatment being fully subsidized under certain conditions, such as income and whether the resident is a citizen or not and depending on the hospital, though most private and not-for-profit hospitals are covered.

These resources would need to be expanded because refugees and asylum seekers living in Australia are particularly vulnerable to self-harm and suicidal behaviors. The need for mental health resources will increase as the migrant population increases in the future as well. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) predicts that by 2050, almost one-third (32%) of Australia's population will be overseas-born. More interpreters and specialized health resources are some of the things that need to be expanded.

Our trash collection service clean up the streets and sidewalks, with clean up crews who pick up litter and and wash the streets. Chemical waste can be rid of through Chemical Cleanout Events, as dumping chemicals or any trash on the street is illegal in our city due to sustainability and health concerns.

99.3% of our citizens have indoor plumbing, those who don't are typically the poor and aged in rural areas.

Around 99% of the migrants that were accepted into our city have access to plumbing.

Last year in July we had a lead poisoning possible concern from possible brass fittings in some water pipes. While mostly all water piping in our city has no lead, some have brass fittings which have about 4.5% lead with our regulations, a low number which shouldn't cause any harm unless water has been sitting for a long time against them. We warned all residents to leave their tap water running for 30 seconds in the morning to have the water move to get rid of the threat of possible lead poisoning. There weren't any lead poisoning issues in Sydney that raised this concern, but rather a way to prevent possible medical issues to protect all of our citizens and residents.

Trash collection in Sydney is important, for throwing things out on the street is illegal, instead one needs to get a free pickup for large waste such as mattresses and old furniture, as they could be recycled or reused. We organize trash pickup, with daily cleaning crews for the street, sidewalks, and footpaths along with removing graffiti and objects stuck to walls such as stickers and posters.

The trash collection program includes all of Sydney, including informal settlements.

Our city is dealing with a population crisis, but not just in our city, but other major cities in Australia. That is why the Australian government is having incoming migrants settle in the surrounding rural areas of major cities such as Sydney. We are preparing for an increase in population within the next five years, as migrants currently have to wait five years until being allowed in our city, by increasing infrastructure, transportation, schools, and hospitals in our city within the next 40 years to account for an estimated double in our population, estimating to cost around \$1.5 trillion. This would not only address the health issues for our citizens, as new infrastructure would include growing spaces for nutritious food and more grocery shops where our citizens could have access to more food at a cheaper price but also help with future migrants with access to more living spaces and more opportunities for jobs.

Resilience:

We, the delegation of Sydney, do not want to influx our city with a mass amount of migrants. We do not plan to create any resource for the new migrants trying to come to Sydney and start a new life.

Our country/city does not have an influx of migrants.

Due to our wantingness, and there being a low migration population, we do not have much problem giving resource to the already living migrants in our city.

We will provide security for the migrants already present in Sydney, but for any incomers that are attempting to enter Sydney, we cannot guarantee their safety in the city. We as the delegation Sydney do not desire any new migrants and using an excess of resources on them is even more undesirable.

We as the delegation of Sydney will not give aid to migrants trying to get in with assistance, if the migrants can get in on their own accord then Sydney will surely use its resources to help issue them in. In saying this we will not have any migrant emergencies since we will not take any we do not want.

