

## Information for Tier 4 Sponsors

Following successful licence applications being made by Tier 4 Sponsors, packs are being issued to the Authorising Officer containing their licence number, log in details for the Sponsor Management System (SMS) and information about the system. Passwords are also being sent to the level 1 user that has been nominated to use the system for the educational institution. Full functionality is not available; Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies cannot be issued but users can log in to see the system as it is for Tiers 2 and 5.

The following message has been placed on the website:

As you may already know, we will begin the implementation of Tier 4 in March 2009. We have already begun issuing licences for sponsors under Tier 4 of the Points Based System and would encourage all potential sponsors who have not yet applied for their licence to do so as soon as possible. For full details please see the implementation plan at:

<http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/sitecontent/documents/managingourborders/pbsdocs/>

Some newly licensed Tier 4 sponsors have asked why they have been sent a user ID and password for the Sponsorship Management System (SMS) even though the SMS does not go-live for Tier 4 until Autumn 2009. This is to allow sponsors to familiarise themselves with the SMS and to perform administrative tasks such as maintaining their contact details etc. The SMS will not allow Tier 4 sponsors to issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies until the system is fully activated later in 2009.