



Arun in top 10 for emigration

ARUN is one of the top areas in the UK for people emigrating overseas. This is according to recent analysis of figures from the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

The analysis by the Sunday Times, based on net international emigration – people moving abroad minus immigrants – ranked

Arun the eighth highest local authority for resident emigration.

Between 2001 and 2006, 4,500 residents left Arun for countries such as Australia, South Africa and New Zealand. Over the same period, just 3,200 immigrants arrived.

According to Paul Arthur, director of

Chester and London-based emigration specialists, The Emigration Group, this comes as no surprise. He comments: "Middle England is on the move and it's well-off commuter towns in areas like Arun which are the hot spots for emigration."

Paul continues: "Australia and New Zealand are among the most popular choices. The figures from July, 2006, to July, 2007, show 12,273 Brits emigrated to New Zealand, three years earlier this figure was 8,165, a 50 per cent increase. Australia is no different, it has seen a massive increase – emigration numbers have tripled over the last five years – 24,800

Brits emigrated down under during 2006/7 compared to 8,749 in 2001/2."

Paul advises that there are many factors fuelling emigration in the UK, with unhappiness over current levels of immigration, crime and tax acting as major motivators. He comments: "Many of the clients I advise are basically looking for a better life both for themselves and their children and they see emigration as a way of achieving this."

Paul adds: "The huge shortfall of skilled labour in Australia and New Zealand are acting as a

By Tony Mayes
 major driving force for emigra-

tion. Immigration policies in these countries have been revised to actively encourage our skilled tradespeople and professionals to emigrate.

"The part the housing boom has played also can't be underestimated. Homeowners can sell up and find they've a huge amount of equity which will go a long way down under, where average prices and cost of living are far less. It's not just homeowners who approach us, though, we have a lot of enquiries from young people who want to migrate, purely because they're unable to get onto the property ladder in the UK.

"Looking ahead to the next 10 years, I can only see that emigration will be on the increase, as long as there is still a high demand for the skills Brits have to offer abroad."

Since 1992, The Emigration Group has helped thousands of UK residents to achieve

their dream of a new life down under, providing a complete migration package which includes visa preparation and management, job search and resettlement services.

For more information about emigration to New Zealand and Australia, visit www.emigrationgroup.co.uk or call 0845 230 4382.