# Home Secretary Asserts Success of Migration Reduction Efforts Despite Opposition Criticism



**Home Secretary Affirms Migration Reduction Strategy Efforts**

Home Secretary James Cleverly has declared that the government's efforts to reduce legal migration are successful despite recent Home Office figures showing a 50% increase in skilled worker visa applications in the first four months of 2024 compared to the same period in 2023. Cleverly pointed to a decrease in student visas and foreign care worker visas, which he said supports the effectiveness of the plan.

The government has enacted several measures, including a ban on overseas care workers bringing family dependants and raising the salary threshold for skilled workers to £38,700. Recent data indicates significant applications before these restrictions, particularly in April 2024.

Shadow Immigration Minister Stephen Kinnock criticized the government's management of immigration, accusing it of incompetence. Upcoming Office for National Statistics figures, covering up to December 2023, are anticipated to show minimal impact from these new policies, as they predate the recent reforms.