

Chris Harber, head of immigration at Reading-based tech law firm Boyes Turner said:

"It was encouraging to see some key immigration announcements in the chancellor's budget statement, which will be good news for technology firms and the life sciences sector." To remain competitive globally, many businesses need to attract the best talent from around the world, and it is encouraging to see the government taking steps to make that easier.

"The new policies include the introduction of an elite points-based visa for academia, science, research and other technology roles. The global talent visa will also be reformed, as with the innovator visa, which should make it easier to obtain a visa for innovative business ideas.

"Other initiatives which will be beneficial for businesses recruiting internationally are steps to modernise the sponsorship system, making it easier to use and the introduction of a new global business mobility visa by Spring 2022."