

## **Factsheet: The immigration legal system**

Some decisions by the immigration authorities come with a right of appeal. These appeals include consideration of the facts of the case and the relevant legal framework.

Other decisions have a restricted right of appeal where the applicant can only appeal on certain limited grounds.

Many other decisions have no right of appeal. However, in some circumstance it may be possible to pursue a judicial review against a decision if it is arguable that the decision was unlawful.

The law is regulated by a system of courts and tribunals at progressively senior levels. The higher courts' decisions are binding on lower courts and decision-makers. Permission to appeal is required in all but the First-tier Tribunal (IAC).

Sources of law include:

- Primary legislation
- Secondary legislation
- Common law (court judgments)
- European law
- International law
- Rule of practice and policy

**See below for diagram illustrating the court structure and possible appeal routes.**

