

"Blue-taped" (Associated) Applications

1. Associated applications will generally be those received at the same time where there is a connection between the applicants by way of family or otherwise (e.g. business or occupation).
2. Cases submitted by the same agent etc at the same time will not be associated unless there is some other link between the applicants or it is clear that the agent regards the applications as associated.
3. Associated cases arriving in the Integrated Casework Directorate (Group F) will normally be dealt with together in the Group responsible for the senior (normally the elder) of the two or more applicants.
4. It is normally best to decide associated applications at the same time. However, on occasions, circumstances may dictate that one application should be determined in advance of the others it is associated with. This might be when we are in a position to decide it (but not the others) and it is easily distinguishable from the others, for example:
 - because of a clear refusal; or
 - the applicant has an entitlement to registration; or
 - there is a greater degree of urgency about it
5. Care should be taken that action is taken on the correct applicant.
6. Once we have taken a separate decision on one of a group of associated applications, the file for that application should be kept with the others until all the applications have been determined. Information on that file may be relevant to the other cases.