

Policy Area 2: Address irregular cross border movements and visa overstays

Kerry Miller

Office for National Statistics - United Kingdom

United Nations Technical Workshop on International Migration and Temporary Mobility Statistics
Warsaw, 16-19 July 2024



Overview

INDICATORS

Which policy area 2 indicators can we measure?



WHY

Why are we researching irregular migration?



WHAT

What are the different routes to becoming an irregular migrant?



HOW

How are we planning to explore irregular migration?



INDICATORS

Which policy area 2 indicators can we measure?

Policy area 2: Additional indicators

| Additional Indicators | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| | Migration Indicator (MI) | | Primary topics for disaggregation | | Secondary topics for disaggregation | |
| MI 2.1 | Estimated number of the resident population considered irregular migrants | Not estimated | 1.Age | Not estimated | 1.Country of birth | Not estimated |
| | | | 2.Sex | Not estimated | 2.Country of citizenship | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 3.Reason for move | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 4.Geographic location (urban, rural) | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 5.Duration of stay | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 6.Border point entrance (land, sea, air) | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 7.Type of irregularity (entry, residence, employment) | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 8.Accompanied/unaccompanied/separated (if minors) | Not estimated |
| MI 2.2 | Estimated annual number of individuals who arrived irregularly | Publish quarterly | 1.Age | Publish quarterly (age group) | 1.Reason for move | Not estimated |
| | | | 2.Sex | Publish quarterly | 2.Geographic location (urban, rural) | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 3.Duration of stay | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 4.Border point entrance (land, sea, air) | Publish quarterly |
| MI 2.3 | Annual number of regularizations | Publish quarterly (Naturalisation) | 1.Age | Publish quarterly (age group) | 1.Reason for move | Not estimated |
| | | | 2.Sex | Publish quarterly | 2.Country of birth | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 3.Country of citizenship | Publish quarterly (nationality) |
| | | | | | 4.Geographic location | Publish quarterly (Ceremony location) |
| | | | | | 5.Duration of stay | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 6. Native-born/Foreign-born status | Not estimated |



Policy area 2: Additional indicators

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------------|--|---|
| MI 2.4 | Estimated number of persons in detention due to entering the country irregularly in a given year | Publish quarterly | 1.Age | Publish quarterly (age group) | 1.Geographic location of detention center (urban, rural) | Publish quarterly (detention centre) |
| | | | 2.Sex | Publish quarterly | 2.Reason for detention | Held internally (only on individual case files) |
| | | | 3.Accompanied/unaccompanied/separated (if minors) | Held internally | | |
| MI 2.5 | Estimated average duration of time in detention due to entering the country illegally in a given year | Held internally | 1.Age | Held internally | 1.Geographic location of detention center (urban, rural) | Held internally (detention centre) |
| | | | 2.Sex | Held internally | 2.Reason for detention | Held internally (only on individual case files) |
| | | | 3.Accompanied/unaccompanied/separated (if minors) | Held internally | | |
| MI 2.6 | Annual number of deportations | Publish quarterly | 1.Age | Publish quarterly (age group) | 1.Country of citizenship | Publish quarterly (nationality) |
| | | | 2.Sex | Publish quarterly | 2.Duration of stay | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 3.Native-born/Foreign-born status | |
| MI 2.7 | Number of people who died or disappeared in the process of migration towards an international destination (SDG 10.7.32) | Information held on fatalities where they are known | 1.Age | | 1.Major administrative unit | |
| | | | 2.Sex | | 2.Cause of death | |
| | | | 3. Native-born/Foreign-born status | | 3.Country of death | |
| | | | 4. Citizenship status | | | |
| Temporary Mobility Indicator (TMI) | | | | | | |
| MI 2.8 | Estimated number of the temporary population considered irregular | Not estimated | 1.Age | Not estimated | 1.Reason for temporary stay | Not estimated |
| | | | 2.Sex | Not estimated | 2.Geographic location | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 3.Duration of stay | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 4.Border point entrance (land, sea, air) | Not estimated |
| | | | | | 5.Type of irregularity (entry, residence, employment) | Not estimated |

WHY

Why are we researching irregular migration?



Rationale of researching irregular migration

- Relevance
 - Highly topical area
 - Increasing public interest
 - Priority for political parties
- Known coverage gap
 - Understudied migration group
 - The UK has not produced a stock number on irregular migrants since 2005
 - Little research into the lived experiences of irregular migrants in the UK

WHAT

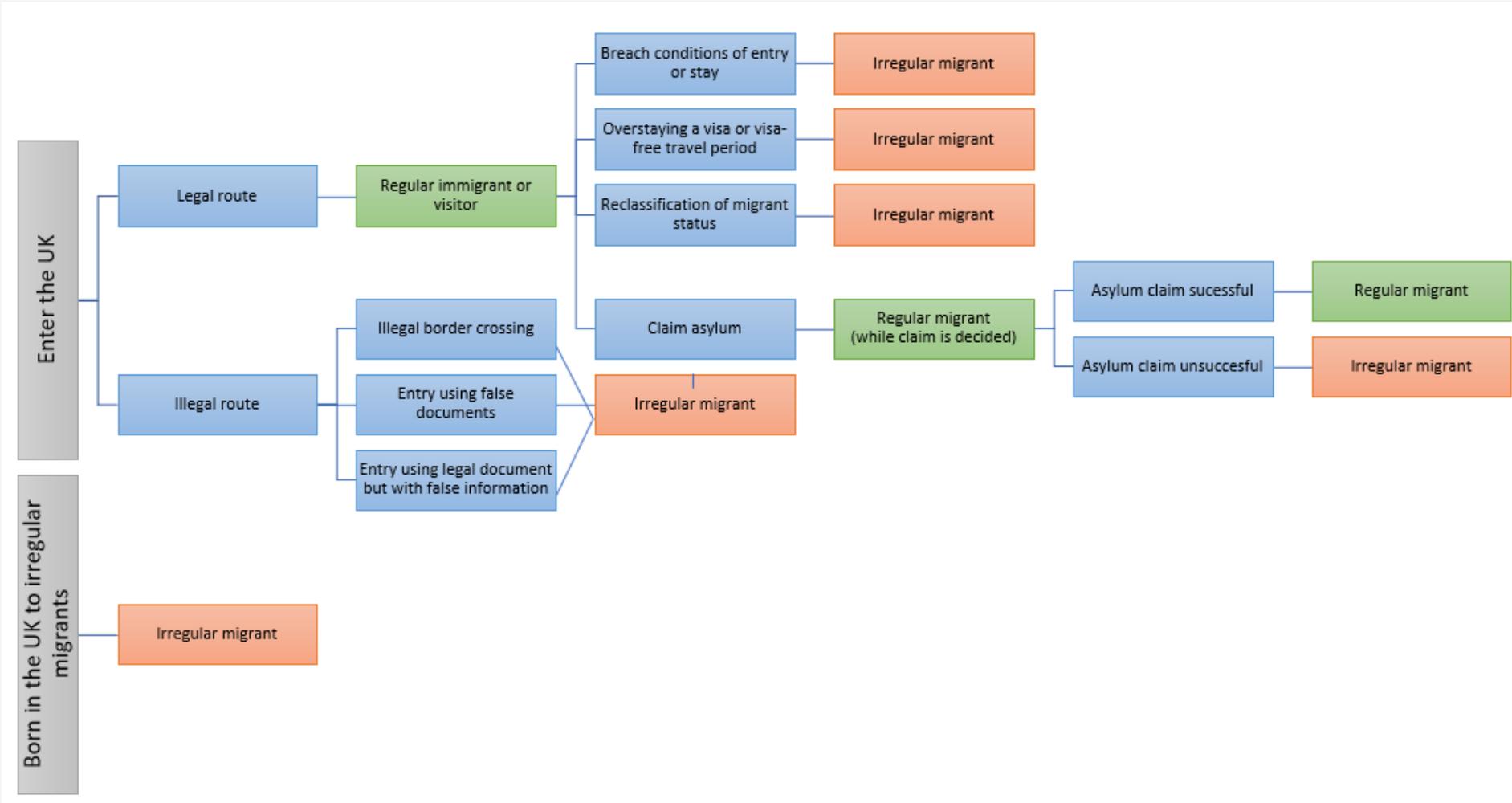
What are the different routes to becoming an irregular migrant?



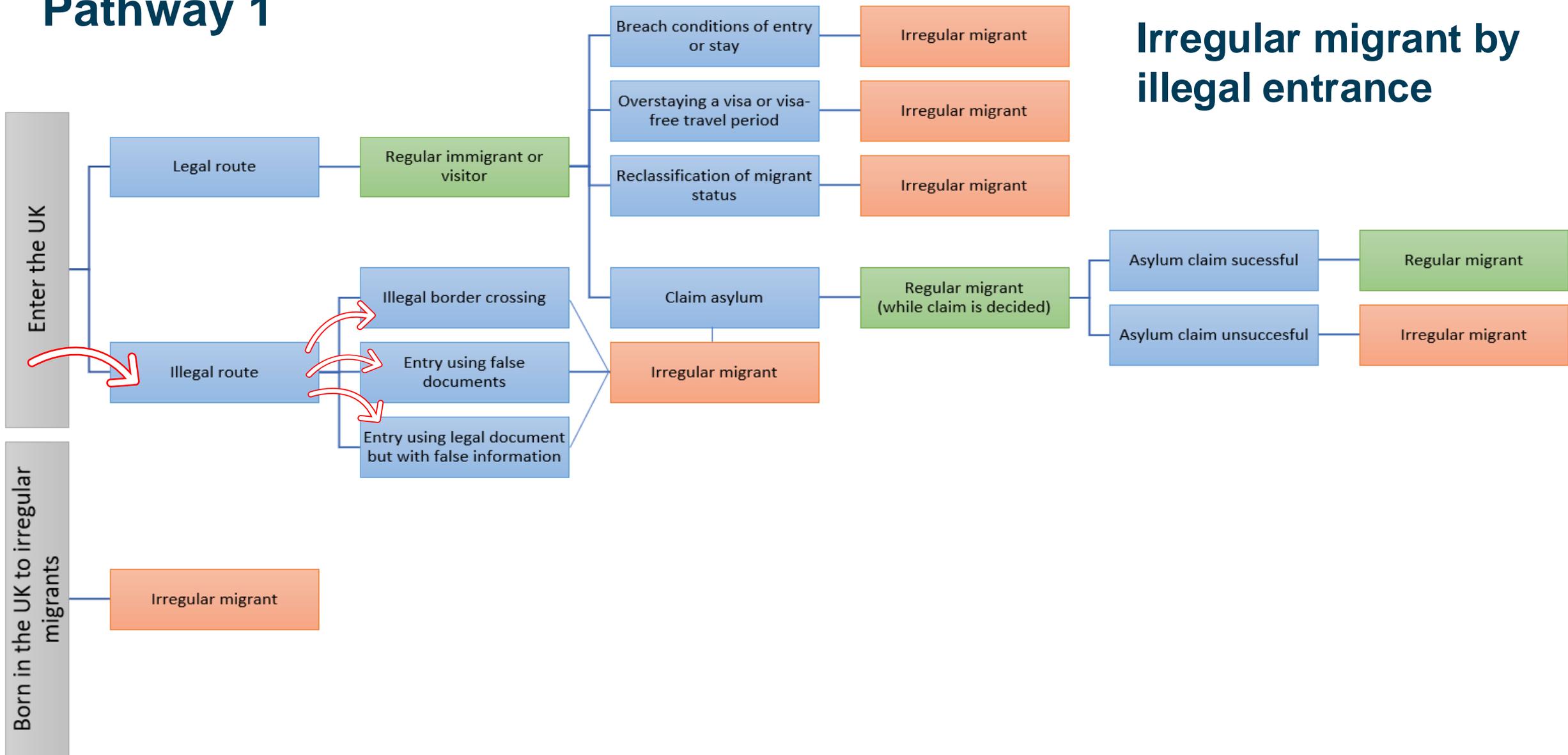
Irregular migrant definition (To be confirmed)

- illegal entrants – including both those who evade formal migration controls and those who present false papers
- migrants who have been lawfully present in the country but remain after the end of the permitted period (two main subcategories detailed in the following two bullet points)
 - failed asylum seekers who stay in the country despite a final decision refusing them continuing right to remain
 - overstayers whose period of legal residence has expired without renewal: this group includes those who are no longer eligible to apply for extensions because of the introduction of the points system
- children born in the UK to irregular migrant couples; they are not migrants themselves, but have no right to remain

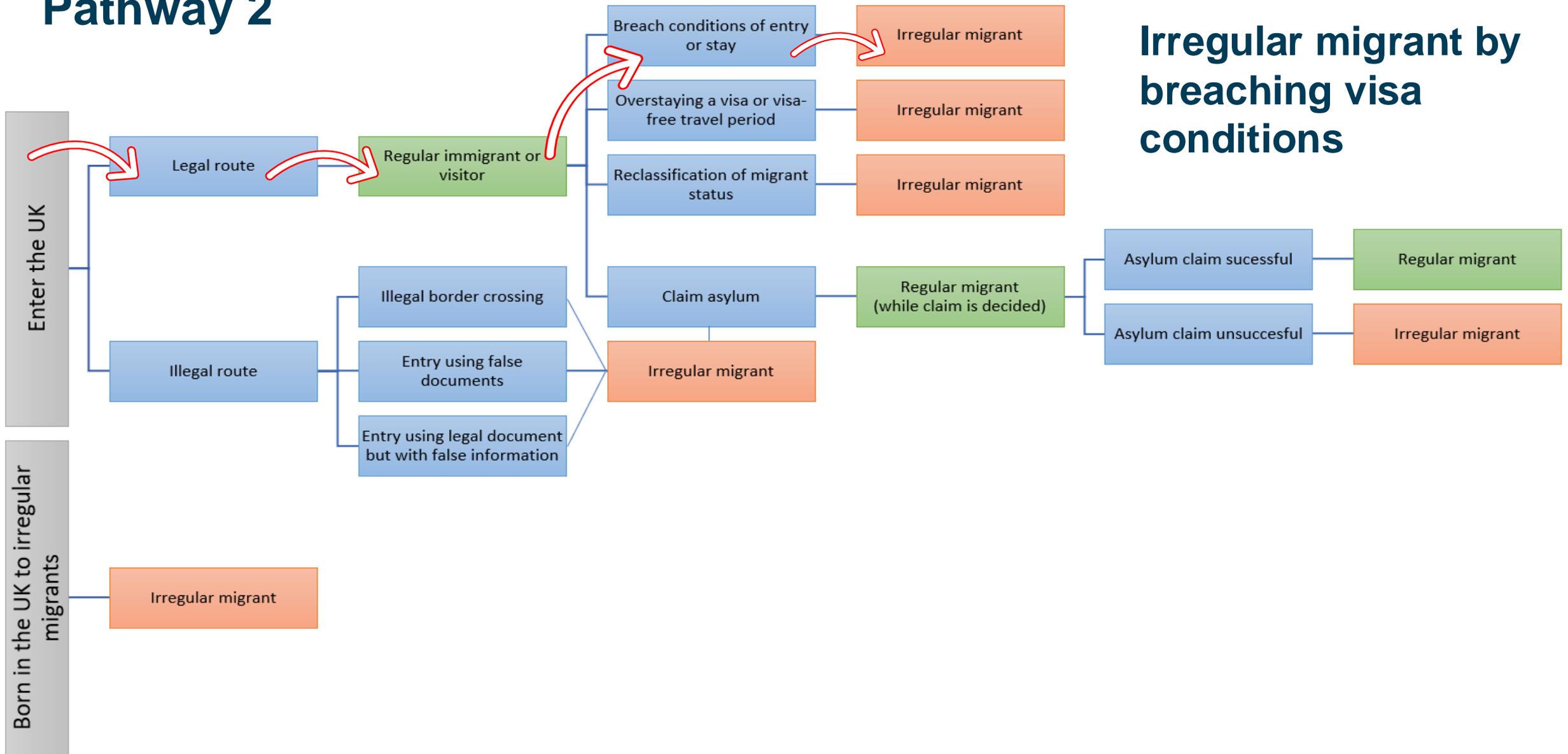
Migration Pathways



Pathway 1

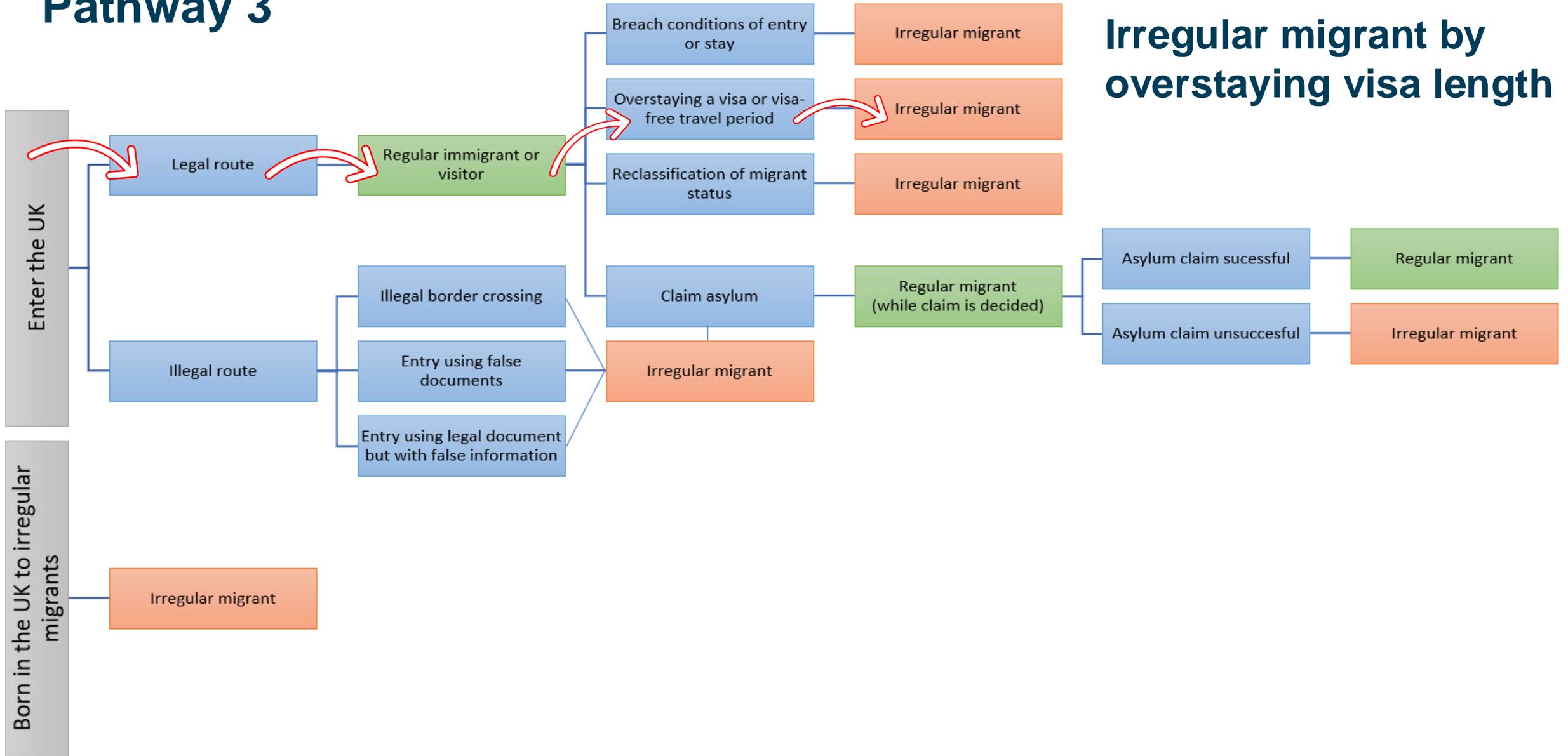


Pathway 2

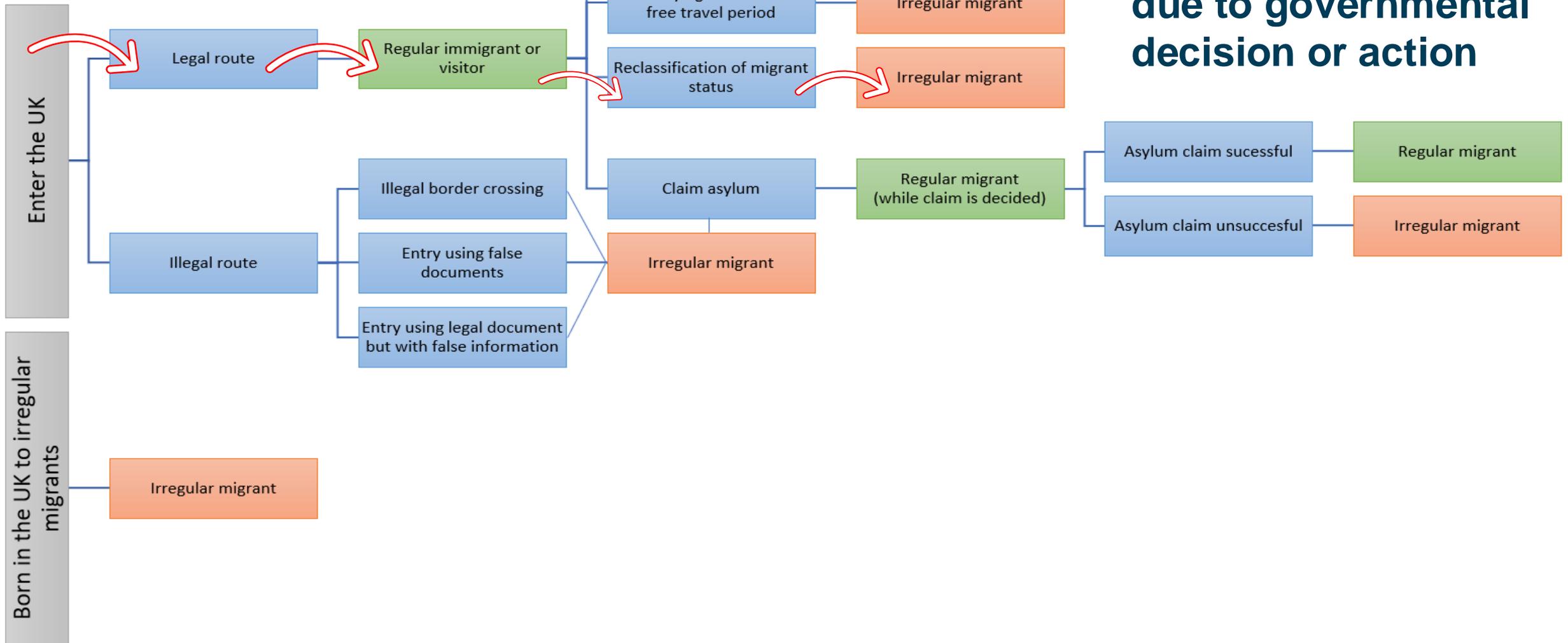


Irregular migrant by breaching visa conditions

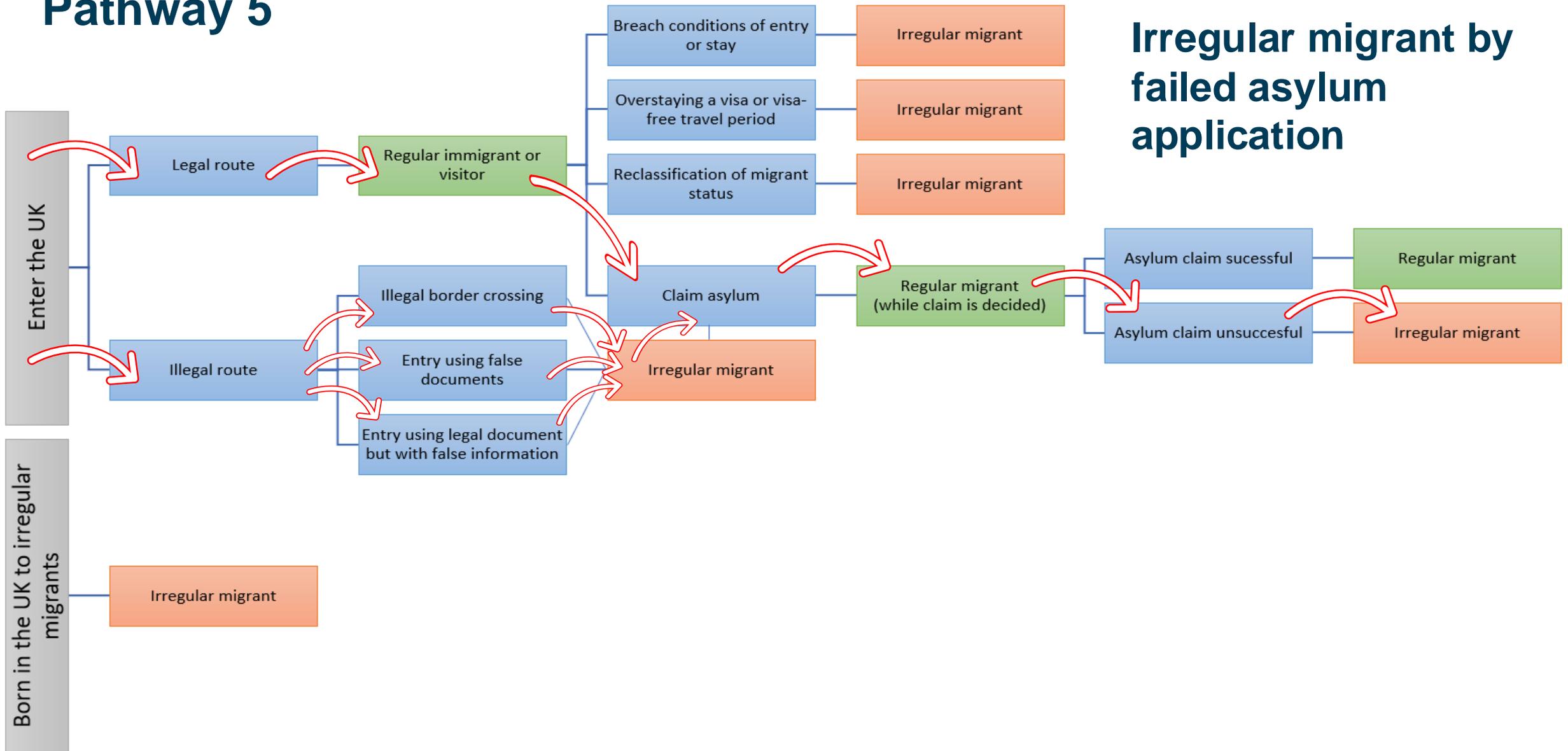
Pathway 3



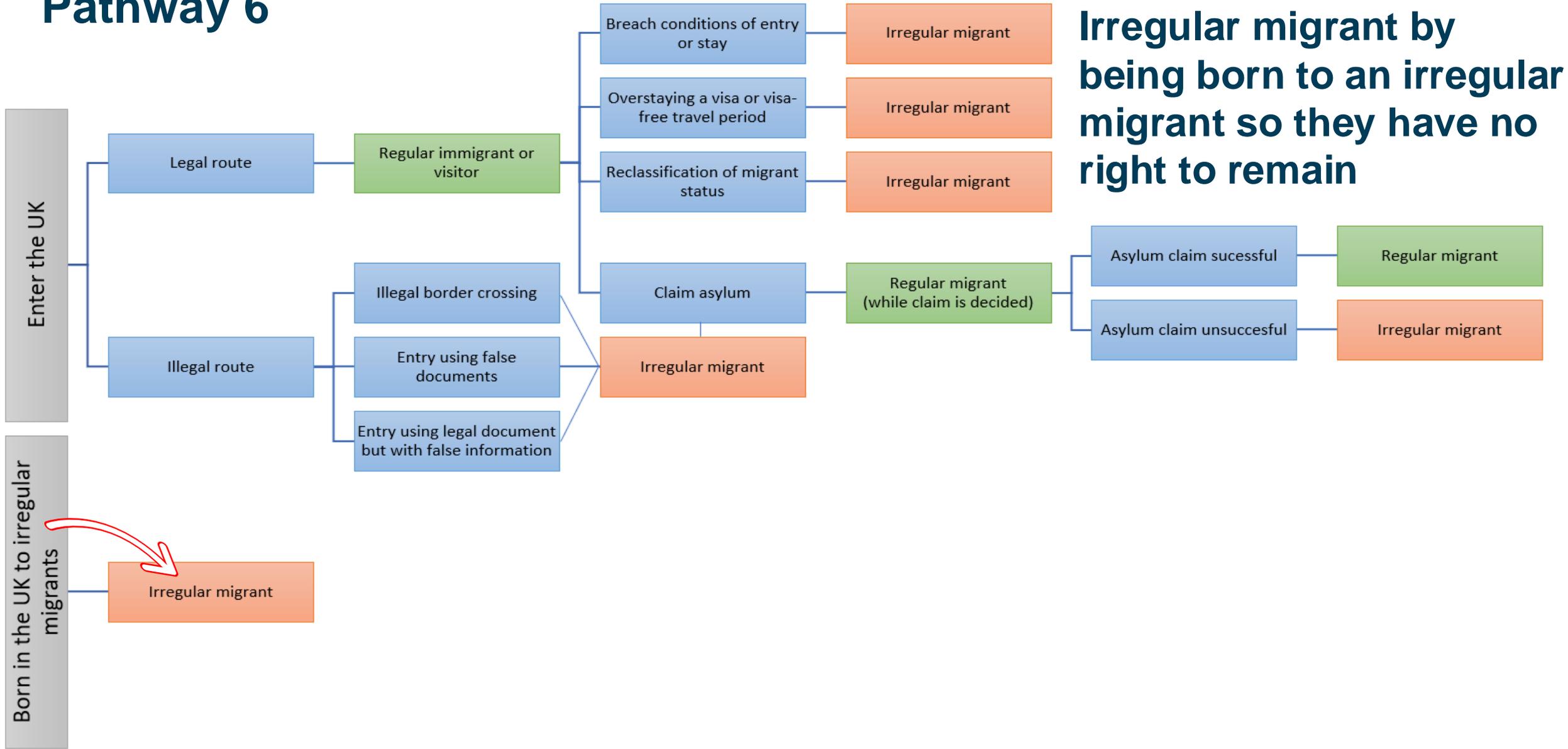
Pathway 4



Pathway 5



Pathway 6



HOW

How are we planning to explore irregular migration?



Home Office

- Publish quarterly statistics on irregular migration flows to the UK
 - Detections of arrivals to the UK by irregular methods of entry
 - Asylum applications from small boat arrivals
 - Modern slavery referrals for small boat arrivals
 - Returns of small boat arrivals

[Irregular migration detailed datasets and summary tables](#)



Collaboration Unit

- The ONS partners with another government to address a complex issue
 - ONS conducts the research impartially of government departments that set policy
 - Clear that analysis is for research purpose not operational purposes
 - Discrete work in a tight timeline
 - Improved data sharing and knowledge of datasets



Integrated Data Service

- The IDS is a cross-government service, for which the ONS is the lead delivery partner
- The service securely enables co-ordinated access to a range of high-quality data – critical to informing policy decisions and improving public services
- Only trained and accredited researchers can access
- All data is de-identified





Possible datasets

| CENSUS | ADMINISTRATIVE DATA | OTHER DATA |
|--|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete enumeration• Less timely - every 10 years• Irregular migrants less likely to be present | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Range of sources e.g. health, education, housing• Ethical considerations• Need appropriate data protection and governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local authorities• Charities |

THANK YOU

Kerry Miller

pop.info@ons.gov.uk

