

1 February 2022

Dear colleague,

EU Settlement Scheme: continuing support for applicants

As we have now passed six months since the main EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) application deadline of 30 June 2021, we are writing to thank you for your continued support for the scheme and to highlight the assistance which remains available should individuals need to make a late application.

The scheme has been an overwhelming success, securing the rights of EU, EEA and Swiss citizens resident in the UK by the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020 and their family members, and their continued economic and social contribution to the UK. By 31 December 2021, more than 6.3 million applications had been received by the Home Office, of which more than 6 million applications had been concluded.

Eligible citizens who missed the 30 June 2021 application deadline can still make a late application (where they have reasonable grounds for doing so) at www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme.

Although the deadline has now passed, the Home Office continues to communicate EUSS through a range of activity including continued stakeholder engagement, the development of refreshed content for applicant and stakeholder use, and mailers to EUSS status holders. This activity has a particular focus on reaching vulnerable applicants and the support available to them, and on encouraging pre-settled status holders to apply for settled status when they are eligible to do so.

We would like to remind colleagues of the [comprehensive range of support](#) and information available in relation to the EUSS – see Annex 1 and 2 below – including to assist vulnerable and at-risk groups in applying to the scheme, including the elderly, those who cannot access or are not confident with technology and non-English speakers.

In particular, last October, we confirmed our commitment to continue support for vulnerable applicants with a £3 million extension of grant funding for six months, until 31 March 2022, for the network of 72 grant funded organisations across the UK. Their details can be found at www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-community-support-for-vulnerable-citizens/list-of-organisations.

The Home Office also continues to provide support in ensuring all eligible looked-after children and care leavers are enabled to secure their status under the EUSS.

The Home Office has conducted a series of national data surveys. The most recent survey was conducted in October and November 2021, and the results were published in December 2021. We received a response rate of 98% (205 local governing bodies). As of 30 November 2021, of the 3,895 looked-after children and care leavers identified by the survey as potentially eligible to apply to the EUSS, 3,705 applications to the EUSS had been received (95%). A more in-depth breakdown can be found at [EU Settlement Scheme: looked-after children and care leavers survey 2020 to 2021 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eu-settlement-scheme-looked-after-children-and-care-leavers-survey-2020-to-2021).

The surveys provided useful insight into some of the issues local authorities have faced in making applications to the EUSS on behalf of looked-after children and care leavers. The Home Office continues to support local authorities in navigating the EUSS for this cohort through a programme of workshops and one-to-one support.

The Home Office is considering the current demand for hosting workshops with a specific focus on adults with additional care and support needs who are eligible to apply to the EUSS. The aim of these workshops will be to provide support and information to those working in the care sector, such as social workers and other care providers. If this is something that interests you, please contact the Vulnerability Team at feedback-EUSSsupportmodel@homeoffice.gov.uk.

Key points about the EU Settlement Scheme

- People who have made a valid application to the EUSS have their rights in the UK protected until they receive an outcome to their application and any appeal. See www.gov.uk/government/news/temporary-protection-for-more-applicants-to-the-settlement-scheme for more details.
- Applicants who have made a valid application will be issued with a certificate of application, which can be relied on to evidence their rights in the UK. Certificates of application are available to applicants by using the view and prove service at www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status. Those who submitted a paper application will have a certificate of application sent to them by post.
- An application must be made for every eligible child within a family. Parents must check if they need to apply on behalf of their children, including children born or adopted since 1 January 2021, even if the parents have already applied and been granted status themselves. Visit www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/apply-settled-status-for-child for more information.
- Eligible close family members living overseas as of 31 December 2020 can apply to join an EU, EEA or Swiss family member who started living in the UK by this date, where the family relationship continues to exist. Joining family members should apply to the scheme from outside the UK (where they are eligible to do so) or apply for an EUSS family permit to come to the UK to make their application to the EUSS. There is no deadline for them coming to join a family member with status under the scheme. See www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/apply-settled-status-for-child.

[status-eu-citizens-families/join-EU-EEA-Swiss-family-member](https://www.gov.uk/status-eu-citizens-families/join-EU-EEA-Swiss-family-member) for further details.

- Status holders should update their UK Visas and Immigration account with all valid travel documents they hold and intend to use for travel (such as passports or national identity cards). This will help avoid unnecessary delays at the UK border. They can access their account at www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status.
- Pre-settled status is valid for five years from the date it was granted. Individuals must apply to the EUSS again before their pre-settled status expires to stay in the UK. See www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/switch-from-presettled-status-to-settled-status for further details.

We are very grateful for your ongoing support in promoting the EUSS to eligible citizens in the communities you serve, helping them to secure the status they need.

Although the 30 June 2021 application deadline has now passed, it is important to continue our efforts to support vulnerable people eligible to apply late to the EUSS.

Once more we would like to thank you for your continued support for this work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G.M. Monk'.

Gabrielle Monk

Annex 1

Support services available to EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) applicants

A range of services is available to those who need additional support to make an EUSS application. These include:

- the **Settlement Resolution Centre**, which provides applicant support seven days a week online at www.gov.uk/contact-ukvi-inside-outside-uk/y/inside-the-uk/applying-to-continue-living-in-the-uk-including-settled-and-pre-settled-status/using-the-eu-exit-id-document-check-app and by telephone on 0300 123 7379
- **72 grant-funded organisations** across the UK which offer help and advice to vulnerable applicants and anyone who supports them: www.gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme
- the **ID scanning service** which helps applicants to complete the ID verification step of the application. For further details see www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-id-document-scanner-locations/locations-offering-chip-checker-services
- **Assisted Digital**, which can assist people with the digital application process. Telephone 03333 445 675 or visit www.gov.uk/assisted-digital-help-online-applications

Annex 2

EU Settlement Scheme information available on GOV.UK

The Home Office has published updated information guides on GOV.UK:

- **Information for late applicants**
www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-information-for-late-applicants
- **Information for those who have EUSS status or a pending application**
www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-communications-information-for-applicants
- **Guidance for community groups**
www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-community-groups-toolkit
- **Guidance for landlords**
www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-landlords-toolkit
- **Guidance for employers**
www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-employer-toolkit
- **Guidance for Local Authorities**
www.gov.uk/government/collections/eu-settlement-scheme-local-authorities-toolkit

Printed material

- 'At a Glance' hardcopy versions of the first two leaflets are available to order free of charge from the Home Office's EU Settlement Scheme 'web shop'. If you are interested in ordering copies of these leaflets for use with constituents, please register for a password which will allow you to complete the ordering process at <https://eusettlementscheme-oos.apsmos.com/Login.html>

Social media assets

- To help you continue to share EU Settlement Scheme messages, you can download EUSS social media assets for your own channels, or to share with partners:
<https://homeoffice.brandworkz.com/BMS/albums/?album=2143&lightboxAccessID=61937BA7-3E37-4A6F-9EF4D12C3B7CD05E>