

Corporate Core
From **Jeremy Beake**,
Reply to Jeremy.beake@milton-keynes.gov.uk



Dear colleague,

News for colleagues working in the Health and Social Care Sector, who are EU citizens

The pilot of the National EU Settlement Scheme, a scheme that will go live in March is taking place until 21st December 2018. This process will allow you to retain your rights after 2020, applying now rather than later is voluntary.

Do not worry if you cannot be involved now or you would like to wait as this is only a pilot and the main scheme starts later. You and others in your family will have till **31 December 2020**.

To partake in this voluntary pilot you will need:

- an EU citizen and have a valid biometric passport (this is an e-passport which has a digital chip); or
- a non-EU family member of an EU citizen and have a biometric residence card with 'EU Right to Reside' on the back, which you applied for on or after 6 April 2015

... and work in the Health and Social Care Sector. More details below.

Kind regards
Jeremy Beake

Milton Keynes Council | Corporate Core | Civic Offices
1 Saxon Gate East | Milton Keynes MK9 3EJ

The Home Office writes:

"The live link for the application, which we would be grateful if you would now share with your EU staff. The link is:

<https://apply-for-eu-settled-status.homeoffice.gov.uk/start/eu-settlement>

Your EU workforce is now able to apply for and gain their settled or pre-settled status, so please do pass this link to anyone who qualifies under the pilot. **We want as many of our EU Health and Social Care workers to stay after the UK leaves the EU**, and your assistance in helping us achieve this is greatly appreciated."

Further Details

The details below have been provided by the Home Office, Milton Keynes Council any query regarding the correctness or matters of detail must be addressed to the Home Office by calling 0300 123 7379 (inside the UK) or +44 (0) 203 080 0010 (outside the UK).

=====

The Home Office pilot of the EU Settlement Scheme is taking place from 29 November 2018 and how those eligible can apply in this pilot phase.

What is the EU Settlement Scheme?

In advance of the UK's exit from the EU on 29 March 2019, the UK government has committed to protect the rights of EU citizens and their family members currently living in the UK. This includes the right to live here, work here and access public services such as healthcare and benefits. To retain these rights **after 31 December 2020**, EU citizens must apply for UK immigration status under the EU Settlement Scheme. Further detail on the Settlement Scheme can be found on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

What is the pilot?

The Home Office is testing the EU Settlement Scheme through a series of pilots ahead of the public launch. This second phase of the pilot starts in November and runs until 21 December this year. This covers employees in the higher education and health and social care sectors.

This pilot is testing the application process that EU citizens and their family members will use when the scheme opens fully next year. Feedback about your experience will be used to make improvements to the process before the Scheme fully launches to the public by 30 March 2019.

Who is eligible?

You will only be able to take part in the pilot if you are working in the health and social care sector, and you are:

- an EU citizen and have a **valid biometric passport** (this is an e-passport which has a digital chip); or
- a non-EU family member of an EU citizen and have a **biometric residence card** with 'EU Right to Reside' on the back, which you applied for on or after 6 April 2015

Irish citizens enjoy a right of residence in the UK that is not reliant on the UK's membership of the EU. They will not be required to apply for status under the EU Settlement Scheme, but may do so if they wish. For more information on who can apply to this pilot, visit [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk).

If you are eligible to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme pilot you will need to complete a short and simple online application form to:

- prove your identity;
- show that you live in the UK; and
- declare any serious criminal convictions.

Application process during the pilot:

This phase of the pilot goes live on 29 November and the link to start your application will be made available from this date. We will send you an email containing the link to complete your application when the pilot goes live. Link to the [App](#)

To apply for status under the EU Settlement Scheme you will need to complete an online application:

- **Verify your identity** - You will need to have a valid biometric passport or biometric residence card (issued by the Home Office) to apply in this pilot. All applicants must use the EU Exit: ID Document Check app to verify their identity. This is currently only available to download on Android devices - an easy way to check if your device can use this app, is if your device has the technology to make contactless payments. A guide to using the app can be found [here](#). If you cannot access this app during the pilot, there will be alternative ways for you to verify your identity once the scheme opens fully next year. After using the app to verify your identity, you can complete the rest of the application either on that device or on any smartphone, laptop or computer.
- **Criminality check** - You will need to complete the criminality check by declaring any criminal convictions. Only serious or persistent criminality will affect your application. This should not affect the vast majority of EU citizens and their family members.
- **Verify your residence in the UK** - You will need to provide evidence of your residence in the UK. There are a number of ways you can do this. The easiest is to provide your National Insurance number. The Home Office will then check UK tax and certain benefits data and use those records to help work out how long you have been resident in the UK. You'll get a result of this check straightaway. If you agree with the result, you can accept it and complete your application. If you disagree, this is not a problem, as you will be able to upload additional evidence of your residence. Information on the other types of evidence you can upload can be found on [GOV.UK](#). Alternatively, if you have a valid permanent residence document or valid indefinite leave to enter or remain, you will just need to provide proof of that status.
- **Pay any application fee** – An application costs £65 for those aged 16 or over, but is free if you have a valid permanent residence document or valid indefinite leave to enter or remain.

Please note that making an application in this pilot is entirely voluntary. There will be no change to your current rights under EU law until the end of the planned implementation period on **31 December 2020**. If you choose not to apply during this phase you will be able to apply once the scheme is fully open by 30 March 2019 and at any time up until 30 June 2021.

For any questions about an application made during the pilot, contact the EU Settlement Scheme Resolution Centre by calling 0300 123 7379 (inside the UK) or +44 (0) 203 080 0010 (outside the UK). Find out about call charges on www.gov.uk/call-charges. You can also ask a question using the online submissions form eu-settled-status-enquiries.service.gov.uk.