



Scottish Government
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Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport
Jeane Freeman MSP

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

COSLA Health & Social Care Spokesperson
Councillor Stuart Currie

T: 0131 474 9200
E: info@cosla.gov.uk

EU and EEA citizens working in
Social Care in Scotland

31st January 2020

Dear Colleague,

EU AND EEA CITIZENS WORKING IN SOCIAL CARE IN SCOTLAND

We are writing to you once again to repeat the message we have given in previous letters: you are welcome in Scotland and we want you to continue to live and work here. Your dedication and hard work is invaluable in continuing to deliver our health and social care services, and we are truly grateful for everything you do.

We understand that the continuing uncertainty around the UK's relationship with the EU is a cause of great concern for many. We want to reassure you that protecting your rights continues to be our top priority.

EU Settlement Scheme

The UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme has now been open for over nine months, and we know that 135,800 applications have been received from EU citizens and their families in Scotland. This is encouraging but it is only around 57% of the estimated total number of EU nationals living in Scotland.

We remain deeply concerned that EU citizens may fail to apply for 'settled status' due to lack of awareness of the Scheme and the requirement to apply. That is why the Scottish Government launched the *Stay in Scotland* campaign to raise awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme and highlight how much the Scottish Government values the contributions made by all EU citizens living and working in Scotland. The campaign includes a package of support for EU citizens in Scotland, including a guide for EU citizens

and a guide for employers of EU citizens. All the materials are available at:
www.gov.scot//stayinscotland.

We are also funding Citizens Advice Scotland to deliver an advice and support service for those affected by the UK Government's EU Settlement Scheme. This service is for anyone who would like to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme but who may need additional help. EU citizens can receive information, advice and support by calling a national freephone helpline on **0800 916 9847** or by visiting your nearest Citizens Advice Bureau.

Scottish Councils are well placed to identify the most vulnerable and ensure that they can also secure settled status. That is why COSLA is working in partnership with the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) to provide Scotland-wide assistance to councils in supporting vulnerable people through the EU Settlement Scheme. You can find further information at: http://www.migrationscotland.org.uk/resources/iom_euss_caseworker.

Again, thank you for the work you do, and the contribution you make to the health, care and wellbeing of Scotland as a whole. We value you greatly.



JEANE FREEMAN



COUNCILLOR STUART CURRIE