

Brexit Briefing
20 December 2018

The purpose of this briefing is to provide an update on issues relating to Brexit that have been highlighted through our staff survey and general mailbox communications.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to the survey and contacted us to date. We appreciate that this is a very unsettling time for our staff and their families and we want to ensure that we will provide support where required.

We have reviewed the feedback received and would provide comments to the main themes as follows.

EU Settlement Scheme Pilot

The EU Settlement scheme is live for health and social care workers UK-wide and this closes on 21st December 2018 at 23:59. The scheme will be fully open in March 2019.

Reimbursement of Fees

It costs £65 to apply to get settled status or pre-settled status.

We have been asked to share a letter from the Scottish Government dated 20th December 2018, in which it states that “This Government is clear that EU citizens should not be being asked to apply to retain the rights that they already have and that they should not be being charged a fee for that application. We have consistently raised this issue with the UK Government and will continue to argue that there should be no fee”.

In the meantime we would ask that if you have applied through the pilot that you retain receipt or confirmation of payment and we will finalise the position in relation to reimbursement as soon as possible.

If you have documented permanent residence or indefinite leave to remain, you can apply for free.

Irish citizens

A number of staff who responded to our survey were of Irish nationality. We would advise that you do not need to apply to stay in the UK after it leaves the EU if you're an Irish citizen. You'll have the same rights as you do now.

Scottish Government Advice and Support Service

The Scottish Government has advised that it has now made provision for an advice and support service, including information and support on the new Home Office 'EU Settlement Scheme', for EU citizens in Scotland. We will share further details of these when available.

General Information

You can access general information and will continue to view update the Brexit Page on our HR Connect Site.

I hope this briefing provides some information and reassurance. We want to reinforce that we value all of our staff and will continue to liaise closely with the Scottish Government to provide you with all information you need during these coming months.