

# Brexit information for EU & EEA and Swiss Nationals



The United Kingdom is due to leave the European Union on 31 December 2020. Citizens of the European Union already here need to take certain steps to retain the right to live and work here by applying for the necessary permission under the EU Settlement Scheme. The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021. The rights and status of EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK will remain the same until that date. Please ensure you apply in time, those who don't will make themselves unemployed within 1SC.

Very few applicants are refused settled or pre-settled status under the Scheme but 1SC is aware that not everyone who is eligible has applied. In particular, potential applicants who hold a permanent residence card issued under the 2006 or 2016 Immigration (European Economic Area Regulations) are failing to make the necessary application for settled status. Only those who have been granted indefinite leave to remain or have British or Irish Citizenship are exempt.

EU citizens who do not secure a new immigration status through the scheme will be living in the UK illegally after June 2021 although the government said earlier this year that the usual consequences of unlawful residence will not follow for Europeans. However, in October 2019, Home Office minister Brandon Lewis told German newspaper Die Welt: "If EU citizens until this point of time have not registered and have no adequate reason for it, then the valid immigration rules will be applied". At best the post June 2021 position is unclear.

1SC currently employ EU workers within our Sector of Security and will check that all staff have applied under the EU Settlement Scheme for the appropriate status if they wish to ensure that they will be able to continue to employ them from July 2021 onwards. It is an offence to employ those who do not have permission to work and 1SC also has an obligation to check that any employee is entitled to work.

EU citizens moving to the UK to work on or after 1 January 2021 will need to get a visa in advance. EU citizens applying for a skilled worker visa will need to show they have a job offer from an approved employer sponsor to be able to apply. If you are an employer planning to sponsor skilled migrants from 2021, and are not currently an approved sponsor, you should consider getting approved now.

If you have any questions, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/transition> for details of the actions you need to take.