



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

EU and EEA citizens working in
the NHS in Scotland

31 January 2020

EU AND EEA CITIZENS WORKING IN THE NHS IN SCOTLAND

I am writing to you once again to repeat the message I 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 I am truly grateful for everything you do.

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


Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot



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.

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.

Kind regards

JEANE FREEMAN

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

