



DEBATE PACK

Number CDP-0207 (2019), 2 September 2019

EU Settlement Scheme and looked-after children and care leavers

By Melissa Macdonald
Bess Jap
Sue Holland

Summary

There will be a debate in Westminster Hall on 3 September 2019 at 11:30 on the “EU settlement scheme in relation to looked after children and care leavers”. The debate was nominated by the Backbench Business Committee and Steve McCabe MP, Tim Loughton MP and Stuart C McDonald MP.

The House of Commons Library prepares a briefing in hard copy and/or online for most non-legislative debates in the Chamber and Westminster Hall other than half-hour debates. Debate Packs are produced quickly after the announcement of parliamentary business. They are intended to provide a summary or overview of the issue being debated and identify relevant briefings and useful documents, including press and parliamentary material. More detailed briefing can be prepared for Members on request to the Library.

Contents

1. Background	2
1.1 Overview of the EUSS	2
1.2 Who are ‘looked after children’ and care leavers?	2
2. Issues affecting looked after children and care leavers	3
2.1 Identifying eligible children & care leavers	3
2.2 Evidential issues	5
2.3 Criminality	6
2.4 British citizenship	7
2.5 Legal advice	8
2.6 Staying in touch with care leavers	9
3. Government guidance	10
4. Media	11
4.1 Articles and blogs	11
5. Parliamentary Business	13
5.1 Ministerial statements	13
5.2 Debates	13
5.3 Parliamentary questions	13
5.4 Select Committee material	28
6. Organisations and Further reading	29

1. Background

1.1 Overview of the EUSS

In most cases, EU, EEA and Swiss nationals, their family members, and others currently residing in the UK based on rights derived from EU law will no longer have a legal right to reside in the UK once it leaves the European Union and free movement ends. The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) has been established to grant eligible applicants an immigration status allowing them to remain in the UK following its departure from the EU.

The scheme should grant applicants with settled or pre-settled status. Settled status may be available to those with 5 years continuous residence in the UK. Pre-settled status allows the holder to remain in the UK for a further 5 years from the date they were granted pre-settled status. This provides the necessary time for applicants to become eligible for settled status. Holders of pre-settled status can then switch to settled status by submitting another application if they meet the eligibility requirements.

If granted settled or pre-settled status, the Government has stated that applicants will be able to continue living and working in the UK after it leaves the EU on broadly the same terms as they do now.

There has been some criticism of the EUSS for forcing people to make an application to remain in the UK. Some have instead argued the scheme should be declaratory, and that the evidential requirement should be removed.

Deal vs. No-deal

Importantly, the Government have confirmed the scheme will continue to operate in the event of a no-deal Brexit. Nonetheless, the deadlines to apply to the scheme do vary according to whether there is a deal or no-deal.

1.2 Who are 'looked after children' and care leavers?

The Library briefing paper on '[Support for care leavers](#)' defines a 'looked after child' as either:

- subject to a court-made care order (or interim care order); or;
- provided with accommodation by a local authority for a continuous period of more than 24 hours.¹

Social care for care leavers is a devolved matter. Further details on care leavers are set out in the Library briefing paper '[Support for care leavers](#)' .

¹ Commons Library, Support for care leavers, [11th March 2019](#)

2. Issues affecting looked after children and care leavers

Coram Children's Legal Centre published a report in March 2019 '[Uncertain futures: The EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK](#)' which considers the issues affecting looked after children and care leavers in relation to the EUSS. CCLC assert that the following groups are particularly at risk:

- Children, young people and families with complex cases, including those who are separated from their family and cases where, for example, eligibility is unclear for non-European family members, where there has been domestic violence or where the applicant had a criminal record. These individuals will need support to ascertain whether it is appropriate to make an application (they may, for example, have existing rights to British nationality) and/or to complete their applications.
- Children who are unable to prove their nationality or length of residence in the UK. Children in care, for example, may struggle to obtain proof of their length of residence or may require parental consent to obtain nationality documents. Where children are dependent on rights derived from their parents to make an application, then they may be placed at risk where there is domestic abuse or exploitation.
- Children with an existing claim to automatic acquisition of British citizenship or a case to register at discretion whose rights and entitlements may be time-limited or hard to evidence.
- Children in care who are only granted pre-settled status and subsequently leave care, who risk falling out of status and becoming subject to the hostile environment.²

The report sets out a number of recommendations including:

To ensure that no child falls through the gaps, the government should consider introducing a separate system that would ensure all children in the care of local authorities and care-leavers are granted settled status without having to meet the requirements of the EU settlement scheme.³

2.1 Identifying eligible children & care leavers

Local authorities do not routinely collect nationality data on looked after children. The Home Office has estimated that there are approximately '5,000 EU children in care in the UK', not including care leavers.⁴ This estimate is 'based on ONS data on the proportion of EEA citizens per

² Coram Children's Legal Centre, *Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK*, [March 2019](#)

³ Coram Children's Legal Centre, *Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK*, [March 2019](#)

⁴ [Parliament.uk](#), Immigration: EU Nationals: Written question – 222791, Answered on [26th February 2019](#)

local authority and government data on volumes of children in care per local authority'.⁵

According to the most recent estimates, as of 31st March 2018, in total, there were 75,420 looked after children in England⁶, 6,405 in Wales⁷, and 3,109 in Northern Ireland⁸. The figures for Scotland estimate there were 14,738 looked after children as of the 31st July 2018.⁹ This results in an estimated total of 99,672 looked after children across the UK.

CCLC found there were more than 2,000 European national children and young people in care in England in 2016.¹⁰ However, they note in their research that as many local authorities do not routinely collect nationality information, the number is likely to be a significant underestimate. Through a series of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests, CCLC reported that one in three local authorities did not know how many children in their care may be directly affected by Brexit.¹¹

Non-EEA nationals

Local authorities may face difficulties identifying non-EEA national children and care leavers who are family members of European nationals. CCLC have noted that these children and young people are at particular risk of losing their existing rights under EU law.¹²

The CCLC report '[Uncertain futures: The EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK](#)' states:

Local authorities also have duties to children in care and care leavers who are not European nationals themselves but who are the family member of a European national. These children's rights under the settlement scheme require either the active participation of the European national family member or proof of compelling practical or compassionate reasons why the family member is not participating in the child or young person's application. These cases will be complex and will require expert legal advice.

The report goes on to say:

We remain concerned that those who are non-European family members estranged from a European national will not be able to benefit from the settlement scheme because they will not have

⁵ Parliament.uk, Immigration: EU Nationals: Written question – 222791, Answered on [26th February 2019](#)

⁶ Department for Education, Children looked after in England (including adoption), year ending 31 March 2018, [16th November 2018](#)

⁷ Welsh Government, StatsWales, Health and social care, Children looked after at 31 March by local authority and legal status, [22nd November 2018](#)

⁸ Northern Irish Government, Department of Health, Publication of 'Children's Social Care Statistics for NI 2017/18', [11th October 2018](#)

⁹ Scottish Government, Children and Young People, Children's Social Work Statistics, [26th March 2019](#)

¹⁰ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Briefing: Settlement for European national children in care, [March 2018](#)

¹¹ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Briefing: Settlement for European national children in care, [March 2018](#)

¹² Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

the required evidence of their family member's settlement or residence in the UK.

Most children registering through the settlement scheme will be European nationals themselves, but non-European national step-children and other relatives may also be in the UK as a dependent family member of an European national. Those who are reliant on their status as family members will be required to 'provide evidence of that relationship for the relevant period' as well as 'evidence of [the family member's] continuous residence in the UK' for the full five year period in order to gain settlement.¹³

Number of applications to the EUSS

The Government have not so far released information regarding how many EUSS applications have been made by children in local authority care. However, on 24th July 2019 Baroness Lister of Burtersett asked what plans the Government had to publish the numbers of EUSS applications received from local authorities on behalf of children in their care.¹⁴ In response, Baroness Williams of Trafford stated that Home Office statisticians and officials were considering the content and would take into account the views of statistics users.¹⁵

However, the most recent set of Home Office figures do break down applications by age group. As of 30th June 2019, 107,110 EUSS applications had been made by under 16s (12% of the total number of applications).¹⁶ Around 65% of concluded applications from under 16s were granted settled status; this compares with 84% for those aged 65 and over.¹⁷

The Migration Observatory report '[Unsettled status](#)' suggested there could be upwards of 661,000 non-Irish EU citizen children living in the UK.¹⁸ This indicates that at least half a million children who could be eligible to apply to the EUSS are yet to make an application. It is unclear how many of these children are in local authority care.

2.2 Evidential issues

Identity documents

An integral aspect of the EUSS application is the identity check, which typically involves a national identity document such as a passport. However, this can be a problem for some children and young people. As CCLC note, many embassies will not issue a first or renewal passport or identity document without the active involvement of both parents, in

¹³ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

¹⁴ Parliament.uk, Immigration: EU Nationals: Written question – HL17474, Answered on [7th August 2019](#)

¹⁵ Parliament.uk, Immigration: EU Nationals: Written question – HL17474, Answered on [7th August 2019](#)

¹⁶ GOV.UK, EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, June 2019, published on [22nd August 2019](#)

¹⁷ GOV.UK, EU Settlement Scheme quarterly statistics, June 2019, published on [22nd August 2019](#)

¹⁸ The Migration Observatory, Unsettled status? Which EU citizens are at risk of failing to secure their rights after Brexit? [12th April 2018](#)

the absence of a court order.¹⁹ During oral evidence to the Home Affairs Select Committee, Abigail Adieze of the Families and Home Directorate at Waltham Forest Borough Council noted the local authority made no applications for children in care during the five weeks of the Private Beta 2 pilot because no children had the requisite nationality documents.²⁰

A Statement of Changes to the Immigration Rules on 7th March 2019 allows for alternative evidence of identity and nationality to be submitted where the applicant is unable to obtain or produce the required document “due to circumstances beyond their control or due to compelling practical or compassionate reasons”.²¹

Proof of residence

The EUSS allows for children to obtain the same status as their parent if the applications are linked. For example, when a parent obtains settled status, their child will also be granted settled status. However, a looked after child may be making an application based on their own UK residence, rather than relying on their parents. This means that a child who would have been granted settled status if their parent was involved in the application could theoretically be granted pre-settled status instead if they do not have proof of five years continuous residence.

For children making standalone applications, there could be difficulties proving residency. Whilst CCLC note that a letter from a local authority stating how long a child has been in care, or how long the local authority has had contact with the child is a permitted form of evidence, additional documentation will be required when a child has been known to the local authority for less than five years.²² Indeed, the list of acceptable documents that can be submitted as proof of residence are typically held by adults, such as tenancy agreements, benefit payments, and payslips, for example.²³

2.3 Criminality

Looked after children and care leavers are reportedly more likely to engage the suitability criteria than other children and young people.²⁴ The CCLC report states:

In the year ending 31 March 2018, 4% of children aged 10 years or over (1,510 children) who were looked after for at least 12 months were convicted or subject to youth cautions or youth conditional cautions during the year, similar to 2017 and 2016 (both 5%).

¹⁹ Coram Children’s Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples’ right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

²⁰ Parliament.uk, Home Affairs Committee, Oral evidence: EU Settlement Scheme, HC 1945, [12th February 2019](#)

²¹ GOV.UK, Explanatory Memorandum to the Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules presented to Parliament on 7th March 2019 ([HC 1919](#))

²² Coram Children’s Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples’ right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

²³ GOV.UK, EU Settlement Scheme: evidence of UK residence, last updated [18th July 2019](#)

²⁴ Coram Children’s Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples’ right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

According to the Department of Education, 'looked after children (who have been looked after for at least 12 months) are five times more likely to offend than all children.'

These children and young people will need to receive advice on the impact of any criminal record on their settlement scheme application before an application is made. This is particularly true of children in juvenile detention, to whom local authorities have a continuing duty of care.²⁵

A briefing by the University of Liverpool '[The EU Settled Status Scheme and Children in Conflict with the Law](#)' has highlighted a lack of clarity regarding how the criminality checks apply to children, noting the suitability criteria appear to apply to adults and children alike.²⁶

Moreover, whilst Home Office guidance issued to local authorities states:

All applicants, except those under 10 years old will undergo automatic criminality check.²⁷

The online guidance on GOV.UK '[Apply to the EU Settlement Scheme: What you'll need to apply](#)' asserts:

If you're 18 or over, the Home Office will check you have not committed serious or repeated crimes, and that you do not pose a security threat.²⁸

The University of Liverpool report also raises the question of whether young people in youth detention will be eligible to apply to the EUSS, and whether a period of detention would reset the clock in terms of continuous residence:

If an applicant has been to prison, he/she will usually need 5 years' continuous residence from the day they were released to be considered for settled status (with some exceptions for those with over 10 years residence). The caseworker guidance makes no distinction between adults and children in terms of resetting the clock following a period of imprisonment...

The Home Office has already acknowledged and provided tailored EUSS guidance and concessions for children who are looked after, including those in residential care. Such provision does not currently accommodate the specific, additional needs of children in care who are also involved in the criminal justice system, including those who are in detention.²⁹

2.4 British citizenship

There have been some concerns raised that whilst it could be more advantageous for eligible looked after children to apply for British citizenship instead of settled status, they could be unaware of their

²⁵ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

²⁶ University of Liverpool, Kathryn Hollingsworth & Helen Stalford, The EU Settled Status Scheme and Children in Conflict with the Law, [25th June 2019](#)

²⁷ Home Office, EU Settlement Scheme: Looked after children and care leavers: Local authority and health and social care trusts guidance, [July 2019](#)

²⁸ GOV.UK, [Apply to the EU Settlement Scheme: What you'll need to apply](#)

²⁹ University of Liverpool, Kathryn Hollingsworth & Helen Stalford, The EU Settled Status Scheme and Children in Conflict with the Law, [25th June 2019](#)

rights, or face difficulties paying the fee. Whilst the EUSS is free of charge, the fee for child's application to register as a British citizen is currently £1,012.³⁰

The CCLC report makes the following points in relation to British citizenship:

European national children born in the UK are automatically British if one of their parents was already a UK citizen or had permanent residence when they were born. Children can subsequently register as British citizens if they were born in the UK and they can prove that their parents become settled or naturalised before the child turned 18, or that they were born in the UK and lived here for ten continuous years...

...Under the present system, it is not clear how those who may automatically be British will be identified. There are likely to be significant numbers of European national children and young people who could fall under these nationality provisions but who do not know their own rights...

...If looked after children are completing settlement scheme applications on their own and without legal advice, they will also not be fully aware of their options. This could result in an incorrect grant of pre-settled status, being refused outright or potentially missing another legal avenue available to them, such as applying for British citizenship.³¹

2.5 Legal advice

Whilst it is an offence for unauthorised persons to provide immigration advice, the Home Office have established that local authorities and health and social care trusts making applications on behalf of looked after children for whom they have a care order, and hold parental responsibility, are not required to be OISC regulated. However, concerns have been raised about this, as CCLC state:

There is a question of who, rightly, should be advising and assisting looked-after children and young people to secure their rights. It has been suggested by the Home Office that local authorities are acting as parents to children under full care orders, and as such could apply as a parent could (free of the regulatory requirements). Migrant Children's Project believes that this is not appropriate. An application under the EUSS is an immigration application, and as such advice should only be given by a regulated immigration adviser. This is particularly important where there might be youth offending or suitability/character issues, and/or a negative decision will have to be challenged or appealed.

Regardless of the regulatory concerns, the advice needs of looked after children and care leavers will almost certainly go beyond the EUSS to encompass advice on suitability, and nationality advice.³²

³⁰ UKVI, Home Office immigration and nationality fees 6th April 2018, updated [7th March 2019](#)

³¹ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

³² Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

2.6 Staying in touch with care leavers

As noted above, local authorities are expected to stay in touch with care leavers and provide statutory support to help the care leaver transition to living independently. In relation to the EUSS, local authorities should therefore assist care leavers in making an initial EUSS application, and they should also ensure those granted pre-settled status make a further application for settled status when eligible to do so.

Figures for England show that in the year ending 31 March 2018, local authorities were in touch with 88% of 19 to 21-year-old care leavers.³³ To be counted as 'in touch', there should be contact between the local authority and the young person around 3 months before and one month after the young person's birthday.³⁴ Local authorities therefore do not necessarily maintain contact with all care leavers, and it is possible that some will 'fall between the cracks'.

CCLC note:

CCLC is particularly concerned about the potential for young people, who may have access the scheme whilst children in care, subsequently leaving care and not being clear about the need to take further steps to secure settled status.³⁵

³³ Department for Education, Children looked after in England (including adoption) year ending 31st March 2018, 15th [November 2018](#)

³⁴ Department for Education, Children looked after in England (including adoption) year ending 31st March 2018, 15th [November 2018](#)

³⁵ Coram Children's Legal Centre, Uncertain futures: the EU Settlement Scheme and children and young peoples' right to remain in the UK, [March 2019](#)

3. Government guidance

The Government have issued guidance for local authorities in England, Wales, and Scotland and to Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland: '[EU Settlement Scheme: Looked after Children and Care Leavers](#)'. The guidance states:

The expectation of those authorities supporting looked after children and care leavers include:

- To identify eligible children, including i) those where the authority has parental responsibility, ii) those where there are shared care arrangements and iii) care leavers.
- To identify adequately trained resource to manage and make applications.
- To prepare to make applications to the Scheme by gathering the relevant information and evidence.
- To determine whether you will be applying for each child online and whether you can use the EU Exit: ID Document Check app or will be posting documents to the Home Office.
- To keep an adequate record of each application made, including the status and which email address, phone number were used. You should also note the answers given to memorable questions, in case the Home Office needs to authenticate you or the child in the future.³⁶

The Government webpage '[Local authority introduction to the EU Settlement Scheme](#)' includes a section on 'applying on behalf of EU looked after children, children in care, and care leavers':

Governments in the UK have confirmed that local authorities will make EU Settlement Scheme applications on behalf of their looked after children.

For other categories of children in care and care leavers, local authorities should inform relevant parties and support with applications as necessary.

The Home Office is directly engaging with local authorities, social workers, and those making applications on behalf of looked after children, children in care and care leavers to provide support and information.

We have established a series of teleconferences specifically addressing the needs of looked after children, children in care and care leavers. This provides an opportunity to hear the latest developments and issues or to raise issues or concerns.

If you have any questions, please contact your Director of Children's Services.

In collaboration with children's rights organisations we are committed to creating materials aimed directly at children and young people to provide information about the EU Settlement Scheme and how to apply.³⁷

³⁶ Home Office, EU Settlement Scheme: Looked after children and care leavers: Local authority and health and social care trusts guidance, [July 2019](#)

³⁷ GOV.UK, Local authority introduction to the EU Settlement Scheme, [16th August 2019](#)

4. Media

4.1 Articles and blogs

Scottish Legal News

[Joint letter to Home Secretary critical of Britain's 'brutal' detention regime](#)

31 July 2019

Sky News

[EU foster children should be given automatic British citizenship, charity says](#)

13 April 2019

Home Office and UK Visas and Immigration

[Funding awarded to support vulnerable EU citizens apply for settled status](#)

12 April 2019

Metro

[Up to 200,000 children at risk of being made 'illegal' after Brexit](#)

10 April 2019

Huffpost

[Settled Status Scheme 'Risks Hostile Environment for Vulnerable EU Citizens'](#)

30 March 2019

Metro

[The Home Office's advertising campaign won't stop EU settled status becoming 'Windrush on steroids'](#)

25 March 2019

RightsInfo

[Human Rights Of Thousands Of Children Are At Risk After Brexit](#)

19 March 2019

Guardian

[We must avoid a Brexit 'Windrush'](#)

19 March 2019

Guardian

[Thousands of children 'could become undocumented' after Brexit](#)

18 March 2019

Independent

[Brexit: EU citizens' children could lose right to stay in UK, senior MP warns](#)

12 February 2019

LocalGov

[Building a secure future for EU children in the UK](#)

19 October 2018

Guardian

[Vulnerable EU citizens risk failing to secure right to remain in UK](#)

12 April 2018

5. Parliamentary Business

5.1 Ministerial statements

[EU Settlement Scheme](#)

HC Deb 7 March 2019 c50WS

Caroline Nokes (The Minister of State for Immigration)

5.2 Debates

[Nationality](#)

HC Deb 23 July 2019 cc1242-6

[EEA Nationals \(Indefinite Leave to Remain\) Bill \[HL\]](#)

HL Deb 19 July 2019 cc487-509

[Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination \(EU Withdrawal\) Bill \(Eighth sitting\)](#)

PBC Deb 28 February 2019 cc267-302

[Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination \(EU Withdrawal\) Bill \(Sixth sitting\)](#)

PBC Deb 26 February 2019 c191-240

[EU Settlement Scheme](#)

HC Deb 21 June 2018 cc508-20

5.3 Parliamentary questions

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Baroness Hamwee | **Party:** Liberal Democrats

To ask Her Majesty's Government what consultation was undertaken in advance of publishing the guidance to local authorities and Health and Social Care Trusts on 2 April EU Settlement Scheme—Looked After Children and Care Leavers; and what assessment they have made of the impact of that guidance on children accommodated under section 20 of

the Children Act 1989 and their ability to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Home Office

The guidance pack issued to local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland and to Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland on 3 April is not statutory guidance. The pack puts together in one place, information readily available on gov.uk to provide a useful tool for front line local authority and HSCT staff tasked with supporting looked after children and care leavers. The Children Act 1989 provides the legal framework for local authorities to promote the child's welfare and best interests, setting out statutory duties in relation to looked after children in England, with respective authorities for the devolved administrations. Statutory guidance is provided by Department for Education in relation to this. This statutory duty to promote best interests, coupled with funding provided to local authorities under a new burdens assessment should ensure that this important work will be done.

The Home Office engaged with the Department for Education, the Association of Directors Childrens Services and other Local Authority stakeholders across the UK in advance of publishing the guidance. The Home Office also conducted a private trial phase of testing where five local authorities were asked for detailed information on the children in their care eligible to apply to the EUSS, including what ID evidence they had access to and family situations in order to ascertain difficulties in obtaining identity documents.

The participating local authorities, along with the seven other community organisations participating in the trial phase provided detailed feedback on challenges they encountered during the test phase, which was considered before drafting the guidance.

The Home Office is committed to continuing to engage with local authorities as they undertake their responsibilities to ensure that all eligible looked after children and care leavers are supported to make an application to the EUSS. The Home Office will ensure that caseworkers liaise with and support applicants to get the status they require.

We consulted with the Department for Education in advance of publishing the guidance to ensure adequate consideration was given to other categories of looked after children, where the local authority does not hold full PR, under section 20 of the Children Act 1989. It has been confirmed that in those cases there is a duty on the local authority to raise awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme to those with PR for those eligible child(ren) and to provide practical support where needed, or signpost to relevant community support where deemed more appropriate to do so.

08 August 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL17517

Date answered: 08 August 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Baroness Lister of Burtersett | **Party:** Labour Party

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answers by Baroness Williams of Trafford on 23 July (HL17260, HL17263, and HL17264) about monitoring applications to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) from looked-after children and care leavers, what plans they have to publish the number of EUSS applications received from local authorities on behalf of children in their care.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party
Department: Home Office

The third official statistics – 'EU Settlement Scheme Statistics, June 2019' – on the operation of the scheme were published on 18 July 2019, including applications received by nationality and in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, along with applications concluded by outcome. These can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-june-2019>

The Home Office is committed to publishing more detailed quarterly statistics on the EU Settlement Scheme, alongside our Immigration Statistics, from August 2019. Home Office statisticians and officials are currently considering the content and will take into account the views of statistics users.

07 August 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL17474

Date answered: 07 August 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: The Lord Bishop of Durham | **Party:** Bishop

To ask Her Majesty's Government what plans they have to evaluate the impact of the funding of support and its provision to vulnerable groups, including analysis of what future work is needed to ensure that vulnerable groups are able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme after funding ends in March 2020.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party
Department: Home Office

The guidance pack issued to local authorities in England, Wales and Scotland and to Health and Social Care Trusts in Northern Ireland on 3 April is not statutory guidance. The pack puts together in one place,

information readily available on gov.uk to provide a useful tool for front line local authority and HSCT staff tasked with supporting looked after children and care leavers. The Children Act 1989 provides the legal framework for local authorities to promote the a child's welfare and best interests, setting out statutory duties in relation to looked after children in England, with respective authorities for the devolved administrations. Statutory guidance is provided by DfE in relation to this. This statutory duty to promote best interests, coupled with funding provided to local authorities under a new burdens assessment should en-sure that this important work will be done.

During a private trial phase of testing five local authorities were asked for detailed information on the children in their care eligible to apply to the EUSS, including what ID evidence they had access to and family situations in order to ascertain difficulties in obtaining identity documents.

The participating local authorities, along with the seven other community organisations participating in the trial phase provided detailed feedback on challenges they encountered during the test phase, which was considered before drafting the guidance. The new burdens assessment takes into account work required to identify the cohort of eligible children as well as work needed to undertake the EUSS application process itself.

Organisations awarded grant funding are required to submit monitoring reports to the Home Office and this content will be used to assess of the grant funding. Grant funded organisations will be reporting on the number of vulnerable people they have supported to make applications and this will assist in determining what future support is required after March 2020.

30 July 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL17346

Date answered: 30 July 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Baroness Lister of Burtersett | **Party:** Labour Party

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they intend (1) to monitor, and (2) to ensure that (a) looked after children, and (b) care leavers, applying through the EU Settlement Scheme are getting the correct status, in particular that they are not assigned pre-settled status because they lack the necessary documents.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Home Office

The Home Office has not received direct representations seeking nationality advice for looked after children from local authorities. The

difficulties that local authorities may encounter when identifying eligible looked after children and care leavers has been raised.

During engagement sessions, with the Home Office EU Settlement Scheme Safeguarding User Group, as early as May 2018, stakeholders, representing looked after children and care leavers, highlighted that local authorities do not routinely record nationality of children. To help local authorities prepare for the launch of the EU Settlement Scheme, the Home Office made several recommendations. Identifying the eligible cohort of children and care leavers was one of the recommendations, along with identifying resource to manage this work stream. The Home Office has also produced an information pack to assist local authorities with responsibilities for looked after children. The pack details the need to obtain identity documents, a process which local authorities are familiar with as it is required for other circumstances.

The Home Office has no plan to publish the new burdens assessment in relation to looked after children and the EUSS.

The Home Office is committed to continuing to engage with local authorities as they undertake their responsibilities to ensure that all eligible looked after children and care leavers are supported to make an application to the EUSS. The Home Office will ensure that caseworkers liaise with and support applicants to get the status they require. The Home Office is directly engaging with local authorities, social workers, and those making applications on behalf of looked after children and care leavers to provide support and information.

If an applicant indicates that they expect to be granted settled status but the evidence for that status is incomplete, the Home Office will make multiple attempts to contact the applicant and help them to provide the evidence required.

The Home Office is monitoring applications in relation to children in care and care leavers both via engagement with local authorities and by tracking applications received.

23 July 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL17264

Date answered: 23 July 2019

[Immigration: Children in Care](#)

Asked by: Lord Russell of Liverpool | **Party:** Crossbench

To ask Her Majesty's Government, further to the Written Answer by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice on 23 April (244118), when they estimate they will introduce legislation to grant legal aid to unaccompanied and separated children; and whether updated guidance will be available to local authorities and social care trusts about the availability of legal aid for looked-after children going through the EU Settlement Scheme.

Answered by: Lord Keen of Elie | **Party:** Conservative Party |
Department: Ministry of Justice

We have issued communications to Local Authority Directors of Children's Services on the availability of exceptional case funding for separated migrant children's immigration matters.

As part of Legal Support Action Plan, we are working to issue new guidance to improve understanding and awareness of the availability of exceptional case funding.

We have engaged with charity groups and stakeholders on this issue and have committed to lay legislation to bring non-asylum immigration matters into the scope of legal aid for separated migrant children. Subject to parliamentary time we intend to lay the amendment as soon as possible. Over the coming months we will continue to work with children's charities and the Department of Education on further communications and guidance on this amendment.

09 July 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL16672

Date answered: 09 July 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Lord Russell of Liverpool | **Party:** Crossbench

To ask Her Majesty's Government why their Looked-after Children and Care leavers: EU Settlement Scheme Local Authorities and Social Care Trusts Guidance, published on 3 April, makes no reference to the legal aid available to unaccompanied and separated children in care through exceptional case funding.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party |
Department: Home Office

The Home Office designed the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) to be: free of charge; streamlined; and user-friendly. The majority of applicants apply with-out the need for advice from a lawyer on rights to enter or remain. Although legal aid is available, we did not anticipate the vast majority of applicants would need legal aid.

The Home Office has created and issued guidance about the EUSS to help local authorities and Health and Social Care Trusts understand their responsibilities for supporting looked after children and care leavers and how to apply. Although the EUSS was designed to be as simple as possible, we have committed to working with applicants to ensure they obtain the status they need where required. The guidance is clear that where necessary, because of case complexity, or if there is any doubt about how to proceed, that the LA or HSCT may consider obtaining independent legal advice, in line with their own organisational processes and policies.

The guidance is intended to help local authorities and HSCT staff navigate information available on gov.uk by pulling together relevant

information relating to looked after children and care leavers into one simple straight forward document. It is also the intention that this information pack will be updated and added to as and when required.

09 July 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL16671

Date answered: 09 July 2019

[Immigration: Children in Care](#)

Asked by: Lord Russell of Liverpool | **Party:** Crossbench

To ask Her Majesty's Government how they assess whether local authorities are identifying children in their care who need to address immigration issues; and how they intend to ensure that all European national children in care apply to the EU Settlement Scheme before the deadline for applications.

Answered by: Baroness Williams of Trafford | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Home Office

The Home Office has been engaging with relevant stakeholders such as the Department for Education, Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Children's Services to assess the needs of this group and ensure they are supported.

The Home Office has issued a series of letters to all Directors of Children Services making recommendations about the activity local authorities and their staff need to undertake to make applications to EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) for looked after children and care leavers.

These recommendations have been followed up with a round of teleconferences aimed directly at local authorities and Health and Social Care Trusts to find further information about EUSS and to share information with colleagues across the UK. The aim of the teleconferences is to monitor the level of take up to the scheme and to surface early any problems a local authority might be experiencing. These calls will continue through the lifetime of the EUSS.

The Home Office will shortly be surveying local authorities to benchmark current uptake of the scheme, and to baseline current cohorts of EEA citizen looked after children and care leavers. This survey will take place at set intervals throughout the lifecycle of the EUSS.

A New Burdens Assessment has also been produced in collaboration with key stakeholders representing local authorities and children's social services to ensure they are funded to identify and support eligible EEA children and family members in care.

09 July 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Lords | HL16668

Date answered: 09 Jul 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Lewell-Buck, Mrs Emma | **Party:** Labour Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, who pays for ID that children might have to obtain to participate in the EU Settlement scheme for looked after children and care leavers.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |
Department: Home Office

The Home Office has put in place a comprehensive vulnerability strategy to ensure that the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) is accessible for all, including children in care.

The Home Office has been engaging with relevant stakeholders such as the Department for Education, Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Children's Services to assess the needs of this group and ensure they are supported.

For England, Scotland and Wales local authorities (LAs) and for Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trusts (HSCTs) will have responsibility in ensuring that applications are made on behalf of all looked after children for whom they have full parental responsibility and who are EEA citizens or family members and to assist with accessing services with status once granted.

If the child is cared for under shared care provisions, then it is LAs and HSCTs responsibility to ensure that the child, and their carers, are aware of the need to make an application to the EUSS, signposting and pointing them to practical support where needed.

LAs and HSCTs also have continuing duties to support care leavers and therefore have the responsibility to identify those eligible to apply to EUSS and to ensure that they make an application. Making an application to EUSS for those who are eligible and to keep an adequate record of applications and status granted should form part of the necessary pathway planning for care leavers ordinarily carried out by LAs and HSCTs in the discharge of their duties.

A child does not require consent from an adult in order to apply and can make their own application. However, children who have failed to make an application by the deadline as a result of a parent or guardian having failed to submit an application on their behalf would meet the criteria for being permissible to submit a late application.

It is not possible to apply for British citizenship under the EUSS. There is no requirement for any local authority to make an application for British citizenship on behalf of a looked after child: EEA and Swiss children, and the non-EEA children of EEA and Swiss citizens, can obtain the status they need to remain in the UK by making a free application to the

EUSS. As there is no need for LAs or HSCTs to make applications for citizenship there is no reason why any of the costs of doing so should be incurred, unless the LA or HSCT voluntarily chooses to do so.

Obtaining identity documents should be a familiar process for LAs and HSCT due to these documents being required in other circumstances.

The Home Office has introduced a range of support including up to £9 million grant funding for voluntary and community organisations, assisted digital support and support via the EU Settlement Scheme Resolution Centre.

A New Burdens Assessment has also been produced in collaboration with key stakeholders representing local authorities and children's social services to ensure they are funded to identify and support eligible EEA children and family members in care.

The EUSS has been designed to be streamlined and user-friendly, and the majority of applicants will be able to apply without the need for general advice from a lawyer on rights to enter or remain required as a result of the Bill.

As the scheme is free to apply and simple to navigate, it is not anticipated that applicants will need legal aid but it will be available to some particularly vulnerable individuals. Legislation will also be introduced to bring immigration matters for separated migrant children into the scope of legal aid, meaning this group will get support in securing their immigration rights. Legal aid may also be available through the Exceptional Case Funding scheme where a failure to provide legal aid would breach, or risk breaching, ECHR or enforceable EU law rights.

The Home Office has created and issued guidance about the EUSS to help LAs and HSCTs understand their responsibilities for supporting looked after children and care leavers and how to apply. The EUSS has been designed to be as simple as possible, but we have committed to working with applicants, and those supporting them, to ensure they obtain the status they need where required. The guidance is clear that where necessary, because of case complexity, or if there is any doubt about how to proceed, that the LA or HSCT may consider obtaining independent legal advice, in line with their own organisation's processes and policies.

Some of the voluntary and community organisations who receive support from the grant funding will also be able to provide legal advice.

Swiss citizens continue to enjoy the same rights and status as EEA citizens while the UK remains a member of the EU. Like EEA citizens, they can protect those rights and obtain a permanent UK immigration status by applying to the EUSS by 31 December 2020.

In the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal eligible EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members, resident in the UK by the date that the UK leaves the EU, will have until 31 December 2020 to make an application to the EUSS. However, the Government has confirmed that it will take a proportionate approach to those that miss the deadline and make provision for those with a good reason for missing it to apply later. A child whose parent or guardian fail to make an application on their behalf would meet this criteria.

24 April 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 244119

Date answered: 24 April 2019

[Immigration: Switzerland](#)

Asked by: Lewell-Buck, Mrs Emma | **Party:** Labour Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what assessment he has made of the status of children who are Swiss nationals and either in care orders or are care leavers.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |

Department: Home Office

The Home Office has put in place a comprehensive vulnerability strategy to ensure that the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) is accessible for all, including children in care.

The Home office has been engaging with relevant stakeholders such as the Department for Education, Local Government Association and Association of Directors of Children's Services to assess the needs of this group and ensure they are supported.

For England, Scotland and Wales local authorities (LAs) and for Northern Ireland Health and Social Care Trusts (HSCTs) will have responsibility in ensuring that applications are made on behalf of all looked after children for whom they have full parental responsibility and who are EEA citizens or family members and to assist with accessing services with status once granted.

If the child is cared for under shared care provisions, then it is LAs and HSCTs responsibility to ensure that the child, and their carers, are aware of the need to make an application to the EUSS, signposting and pointing them to practical support where needed.

LAs and HSCTs also have continuing duties to support care leavers and therefore have the responsibility to identify those eligible to apply to EUSS and to ensure that they make an application. Making an application to EUSS for those who are eligible and to keep an adequate record of applications and status granted should form part of the

necessary pathway planning for care leavers ordinarily carried out by LAs and HSCTs in the discharge of their duties.

A child does not require consent from an adult in order to apply and can make their own application. However, children who have failed to make an application by the deadline as a result of a parent or guardian having failed to submit an application on their behalf would meet the criteria for being permissible to submit a late application.

It is not possible to apply for British citizenship under the EUSS. There is no requirement for any local authority to make an application for British citizenship on behalf of a looked after child: EEA and Swiss children, and the non-EEA children of EEA and Swiss citizens, can obtain the status they need to remain in the UK by making a free application to the EUSS. As there is no need for LAs or HSCTs to make applications for citizenship there is no reason why any of the costs of doing so should be incurred, unless the LA or HSCT voluntarily chooses to do so.

Obtaining identity documents should be a familiar process for LAs and HSCT due to these documents being required in other circumstances.

The Home Office has introduced a range of support including up to £9 million grant funding for voluntary and community organisations, assisted digital support and support via the EU Settlement Scheme Resolution Centre.

A New Burdens Assessment has also been produced in collaboration with key stakeholders representing local authorities and children's social services to ensure they are funded to identify and support eligible EEA children and family members in care.

The EUSS has been designed to be streamlined and user-friendly, and the majority of applicants will be able to apply without the need for general advice from a lawyer on rights to enter or remain required as a result of the Bill.

As the scheme is free to apply and simple to navigate, it is not anticipated that applicants will need legal aid but it will be available to some particularly vulnerable individuals. Legislation will also be introduced to bring immigration matters for separated migrant children into the scope of legal aid, meaning this group will get support in securing their immigration rights. Legal aid may also be available through the Exceptional Case Funding scheme where a failure to provide legal aid would breach, or risk breaching, ECHR or enforceable EU law rights.

The Home Office has created and issued guidance about the EUSS to help LAs and HSCTs understand their responsibilities for supporting looked after children and care leavers and how to apply. The EUSS has been designed to be as simple as possible, but we have committed to working with applicants, and those supporting them, to ensure they obtain the status they need where required. The guidance is clear that where necessary, because of case complexity, or if there is any doubt

about how to proceed, that the LA or HSCT may consider obtaining independent legal advice, in line with their own organisation's processes and policies.

Some of the voluntary and community organisations who receive support from the grant funding will also be able to provide legal advice.

Swiss citizens continue to enjoy the same rights and status as EEA citizens while the UK remains a member of the EU. Like EEA citizens, they can protect those rights and obtain a permanent UK immigration status by applying to the EUSS by 31 December 2020.

In the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal eligible EEA and Swiss citizens, and their family members, resident in the UK by the date that the UK leaves the EU, will have until 31 December 2020 to make an application to the EUSS. However, the Government has confirmed that it will take a proportionate approach to those that miss the deadline and make provision for those with a good reason for missing it to apply later. A child whose parent or guardian fail to make an application on their behalf would meet this criteria.

24 April 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 244121

Date answered: 24 April 2019

[Topical Questions](#)

Asked by: Mrs Emma Lewell-Buck (South Shields) (Lab)

The Government have been warned that EU nationals' children who are looked-after or care leavers will fall through the gap when it comes to the settling of their status. These are vulnerable children in the care of the state, yet the Government, their corporate parent, do not even know how many of them there are and are refusing to give them automatic settled status or to waive the fees of those eligible for citizenship. Why is that?

Answered by: Mr Walker | **Department:** Exiting the European Union

I absolutely disagree with the hon. Lady about the Government's attitude to this group. We want to ensure that all those who are eligible for settled status, particularly children, are given a smooth and orderly process. I am certainly happy to take up her concerns with the Home Office, but I do not agree that the Government do not take their responsibilities in this regard extremely seriously.

04 April 2019 | Topical questions - 1st Supplementary | Answered | House of Commons | 657 cc1244-1326

Date Answered: 04 April 2019

[Local Authorities: Children of EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Teresa Pearce (Erith and Thamesmead) (Lab) | **Party:** Labour Party

What steps he is taking to ensure that local authorities settle the status of the children of EU nationals in their care.

Answered by: The Minister for Immigration (Caroline Nokes) | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Home Department

The Home Office's comprehensive vulnerability strategy ensures that the EU settlement scheme is accessible for all, including children in care. The Home Office is engaged with the Department for Education, the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Children's Services to assess the needs of this group and ensure that they are met. I have welcomed their ongoing contribution to the development of the scheme.

01 April 2019 | Oral questions - Lead | Answered | House of Commons | House of Commons chamber | 910138 | 657 cc795-6

Date answered: 01 April 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Johnson, Diana | **Party:** Labour Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, pursuant to the Answer of 26 February 2019 to Question 222793 on applications for looked-after children through the EU Settlement Scheme, how many of the 19 applications made on behalf of looked-after children were made by (a) local authorities and (b) supporting organisations.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party | **Department:** Home Office

In the most recent phase of testing, the Government made provision for eligible children and care leavers looked after by one of five local authorities specified in Immigration Rules to make an application to the EU Settlement Scheme. The five local authorities participating made 19 applications on behalf of looked after children.

Seven voluntary support organisations were also permitted to support EU citizens to make an application during this test phase.

15 March 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 231405

Date answered: 15 March 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Spelman, Dame Caroline | **Party:** Conservative Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, how many non-UK EU children in care took part in the Home Office's private beta testing phase two of the EU Settlement Scheme (a) in total and (b) in each local authority area; how many (i) received settled status, (ii) received pre-settled status, (iii) were refused, (iv) requested an administrative review (A) in total and (B) in each local authority area.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |

Department: Home Office

In total 19 applications were made on behalf of looked after children by the participating local authorities. We are unable to provide a breakdown by local authority as this may identify some of the children involved.

16 have received settled status.

0 have received pre-settled status

0 have been refused

0 have requested an administrative review

We are working with the relevant local authorities to gather further evidence for the 3 outstanding cases.

26 February 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 222793

Date answered: 26 February 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Spelman, Dame Caroline | **Party:** Conservative Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of the number of non-UK EU children in care who could not take part in his Department's private beta phase test pilot (a) in total and (b) in each local authority pilot site because they did not have a passport.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |

Department: Home Office

According to the rules laid before parliament (on 11/10/2018) for the second Private Beta phase of the EU Settlement Scheme, only a child being looked after (within the meaning of section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) by one of the five named local authorities, with a chipped passport, was eligible to apply.

The Home Office did not estimate the number of children who could not take part in the Private Beta phase because they did not have a passport.

All EU applicants, including looked after children, will be able to apply with an ID card or a passport once the scheme is rolled out fully from 30 March 2019. In addition, from that date it will be possible for applicants to submit alternative evidence of their identity and nationality where they are unable to provide a passport or national identity card due to circumstances outside of their control, or for compelling practical or compassionate reasons.

26 February 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 222792

Date answered: 26 February 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Spelman, Dame Caroline | **Party:** Conservative Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, what estimate he has made of (a) the number of non-UK EU children in care and (b) the number of those children in each local authority that were part of his Department's private beta phase two testing pilot by (i) age and (ii) EU nationality.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |

Department: Home Office

The precise number of non-UK EU children in care is not known. Local authorities do not routinely collect this data. The Home Office has estimated that there are approximately 5,000 EU children in care in the UK, not including care leavers. This estimate is based on ONS data on the proportion of EEA citizens per Local Authority and government data on volumes of children in care per Local Authority

The second Private Beta phase included some applications for Looked After Children made by five local authorities. The local authorities which participated did so voluntarily for some of the EU children in their care. In total 19 applications were made on behalf of looked after children by these local authorities. Applicants were aged between 5-17 and comprised 6 different nationalities.

26 February 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 222791

Date answered: 26 February 2019

[Immigration: EU Nationals](#)

Asked by: Spelman, Dame Caroline | **Party:** Conservative Party

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, whether during the private beta testing phase two of the EU Settlement Scheme his Department instructed local authorities to support eligible non-UK EU children in care to secure British citizenship.

Answered by: Caroline Nokes | **Party:** Conservative Party |
Department: Home Office

During the second Private Beta phase of the EU Settlement Scheme, participating local authorities were not instructed to support eligible EU national children in care to secure British citizenship.

Local authorities participated on a voluntary basis to apply on behalf of some children in their care. Only looked after EU national children (within the meaning of section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) were eligible to participate in this phase of the scheme.

The Private Beta phase did not involve applications for British citizenship, which is a separate process.

26 February 2019 | Written questions | Answered | House of Commons | 222737

Date answered: 26 February 2019

5.4 Select Committee material

Home Affairs Committee, [EU Settlement Scheme inquiry](#) July 2019
HC1945 2017–19

See also Coram Children's Legal Centre, [Written submission from Coram Children's Legal Centre \(ESS0004\)](#), 12 Mar 2019

Home Affairs Committee, [EU Settlement Scheme: Government Response to the Committee's Fifteenth Report of Session 2017–19](#), 23 July 2019, HC 2592 2017–19

6. Organisations and Further reading

Department for Education, [Guidance - Brexit: no deal preparations for local authority children's services in England](#), Last updated 19 August 2019

Home Office, [Promotional material: Local authority introduction to the EU Settlement Scheme](#), Updated 16 August 2019

Privacy International, [Joint letter to new British Home Secretary on the future of the immigration and asylum system](#), 30 July 2019

NRPF Network, [NRPF Network Factsheet: Helping European Economic Area \(EEA\) & Swiss residents to protect their rights after Brexit](#), 30 May 2019

Department for Education, [Statistics: looked-after children](#), Last updated 11 April 2019

Home Office, [EU Settlement Scheme – Looked after children and care leavers: local authority and health and social care trusts guidance](#), April 2019

Home Office, [Home Office launches nationwide campaign for EU Settlement Scheme](#), 25 March 2019

Children's Rights Alliance for England, [State of Children's Rights in England 2018 Immigration, Asylum and Trafficking](#), March 2019

Coram Children's Legal Centre, [Uncertain futures: the EU settlement scheme and children and young people's right to remain in the UK](#), March 2019

Jill Rutter and Steve Ballinger, [Getting it right from the start: Securing the future for EU citizens in the UK](#), British Future, January 2019

Coram Children's Legal Centre, [Looked after children and care leavers with EU rights](#)

The Migration Observatory, [Unsettled Status? Which EU Citizens are at Risk of Failing to Secure their Rights after Brexit?](#) 12 Apr 2018

Local Government Association, [Council support: refugees, asylum seekers and unaccompanied children](#), 30 November 2017

[The Project for the Registration of Children as British Citizens \(PRCBC\)](#)

About the Library

The House of Commons Library research service provides MPs and their staff with the impartial briefing and evidence base they need to do their work in scrutinising Government, proposing legislation, and supporting constituents.

As well as providing MPs with a confidential service we publish open briefing papers, which are available on the Parliament website.

Every effort is made to ensure that the information contained in these publicly available research briefings is correct at the time of publication. Readers should be aware however that briefings are not necessarily updated or otherwise amended to reflect subsequent changes.

If you have any comments on our briefings please email papers@parliament.uk. Authors are available to discuss the content of this briefing only with Members and their staff.

If you have any general questions about the work of the House of Commons you can email hcinfo@parliament.uk.

Disclaimer

This information is provided to Members of Parliament in support of their parliamentary duties. It is a general briefing only and should not be relied on as a substitute for specific advice. The House of Commons or the author(s) shall not be liable for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage of any kind arising from its use, and may remove, vary or amend any information at any time without prior notice.

The House of Commons accepts no responsibility for any references or links to, or the content of, information maintained by third parties. This information is provided subject to the [conditions of the Open Parliament Licence](#).