

**Democratic Services Section  
Legal and Civic Services Department  
Belfast City Council  
City Hall  
Belfast  
BT1 5GS**



**Belfast  
City Council**

14th February, 2020

**MEETING OF BREXIT COMMITTEE**

Dear Alderman/Councillor,

The above-named Committee will meet in the Lavery Room - City Hall on Thursday, 20th February, 2020 at 5.15 pm, for the transaction of the business noted below.

You are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully,

SUZANNE WYLIE

Chief Executive

**AGENDA:**

1. **Routine Matters**

- (a) Apologies
- (b) Minutes
- (c) Declarations of Interest

2. **Presentations**

- (a) David Phinnemore - Professor of European Politics, Queen's University  
Belfast

3. **Update on Brexit Preparedness (Verbal Update)**

4. **Update on EU Settlement Scheme (Pages 1 - 8)**





Subject:	Update on the EU Settlement Scheme
Date:	20 February 2020
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Claire Sullivan, Policy and Business Development Officer

<b>Restricted Reports</b>	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Call-in</b>	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>1.0</b>	<b>Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues</b>
	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the latest information from the Home Office in relation to the EU Settlement Scheme.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are asked to note this report.

3.0	<b>Main report</b>
	<p><b><u>Key Issues</u></b></p> <p>The EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) enables EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK, and their family members, to obtain the UK immigration status they will require to live, work and study in the UK after 30 June 2021. Irish Citizens are not required to apply to the EUSS but may choose to do so.</p> <p>Members are reminded that this Committee received a report in January 2020 updating them on a session that was being held in City Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> February. This session was run by Advice NI and specialist advisors were in attendance to assist people with the application process. A total of 22 people with a range of nationalities attended the session.</p> <p>Members are also advised that the Home Office has held a series of teleconference calls for local authority staff from across the UK. The most recent call took place in mid-January and key messages from it included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EUSS application figures by local authority now published quarterly on <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-december-2019">https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-quarterly-statistics-december-2019</a></li> <li>• An update was provided on the communications that had been undertaken to promote the scheme and the marketing materials that are available for Councils.</li> <li>• In 2020, there will be a move away from large-scale campaigns to more targeted marketing at the hard to reach groups.</li> <li>• To be eligible to apply to the EUSS you must be in the UK on or before 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 and the application process closes on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.</li> <li>• Under the Withdrawal Agreement there is an indefinite right for close family members to join a relative in the UK, if the relationship existed prior to the end of the transition period.</li> <li>• Funding for the organisations who are supporting people to apply to the EUSS ends on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 – the Home Office are currently reviewing the funding and will make a decision on additional funding in due course.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Number of applications</u></b></p> <p>The statistics covering the period up to 31st December 2019 were released in early February and a breakdown of the applications for Northern Ireland by local council area are included as appendix 1. Some key facts are:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As of 31 December 2019, over 2.7 million (2,756,130) applications had been received, with 92% received in England, 5% in Scotland, 2% in Northern Ireland and 2% in Wales.</li> <li>• 44,580 applications have been made in Northern Ireland and 8,400 of these have been made in Belfast.</li> <li>• Northern Ireland had a noticeably higher proportion (17%) of applications from applicants under 18 compared to the rest of the UK.</li> <li>• In Belfast, the highest number of applications were from Polish (2,490) and Romanian (1,460) nationals.</li> <li>• Of the applications submitted in Belfast, 86% have been concluded and of these 61% were awarded settled status and 38% pre settled status<sup>1</sup>.</li> </ul> <p>Members are advised that the UK government are currently developing their immigration policy post EU exit. The Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) published a report on 28th January 2020, which responds to the request from the Home Secretary to the MAC to consider how a points-based system immigration system could be introduced in the UK to strengthen the UK labour market. A copy of this report is available at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migration-advisory-committee-mac-report-points-based-system-and-salary-thresholds">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/migration-advisory-committee-mac-report-points-based-system-and-salary-thresholds</a></p> <p><b><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></b></p> <p>There are no financial or resource implications relating to this report.</p> <p><b><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></b></p> <p>There are no implications relating to this report.</p>
	<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
	<p>Appendix 1: Statistics relating to EU Settlement Scheme by local council area</p>

<sup>1</sup> Pre-settled status entitles the person to apply for settled status after they have 5 years' continuous residence in the UK. <https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families/what-settled-and-presettled-status-means>

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EU Settlement Scheme: applications by nationality, region and local authority, 28 August 2018 to 31 December 2019

of which

Local authority	Total	Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland	France
Antrim and Newtownabbey	2,370	*	*	20	*	0	30	*	*	*	20
Ards and North Down	1,490	*	10	30	*	*	20	*	*	*	30
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	10,170	*	10	1,560	*	*	60	*	*	*	40
<b>Belfast</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>210</b>
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,340	*	*	70	*	0	20	*	0	*	20
Derry City and Strabane	860	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	20
Fermanagh and Omagh	2,620	*	0	200	*	0	10	*	*	0	10
Lisburn and Castlereagh	2,080	*	*	100	0	*	20	*	*	*	30
Mid and East Antrim	3,300	*	*	200	*	*	100	*	0	*	10
Mid Ulster	8,110	0	*	220	0	0	50	0	*	0	10
Newry, Mourne and Down	3,840	*	*	630	*	0	20	*	*	*	20
NI Total	44,580	20	50	3,170	20	20	430	20	30	20	420

Local authority	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Liechtenstein	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Netherlands
Antrim and Newtownabbey	30	10	110	*	40	40	50	0	330	0	0	20
Ards and North Down	50	*	40	*	10	30	150	0	240	0	*	40
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	40	20	190	0	130	70	590	0	2,070	0	*	30
<b>Belfast</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>140</b>
Causeway Coast and Glens	20	*	10	0	10	30	60	0	30	0	0	*
Derry City and Strabane	20	10	70	0	20	40	20	0	80	0	*	*
Fermanagh and Omagh	20	10	430	0	20	20	180	0	500	0	0	10
Lisburn and Castlereagh	30	40	70	0	30	40	120	0	290	0	*	20
Mid and East Antrim	20	*	50	0	30	40	70	0	70	0	0	10
Mid Ulster	*	*	160	0	70	30	510	0	2,070	0	0	10
Newry, Mourne and Down	30	10	40	0	40	40	300	0	800	0	*	20
NI Total	440	270	1,480	0	500	950	2,180	0	6,760	0	10	300

Local authority	Norway	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Non-EEA
Antrim and Newtownabbey	*	980	70	310	160	*	40	*	*	70
Ards and North Down	*	390	80	120	60	0	50	*	10	70
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	*	2,270	1,760	800	230	0	50	*	*	230
<b>Belfast</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2,490</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>1,460</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>530</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>390</b>
Causeway Coast and Glens	*	910	30	40	30	0	10	*	0	30
Derry City and Strabane	*	450	20	40	*	0	30	*	0	30
Fermanagh and Omagh	*	940	30	80	80	0	20	0	*	50
Lisburn and Castlereagh	*	700	100	250	80	0	60	*	0	70
Mid and East Antrim	0	880	90	1,420	230	*	10	*	*	40
Mid Ulster	*	1,380	2,650	270	250	0	30	*	0	370
Newry, Mourne and Down	*	1,300	40	360	60	0	20	*	*	80
NI Total	20	12,690	5,320	5,150	1,700	0	850	60	20	1,430



**EU Settlement Scheme: applications by age group, region and local authority, 28 August 2018 to 31 December 2019**

*of which*

<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Under 18</b>	<b>18 to 64</b>	<b>65+</b>
Antrim and Newtownabbey	2,370	380	1,970	30
Ards and North Down	1,490	220	1,230	40
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	10,170	1,980	8,000	180
<b>Belfast</b>	<b>8,400</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>7,050</b>	<b>110</b>
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,340	260	1,050	30
Derry City and Strabane	860	150	700	10
Fermanagh and Omagh	2,620	550	2,030	40
Lisburn and Castlereagh	2,080	360	1,690	20
Mid and East Antrim	3,300	540	2,700	60
Mid Ulster	8,110	1,330	6,680	100
Newry, Mourne and Down	3,840	660	3,110	60
<b>Total</b>	<b>44,580</b>	<b>7,670</b>	<b>36,210</b>	<b>680</b>

**EU Settlement Scheme: concluded applications by outcome type, region and local authority, 28 August 2018 to 31 December 2019**

*of which*

<b>Local authority</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Settled</b>	<b>Pre-settled</b>	<b>Other outcomes</b>
Antrim and Newtownabbey	2,110	1,550	560	10
Ards and North Down	1,370	990	380	*
Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon	8,830	5,660	3,130	40
<b>Belfast</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>4,380</b>	<b>2,760</b>	<b>60</b>
Causeway Coast and Glens	1,170	970	200	*
Derry City and Strabane	770	630	130	*
Fermanagh and Omagh	2,320	1,640	670	*
Lisburn and Castlereagh	1,850	1,360	470	10
Mid and East Antrim	2,850	1,630	1,220	*
Mid Ulster	6,840	4,830	1,990	30
Newry, Mourne and Down	3,240	2,150	1,080	*
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,550</b>	<b>25,790</b>	<b>12,590</b>	<b>150</b>