

Addressing the Council on May 4th regarding the deadline to apply for EU Settled Status.

I'm here as a Bath resident and a representative of Bath for Europe, a non-party aligned campaign group, to urge councillors to do all you can to ensure that every EU citizen or national from Norway, Iceland, Switzerland and Liechtenstein living in Bath and North East Somerset has been made aware of the need to apply for Settled Status or Pre-Settled status if they've lived here for less than 5 years.

The deadline of **June 30th, 2021** is only **57** days away. It's vital applications are made by this date if our residents want to continue living here and accessing services such as the NHS, housing, education and employment.

Although it's likely most people in employment or who are technically literate are aware of this, there may be those who don't know it applies to them. Particularly vulnerable are the elderly or those not comfortable with IT. Others who might not realise are:

- people born here who are not British or Irish citizens
- those who have lived here for decades and think that being married to a British citizen exempts them
- or those previously granted a UK permanent residency card as these cards will no longer be valid after June 30th

It was cheering to learn that an email on this subject has been sent to schools from the council and it would be really positive if a reminder to apply could be included in further communications with residents. Most useful of all would be a special EUSS applications hotline that concerned citizens calling the council switchboard could access.

Please do all you can to make sure we avoid a Windrush situation on our doorstep.

Jane Riekemann

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