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ENSURING ACCESS

An estimated 3.5 million EU citizens currently resident in the UK are eligible to apply to remain in the UK under the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

In Scotland, the **International Organization for Migration (IOM)** is working in partnership with the **Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA)**, to ensure that vulnerable and more marginalised people are provided with the information and support they need.

The COSLA-IOM partnership is funded by the **Scottish Government** to deliver practical assistance to vulnerable or at-risk EU citizens and their family members, and to provide them all the information and support they need to apply.

IOM works with a wide range of clients, this includes **looked-after children, young care-leavers, adults in social care, people who are homeless or rough sleepers, people from Roma and other marginalised communities, survivors of human trafficking, elderly people living with chronic illness or disabilities and those who struggle to use or access technology or face language or literacy barriers.**

Support will be provided to overcome barriers to access, such as physical or mental impairment, or language and literacy barriers, which prevent the individual from completing their application themselves, and challenges such as a lack of identity documentation, or documentary evidence to prove their residency in the UK.

ABOUT IOM

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the UN Migration agency. Established in 1951, IOM works with migrants, governments and other partners to provide humane responses to the growing migration challenges of today.

With nearly 400 offices and 11,000 staff worldwide, IOM promotes international cooperation and dialogue on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to key issues facing migrants and societies alike.

In the UK, key areas of IOM's work include resettlement and integration, community cohesion, combatting human trafficking and modern slavery, diaspora and development, migrant assistance, supporting migrant children and migration policy and research.

www.unitedkingdom.iom.int

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

IOM is working in partnership with COSLA to support vulnerable EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their non-EU family members resident in the UK to access to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS). The project aims to provide direct support to address the barriers people face in completing their applications and to raise awareness.

IOM is working with **local authorities and third sector organisations** in Scotland, to provide additional capacity to help support vulnerable individuals under their care.

The **direct support** provided includes help with language interpretation, IT and technical requirements, and guidance on identification documents and proof of residence evidence. IOM's OISC-certified staff provide **qualified immigration advice** and direct face-to-face assistance to individuals submitting applications.

Safeguarding is a priority throughout, and IOM is working with local authorities and partner organisations help meet individuals' wider support needs where possible.

All immigration advice provided is completely free and **confidential**, and no case outcomes or personal data is shared, unless with the explicit informed consent of the individual.

PROJECT PARTNER IN SCOTLAND



COSLA, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, is the voice of Local Government in Scotland. COSLA provides political leadership on national issues, and work with councils to improve local services and strengthen local democracy.

The Migration, Population and Diversity (MPD) team within COSLA works specifically on migration issues. We work with a range of key partners including the UK Government and Scottish Government to ensure that migrants are welcomed and integrated into Scotland and the demographic needs of the country are met.

Website: www.cosla.gov.uk

KEY ACTIVITIES

Individuals who are at-risk or in vulnerable situation are informed and aware of the EU Settlement Scheme and the application requirements:

- Support key stakeholders and service providers already working directly with vulnerable groups, including local authority staff,
- Provide an effective referral pathway for specialised legal advice and support on the EUSS.

At-risk individuals are supported to complete their applications to the EUSS before the deadline:

- Provide qualified one-to-one immigration advice and follow up support on individual cases
- Advice and support to obtain identity documents/ evidence of continuous residence
- Provide technical support/online access to complete applications
- Interpretation support

LOCAL AUTHORITY AND SUPPORT ORGANISATION STAFF WHO WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT IOM SUPPORT AND THE REFERRAL PROCESS PLEASE CONTACT:

Email: mcaretti@iom.int

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE TO DATE

Under this project, coverage will be expanded to cover all regions and Local Authorities in Scotland.



Area	Cases
Glasgow City	79.2%
City of Edinburgh	9.4%
Renfrewshire	4.0%
Angus	2.5%
Dundee City	2.5%
Aberdeen City	0.5%
Highland	0.5%
North Ayrshire	0.5%
Perth & Kinross	0.5%
South Lanarkshire	0.5%
Total	100.0%