

**Motion - EU Citizens Resident in Wiltshire are welcome here  
From Councillors Brian Mathew and Ian Thorn**

*EU citizens resident in Wiltshire of whom there are in excess of 7,500 registered to vote, make an invaluable contribution to the life of our County and Country including our businesses, the delivery of our public services, and to wider public life, estimated in purely financial Terms at £17.25 Million per year\*. They are very welcome here and should be encouraged to stay*

*[\\*https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/741926/Final\\_EEA\\_report.PDF](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/741926/Final_EEA_report.PDF)*

*We request that Wiltshire Council investigates and initiates further and enhanced communication with EU residents living in Wiltshire stating that they are welcome, acknowledging and congratulating the 8,590 that have already signed up and encouraging those who have not yet done so to stay, by applying for settlement or pre-settlement status and setting out how they can do that by going to [www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families](http://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families).*

**Briefing Note- Motion- EU Citizens Resident in Wiltshire are welcome here**

Whilst the Home Office is responsible for the successful implementation of the EU Settlement Scheme, Wiltshire Council has been playing a role in promoting [awareness](#) of the scheme in a number of ways, including:

- publishing a notice on the frontpage of its website in October 2019 (available [here](#)), encouraging residents to visit a dedicated [Are you ready for Brexit?](#) webpage. The webpage encourages individuals to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme and provides details of how to do this.
- Putting in place posters for the scheme across the council's hubs.
- Using social media to promote events supporting businesses with Brexit.
- Encouraging Wiltshire Council suppliers to apply to and promote the EUSS.
- Including information for staff in the internal newsletter 'Electric Wire' and payroll.
- Convening voluntary and community sector organisations and business representative groups to consider appropriate actions and share government messaging
- Signposting clients to organisations that are legally accredited to provide immigration advice by the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner, such as Wiltshire Citizens Advice
- Community Engagement Managers sharing information with single nationality groups in local areas.

Wiltshire Council has also ensured that Looked After Children have applications made to the EUSS on their behalf where appropriate. Further guidance on support for vulnerable adults is expected from government shortly, while initial work has taken place to scope potential applicants in this area.

Aside from that, the council is not provided with a list of who has and hasn't signed up to the EU Settlement Scheme, so more targeted communications are not possible. The electoral register can only be used for electoral purposes but does give an indication of numbers of our settled residents that are EU citizens. The open register does not permit extraction on the basis of nationality and is much smaller. Other ONS statistics have wide confidence intervals and a timelag; the demography of EU citizens can also vary widely from area to area, with rural areas tending to have a higher

proportion of Eastern Europeans than elsewhere in the country and a greater sensitivity to lower exchange rates.

	<b>UK</b>	<b>Wiltshire</b>	<b>B&amp;NES</b>
<a href="#">ONS Estimated EU citizen pop. July 18 to Jun 19</a>	~3.72m +/- 93k CI	17k +/- 7k CI	7 +/- 3k CI
<a href="#">Number of EU citizens on electoral register</a>	tbc (Dec 19) 1.9m (Dec 18). This will have increased due to Euro elections.	7995 (Dec 19) 7122 (Dec 18)	5088 (Dec 19) 4085 (Dec 18)
<a href="#">Total concluded adult applications to EUSS Dec 19</a>	2.36m	7550	4830
<a href="#">Total concluded applications to EUSS Dec 19</a>	2.75m	8590	5290

Future communications activity already planned includes promotional material in the e-newsletter 'Wiltshire News' that currently reaches 22,000 directly, and reaching additional readers via digital screens and social media.