



Subject:	Update on the EU Settlement Scheme – information session
Date:	22 August 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director City & Neighbourhood Services John Walsh, City Solicitor / Director of Legal and Civic Services
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<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 information session in relation to the EU Settlement Scheme.
<b>2.0</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
	Members are asked to note the update provided.
<b>3.0</b>	<b>Main report</b>
	<u>Key Issues</u>

The EU Settlement Scheme 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 (or after 31 December 2020 if there is a no deal exit). The Home Office run regular teleconferences with Local Authorities across the UK to update them on the scheme and Officers participate in these calls and disseminate relevant information as required. The last teleconference was held in July 2019 and the purpose of this was to provide an update on the number of applications that had been received and processed. A total of 10,500 applications have been received from Northern Ireland and detailed statistics can be obtained at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/eu-settlement-scheme-statistics-june-2019>

Members should note that the statistics are only currently available at a regional level but that the Home Office is looking at the option of providing them at a Local Authority Level. We will update Members if this breakdown does become available.

An update was also provided on the organisations who had received funding from the Home Office funding scheme. In Northern Ireland these are Advice NI and a consortium made up of the Law Centre and STEP Dungannon. Information on their projects and the support they are providing can be obtained from the following websites:

<https://www.adviceni.net/eu-settlement-scheme>

<https://www.strongertogetherni.org/stronger-together-partnership-eu-settlement-scheme-support-project/>

Members are reminded that a report was brought to the January 2019 meeting of this Committee outlining plans for an information session on the EU Settlement Scheme in City Hall, which had been requested by the Committee in December 2018. It was agreed that local organisations who successfully obtain funding from the Home Office funding scheme to allow them to support EU citizens to apply to the Scheme, be invited to provide the information at the session. Members are advised that officers have made contact with the organisations that were awarded funding from the Home Office funding scheme. Their suggestion is that in the first instance a session be held with organisations who work with potentially affected citizens, as well as consulates and employers so that they can disseminate the information as widely as possible. This session would then be followed up with a session targeted at potentially affected individuals. Officers will continue to work with these funded organisations to organise these events and we have not yet confirmed when the events will take place. Information about the events will be disseminated through the Council's usual communications channels and an invite will be sent to all Members.

	<p><u>Financial &amp; Resource Implications</u></p> <p>To deliver the Information Session(s) will require the use of the City Hall and a small budget to cover tea and coffee which will come out of existing resources.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no implications relating to this report but Officers will ensure that equality implications are considered in the organisation of the information sessions.</p>
	<p><b>Appendices</b></p>
	<p>None</p>