



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

EU EXIT Business Readiness Forum: Summary of Questions & Answers 28/03/2019

Delivering the deal negotiated with the EU is the government's top priority. However, a responsible government must prepare for every eventuality, including a no deal scenario.

This document is a summary of the question and answer discussion on Mobile Roaming and Providing Services online that took place during the EU Exit Business Readiness Forum on 28/03/2019

The purpose of the forum was to provide information to trade and representative bodies, and other business intermediaries in order that their members and businesses in their networks may prepare.

For further information please visit euexit.campaign.gov.uk

Workforce & People FAQs

When will the European Temporary Leave to Remain scheme open?

After the UK leaves the EU, if there is no Brexit deal, EU/EEA and Swiss citizens will be able to enter the UK as they do now (for an interim period). However, following the end of free movement and before the UK's new skills-based immigration system begins in 2021, EU/EEA & Swiss citizens will need to apply for European temporary leave to remain to stay longer than 3 months. EU/EEA/Swiss citizens will need to prove their identity and declare any criminal convictions during their application.

For more information, please follow this link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/european-temporary-leave-to-remain-in-the-uk>

Will the eligibility date for the EU Settlement Scheme change following the recent change to exit day?

Yes. EU/EEA/Swiss citizens will need to have been resident in the UK by 12 April 2019 to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme.

If someone comes into the UK at the age of 18 and works for 8 years, but they do not make £30,000 a year, will they have to leave the UK because they don't meet the salary thresholds of the future skills-based immigration system?

No. If an EU/EEA/Swiss citizen is resident in the UK by exit day and can provide proof of identity and residency in the UK, then they will be able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to protect their immigration status and continue living, working and studying in the UK.

To have a year count as residence in the UK, an applicant needs to have six months of residence in that year. From 9 April, EU/EEA/Swiss citizens will be able to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme from outside of the UK.

Will there be an update to the Employer Toolkit?

The Employer Toolkit contains leaflets, posters and a briefing pack to help employers across the UK communicate clear and consistent messages about the EU Settlement Scheme. An updated version is now live on GOV.UK.

Will apprentices coming into the UK be treated as university students and therefore need to fulfil the same immigration requirements as students?

Apprentices are employees and it is a condition of eligibility for the programme that they have the right to work in the UK for the whole period of their apprenticeship programme. Prior to EU Exit, anyone currently seeking to undertake an apprenticeship and who does not have the right to work in the UK would need to apply for a Tier 2 skilled worker visa, although it is unlikely that many apprentices would qualify on the grounds of either salary level or existing level of skill (some intra-company transfers where employees are using an apprenticeship to progress in their career might be an exception). Tier 4 is a student visa and therefore not appropriate for apprentices who are first and foremost employees.

The European Commission has proposed granting UK citizens visa-free travel in the EU/EEA & Switzerland for business meetings, training, sports/cultural events and short-term study for up to 90 days in any 180-day period. Do we have a definition for business meetings?

UK citizens, whether on a short term 'fly in, fly out' basis, longer term movement, or placements within other parts of the business, should check whether a visa and/or work permit is required and otherwise comply with the immigration controls in place in each Member State. This would vary depending on the Member State in question.

To assist with this, we have produced country guides that contain information and links to help businesses/individuals navigate the regulations in each country that UK nationals will face after we leave the EU. You can find this on GOV.UK by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/providing-services-to-eea-and-efta-countries-after-eu-exit>