

Kevin Foster MP Minister for Safe and Legal Migration

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Dear Mr Piper,

Thank you for your letter of 15 December about extended family members and the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS) and EUSS family permits. I am sorry for the delay in replying to you.

Data on EUSS family permits are published as part of the quarterly Home Office Immigration Statistics. The latest quarterly Immigration Statistics report was published on 25 November 2021:

www.gov.uk/government/collections/immigration-statistics-quarterly-release

The data you have requested in respect of those who applied for, but could not be issued with, an EEA family permit as that route closed after 30 June 2021 are not recorded in a reportable form on our case management systems. We are continuing to work through all the relevant cases as quickly as we can and envisage the majority of those affected will have been contacted shortly.

Where the EUSS is concerned, we have made provision in the published caseworker guidance to disapply the requirement for their continuous residence in the UK to have begun before the end of the transition period on 31 December 2020, where an extended family member arrived in the UK after that date and by 30 June 2021 with an EEA family permit issued on the basis of an application made by 31 December 2020. We have made the same provision in the published guidance for those with an EUSS family permit issued on the basis of the arrangements we have put in place for those who applied for, but could not be issued with, an EEA family permit as that route closed after 30 June 2021.

The published guidance also provides, in these cases, the applicant may be considered to have reasonable grounds for missing the 30 June 2021 deadline applicable to them. This means such a person who was previously refused status under the EUSS may now make a further, successful application to the scheme.

This provision will be reflected in Appendix EU to the Immigration Rules in the next appropriate Statement of Changes. The guidance can be found at:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-caseworker-guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Foster MP Minister for Safe and Legal Migration