

Dear Sir/Madam,

We are writing to you as the largest grassroots organisation for EU citizens and their family members living in the UK.

As you probably are aware, from midnight 31 December 2020 the Brexit transition period ends. Much will change and we see there is still a lot of confusion among both EEA citizens and landlords about the rules around renting/letting from 1 January 2021. People with property to let will look at your association for advice and information on how EEA citizens and their family need to be treated in this new situation. We noticed however that on websites of landlord organisations, associations and agents the information is either outdated, incorrect or not mentioned at all. We think it is of the utmost importance that both landlords and (prospective) tenants know what the situation is, so that both can feel secure when offering or looking for a property to let/rent.

In order to remain living in the UK, EEA citizens and their family members will need to apply for a new immigration status: the so called <u>Settled or pre-Settled Status</u>. However, while the transition period as well as freedom of movement will stop from 1 January 2021, there will be a grace period of 6 months during which EEA citizens and their family members still can apply for that new status under the EU Settlement Scheme.

This means that until 30 June 2021, a passport (or national identity card) from an EEA country or Switzerland suffices to comply with the right to rent requirement.

We would like to refer you to the government's information on Landlord's guide to right to rent checks, page 43:

For dealing with new renters (our emphasis):

• EEA and Swiss Citizens can continue to use their passport and national identity cards to evidence their right to rent until 30 June 2021

For existing renters (our emphasis):

• There is **no requirement for a retrospective check** to be undertaken on EEA or Swiss Citizens who entered in to a tenancy agreement **on or before 30 June 2021**

We hope that in order to assist your members, and to ensure EEA and Swiss citizens are not inadvertently discriminated against, you can update the information on your website and refer to the latest guidance by the government.

If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact us at: info@the3million.org.uk.

Kind regards,

Hedwig Hegtermans

the3million

