



Craig Whittaker MP

CALDER VALLEY

www.craigwhittakermp.co.uk

Brexit and the Status of UK Citizens Living in the EU

Thank you for contacting me about the position of UK citizens living in EU countries.

RIGHTS OF EU NATIONALS

The UK and the EU have secured reciprocal rights for British citizens in the EU and EU citizens living in the UK. The rights of EU citizens in the UK will be upheld by UK law in the Withdrawal and Implementation Bill rather than by the ECJ as initially requested by the EU.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Families who have built their lives in the UK or the EU will be able to stay together. Spouses, children and elderly parents of those protected by the agreement and who live in a different country will be able to reunite as a family at any point in the future. This will not, however, apply to future spouses or other relatives.

EXPATRIATE BRITONS (INCLUDING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND PENSIONS)

A new settled status scheme will provide a smooth and transparent process to apply for settled status. Certainty will also be provided about healthcare, pensions and other benefits. EU citizens who have paid into the UK system and UK nationals who have paid into the system of an EU Member State will be able to benefit from what they have put in and continue to benefit from existing coordination rules for future contributions. It has been agreed that reciprocal healthcare rights will also be protected so that those receiving healthcare now will continue to be able to do so. Professional qualifications will also be mutually recognised.

EU CITIZENSHIP

EU citizenship is additional to national citizenship. It does not replace national citizenship and can only be obtained by holding the nationality of a member state of the EU. Citizenship of the EU confers certain rights. This includes the freedom to live freely in other EU countries, the right to vote in local elections and the right to petition the European Parliament.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP