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## ENSURING ACCESS

An estimated 3.5 million EU citizens currently resident in the UK are eligible to apply to remain in the UK under the EU Settlement Scheme (EU-SS).

**The International Organisation for Migration (IOM)** is working in partnership with Here for Good, the3million and St Mungo's, to ensure that vulnerable and more marginalised people are provided with the information and support they need.

IOM's consortium project is one of a network of 57 organisations funded by the UK Home Office to deliver practical assistance to vulnerable or at-risk EU citizens and their family members, and to provide them with end-to-end support to apply. Across the network, organisations aim to support an estimated 200,000 people who may be marginalised or in need of help to access the Scheme.

These vulnerable individuals may include **people who are older, people with disabilities, people who are homeless and rough sleepers, people from Roma communities, survivors of human trafficking and modern slavery, and young care-leavers.**

Support will be provided to overcome barriers to access, such as physical or mental impairment, or language and literacy barriers, which prevent the individual from completing their application themselves, and challenges such as a lack of identity documentation, or documentary evidence to prove their residency in the UK.

**10,000+** people are expected to be supported during this project from May 2019—March 2020.

## ABOUT IOM

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is the UN Migration agency. Established in 1951, IOM works with migrants, governments and other partners to provide humane responses to the growing migration challenges of today.

With nearly 400 offices and 11,000 staff worldwide, IOM promotes international cooperation and dialogue on migration issues, to assist in the search for practical solutions to key issues facing migrants and societies alike.

In the UK, key areas of IOM's work include resettlement and integration, community cohesion, combatting human trafficking and modern slavery, diaspora and development, migrant assistance, supporting migrant children and migration policy and research.

[www.unitedkingdom.iom.int](http://www.unitedkingdom.iom.int)

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

IOM is leading a consortium to support vulnerable EU citizens and their families resident in the UK as they seek access to the EU Settlement Scheme (EU-SS). The project aims to reach **over 10,000 vulnerable and at-risk individuals**, to raise awareness of the EU-SS and provide direct support to address the barriers people face in completing their applications.

IOM is working with **local authorities** in London, the South West and Scotland, to provide additional capacity to help support vulnerable individuals under their care. **the3million** is leading an online national outreach campaign and working through existing relationships to support Roma populations. **St Mungo's** supports people who are homeless or rough sleeping to access the Scheme, and **Here for Good** provides legal advice and support for vulnerable individuals requiring further assistance to access the Scheme.

Alongside **outreach** to marginalised populations, the **direct support** provided includes help with language interpretation, IT and technical requirements, and guidance on identification documents and proof of residence evidence. IOM's OISC-certified staff and Here for Good lawyers provide **qualified immigration advice** and direct face-to-face assistance to individuals submitting applications.

**Safeguarding** is a priority throughout, and IOM is working with local authorities and partner organisations help meet individuals' wider support needs where possible.

All immigration advice provided is completely **confidential**, and no case outcomes or personal data is shared, unless with the explicit informed consent of the individual.

## PROJECT PARTNER IN SCOTLAND



**COSLA**, the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, is the voice of Local Government in Scotland. COSLA provides political leadership on national issues, and work with councils to improve local services and strengthen local democracy.

The Migration, Population and Diversity (**MPD**) team within COSLA works specifically on migration issues. We work with a range of key partners including the UK Government and Scottish Government to ensure that migrants are welcomed and integrated into Scotland and the demographic needs of the country are met.

**Website:** [www.cosla.gov.uk](http://www.cosla.gov.uk)

## KEY ACTIVITIES

### Ensure vulnerable individuals are informed and aware of the EU Settlement Scheme and application requirements:

- Deliver general information to vulnerable and marginalised groups/ individuals,
- Web-based national outreach on a dedicated digital information hub and through social media and signposting to support resources,
- Support key stakeholders and service providers already working directly with vulnerable groups, including local authority staff,
- Provide an effective referral pathway for specialised legal advice and support on the EU-SS.

### Ensure vulnerable individuals have access to appropriate support to complete their applications where required:

- Provide immigration advice on individual cases,
- Advice and support to obtain identity documents/ evidence of continuous residence,
- Provide technical support/online access to complete applications,
- Interpretation support.

**LOCAL AUTHORITY AND SUPPORT ORGANISATION STAFF WHO WOULD LIKE FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT IOM SUPPORT AND THE REFERRAL PROCESS PLEASE CONTACT:**

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