

Brexit and YOU

nidirect.gov.uk/brexit

**Information for
people living in NI**

Brexit and YOU

The United Kingdom (UK) is currently in the process of leaving the European Union (EU) and this will have some impact on life in Northern Ireland.

Brexit is the common term used for the UK leaving the EU. The UK Government has set the date of October 31 to leave.

There are two ways in which Brexit can happen.

Either with a deal that allows a period of time to put necessary arrangements in place and broadly things will remain the same; or without a deal when change will happen immediately.

This leaflet has been prepared by the Northern Ireland Civil Service and sets out key information on health, transport and the EU Settlement Scheme which you might find useful.

It doesn't cover all the things you need to consider as the UK prepares to leave the EU. That's why we have the most up-to-date information online at www.nidirect.gov.uk/brexit.

We've also partnered up with some organisations who can provide one-to-one advice and help. Their details are at the back of this leaflet.

Medicines Prescriptions Healthcare

There is no need for you to change the way you order your prescriptions or take medicines.

The Department of Health has been working with other Northern Ireland (NI) and UK Departments, and across the Health and Social Care system, on arrangements to maintain the supply of medicines, medical devices and other healthcare supplies after Brexit.

Hospitals, community pharmacies, GPs, dentists, care homes and other health and social care services have been advised that they should not stockpile supplies of medicines or issue additional prescriptions.

The Department of Health does not anticipate any immediate impact on the day-to-day provision of health and social care or cross-border services.

Arrangements for the provision of specific cross-border healthcare services, such as the Paediatric Congenital Heart Service or the North West Cancer Centre, will not be affected.



Transport and travel

Both the UK and Irish governments have renewed their commitment to the Common Travel Area (CTA).

This is a long standing agreement allowing British and Irish citizens to move freely and live in either country and enjoy additional rights.

Under the CTA, British and Irish citizens will continue to have broadly the same access to employment, education, healthcare and welfare benefits, and be able to vote in certain elections.

Cross-border train and bus services will continue to operate as normal when the UK leaves the EU.

If you hold a 65+ SmartPass, you can still travel for free after Brexit.

In a no deal Brexit, drivers travelling across the border will need to carry a Green Card to prove they have the necessary insurance to drive outside the UK.

Green Cards

Passports

Pet Travel

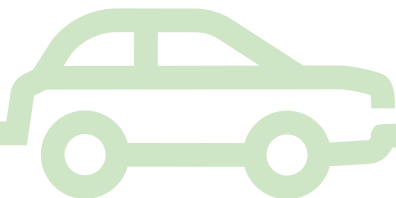
You can get a Green Card from your insurance provider and you can ask for this now.

If the UK leaves with a deal, you do not need a Green Card.

Holders of a valid UK driving licence do not need an International Driving Permit to drive across the border, but may need at least one if driving in mainland Europe after Brexit.

You will not need your passport for crossing the border. If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the rules for travel to most countries in Europe will change for UK passport holders and you may need to renew your passport earlier than planned.

If you are a pet owner and are planning to travel to the EU after Brexit, there may be some changes that affect you. Information on travelling with pets is available on nidirect.gov.uk/brexit.



Consumers

The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has advised that during this period of uncertainty, there is a greater risk of scams.

Information on staying safe from scams is available from Consumerline and also on the ScamwiseNI Facebook page or nidirect.gov.uk/scams.

- Beware of all unexpected calls, emails and text messages;
- A genuine bank or organisation will not ask for your PIN, full password, or to move money to another account;
- Never give out your personal or financial details unless it is for a service you want to use, and where you trust the provider; and
- Do not be pressurised into acting quickly - a genuine bank or financial services firm will not mind giving you time to think.

Remember the ScamwiseNI advice – if you can spot a scam, you can stop a scam.



EU Settlement Scheme

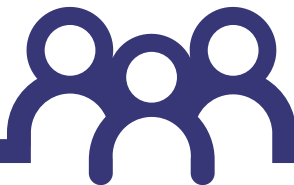
If you are an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen living here, you and your family members are able to apply for the EU Settlement Scheme.

The Settlement Scheme is a free digital service that provides eligible applicants with a status that allows EU citizens to continue to live, work, study and access public services in NI after we exit the EU.

If you need help to complete your application, two organisations in NI, Advice NI and the Stronger Together EUSS Support Project, can provide you with free confidential advice and support, including:

- immigration advice; and
- practical help and support, including interpreting services and online access to help you complete your application.

The Settlement Scheme is open for applications until at least December 2020.



Further information

We have been working with the following organisations who can provide you with advice:

Advice NI: Provides free, independent advice on a range of issues.

Free helpline: 0808 802 0020
www.adviceni.net

Consumerline: Provides free help and advice on consumer related issues, including scams and consumer law.

Free helpline: 0300 123 6262
www.nidirect.gov.uk/consumerline

Agriculture:

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

Rural Support: Provides help and support to farmers and their families.

Free helpline: 0800 138 1678
www.ruralsupport.org.uk

Business:

www.nibusinessinfo.co.uk
www.investni.com/brexit
www.intertradeireland.com/brexit

EU Settlement Scheme:

The following organisations provide free and confidential advice to anyone who wants to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

Advice NI:

Free EUSS helpline:
0800 138 6545

Text service: Text EUSS to 66644 and an adviser will call you back.

Email: euss@adviceni.net

Stronger Together EUSS Support Project:

Tel: 028 8775 0211

Email:
info@strongertogetherni.org

If you require this booklet in an alternative format such as audio, larger print, or in another language, please contact us at communications@executiveoffice-ni.gov.uk