

Jane Hutt AS/MS  
Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Social Justice



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Jenny Rathbone MS  
Chair, Equality and Social Justice Committee  
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13 April 2022

Dear Jenny,

Thank you for your letter of 31 March.

I welcome the monitoring reports the Equality and Social Justice Committee produces and the information you provide to EU citizens across Wales. It is vital that both EU citizens and the wider community are aware of the current situation in terms of applications and the support available so that we can all work collectively to ensure that EU citizens are given the best possible opportunity to secure their status and, more importantly, their futures here in Wales.

Welsh Government officials regularly review reports and publications regarding the EU Settlement scheme and will continue to do so to ensure that support aligns with need. You may already be aware of the recent publication by the Migration Observatory '[How Secure is Pre-Settled Status for EU Citizens After Brexit? - Migration Observatory - The Migration Observatory \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)' which Welsh Government policy officials will be reviewing over coming weeks to ensure that ongoing support for holders of Pre-settled Status wishing to convert to Settled Status continues to be specific to the needs of those individuals and provides for the needs of vulnerable citizens in particular.

In regard to your concern around the extension of the EUSS Family Permit scheme I can confirm that the First Minister wrote to the Prime Minister on 28 February on this topic and a response was provided by the Home Secretary on 4 March 2022. The response outlined that there are reasonable grounds for late return to the UK written in to the EUSS Family Permit scheme guidance and the circumstances of Ukrainian family members would be considered reasonable grounds for a late application, but to date no extension to this route has been granted.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Early on in the crisis response to the situation in Ukraine the Welsh Government made a call to the UK Government to take a more strengthened humanitarian approach. More recently, the UK Government has made the visa concessions for the Ukraine Family Scheme and Homes for Ukraine scheme more flexible and have provided greater resource to respond to the influx in visa applications from Ukrainian citizens.

The Welsh Government will be providing provision for Ukrainian citizens as a 'super sponsor' under the Homes for Ukraine scheme and will continue to monitor the practicality of all routes into the UK as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane', with a horizontal line above it.

**Jane Hutt AS/MS**

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Minister for Social Justice