



CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Dear Brother Bishops,

As you will be aware, Brexit is causing uncertainty and concern to many EU citizens living in the UK. Both clergy and laity alike share this uncertainty and concern.

Apart from those who are uncertain about their future, others are inevitably in a state of ignorance and unaware that Brexit will affect their immigration status.

In March 2019, the Government is due to launch a Settlement Scheme. All EU citizens living in the UK will be required to make an application if they wish to remain here after Brexit. However, Irish citizens will not be required to apply as their rights are separately protected.

Many parishioners, priests and religious in our Dioceses will be affected.

Please see the enclosed statement setting out necessary information. I hope that you will be able to circulate this widely, including to your Vicar General, Director of Education, Vicar for Religious, together with those responsible for social action in the Diocese.

With my prayers and best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

+ Paul McAleenan

Bishop Paul McAleenan
Lead Bishop for Migration and Asylum
Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales