



Home Office

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Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP
Chair of the Home Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Yvette,

EU Settlement Scheme

Following my response to the Urgent Question on the EU Settlement Scheme on 29 June, you asked me (column 165) to strengthen what the guidance on reasonable grounds for making a late application says in respect of a child whose parent, guardian or Local Authority failed to make an in-time application on their behalf. I undertook to consider this.

I have reviewed the guidance on this point and the relevant paragraph now provides greater certainty, as follows:

Where a parent, guardian or Local Authority has failed by the relevant deadline to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme on behalf of a child under the age of 18, or where a Local Authority has failed by the relevant deadline to support a care leaver in applying to the scheme, that will constitute reasonable grounds for the person – including where they are now an adult – to make a late application to the scheme. It may be some months or even years after the deadline has passed before a person who was a child at the time realises – perhaps when they first need to evidence their immigration status in order to work or study in the UK – that an application to the scheme should have been made on their behalf and was not.

The updated EUSS caseworker guidance as a whole is available at:
[EUSS casework guidance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/guidance/immigration-and-asylum/euss/euss-caseworker-guidance).

I will also place a copy of this letter in the libraries of both Houses.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Foster MP
Minister for Future Borders and Immigration