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22 Chwefror 2022

Annwyl Jenny,

Diolch ichi am eich llythyr dyddiedig 1 Chwefror.

Fel y cytunwyd yn yr ohebiaeth, yn ogystal â chan aelodau Grŵp Cydgysylltu y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE, rwy'n amgáu cofnodion cyfarfod diweddaraf y grŵp hwnnw. Gobeithiaf eu bod yn rhoi diweddariad manwl ichi ynglŷn â gwaith y sefydliadau sy'n cefnogi. Fel y gwelir yn y cofnodion, mae nifer mawr o weithgareddau cydweithio yn parhau i ddigwydd drwy'r grŵp hwn. Mae cefnogi dinasyddion yr UE, yr Ardal Economaidd Ewropeaidd (AEE) a'r Swistir sy'n dymuno aros yng Nghymru, gan wneud hynny mewn modd mor rhagweithiol â phosibl, yn parhau i fod yn flaenoriaeth i Lywodraeth Cymru, sefydliadau'r trydydd sector a phartneriaid a ariennir.

Fel y nodwyd gennych, mae cwmni cyfreithiol Newfields, Cyngor ar Bopeth Cymru a Settled, sefydliad y trydydd sector, yn cael eu cyllido ar hyn o bryd i roi gwasanaethau cynghori ar fewnfudo tan 31 Mawrth 2022. Fodd bynnag, mae swyddogion Llywodraeth Cymru yn cynnal adolygiad ar hyn o bryd o'r galw parhaus am wasanaethau cymorth. Gobeithiaf y byddaf mewn sefyllfa i gyhoeddi pecyn o gefnogaeth i'r dyfodol yn fuan iawn. Ochr yn ochr â hyn, ar 4 Chwefror, lansiodd Llywodraeth Cymru Ymgyrch Ymwybyddiaeth

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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.

Ddigidol bellach ar gyfer y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE. Bydd yr ymgyrch hon yn cael ei chynnal tan 31 Mawrth.

Nod y cam presennol o'r ymgyrch yw cyfeirio dinasyddion yr UE, yr Ardal Economaidd Ewropeaidd (AEE) a'r Swistir at wasanaethau cymorth sydd ar gael, lle bo'n berthnasol. Ceir tri amcan sydd fel a ganlyn:

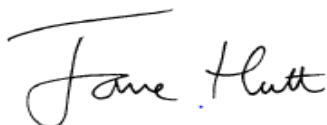
1. Targedu'r rhai hynny sydd eto i wneud cais, neu'r rhai hynny sydd efallai angen cyflwyno cais ar ran aelod o deulu neu rywun y maent yn gofalu amdano.
2. Sicrhau bod dinasyddion yr UE, dinasyddion yr AEE a dinasyddion y Swistir sydd â Statws Preswilydd Cyn-sefydlog neu Statws Preswilydd Sefydlog yn ymwybodol o'u hawliau.
3. Sicrhau bod Dinasyddion yr UE yn ymwybodol o'u rhwymedigaethau i ddiweddarau eu statws mewnfudo ar-lein.

O ran y nifer o ddinasyddion yr UE yng Nghymru sydd â Statws Preswilydd Cyn-sefydlog ar hyn o bryd, ac sydd angen gwneud cais am Statws Sefydlog pan ddaw eu statws presennol i ben, mae'r Swyddfa Gartref yn cyhoeddi ystadegau manwl bob chwarter ynghylch ceisiadau a wneir i'r Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE o bob rhan o'r DU. Mae'r [ystadegau chwarterol diweddaraf ynghylch y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE, Medi 2021 – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) yn dangos bod cyfanswm o 96,620 o geisiadau wedi'u gwneud gan ddinasyddion yng Nghymru i'r cynllun rhwng 28 Awst 2018 a 30 Medi 2021. Rhoddwyd Statws Cyn-Sefydlog i 36,200 (37%) ohonynt.

Mae Llywodraeth Cymru yn cydnabod yr angen i sicrhau bod gan ddinasyddion sydd â Statws Cyn-sefydlog y gefnogaeth sydd ei hangen arnynt i wneud cais am Statws Sefydlog, yn ogystal â'r unigolion hynny sydd angen gwneud cais cychwynol neu sydd angen rhywun i wneud cais ar eu rhan. Bydd yr holl senarios hyn yn cael eu hystyried yn yr adolygiad presennol o gyllid parhaus.

Mae Grŵp Cydgysylltu y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE wedi cytuno i barhau i gyfarfod yn unol ag unrhyw benderfyniadau cyllido a wneir yn y dyfodol. Gellir rhannu cofnodion y cyfarfodydd hynny cyhyd â bod y grŵp yn parhau i gyfarfod.

Yr eiddoch,



**Jane Hutt AS/MS**

Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol  
Minister for Social Justice

## Meeting Note



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

<b>Minister for Social Justice meeting with:</b>	EUSS Co-ordination Group Wales
<b>Date / Time:</b>	13/01/22 10:30 – 12:00

### Attendance

Welsh Government – Minister for Social Justice (MfSJ), WG Officials, Settled, Citizens Advice Cymru, TGP Cymru, Home Office, Newport Mind, DWP, WLGA, Charles Whitmore,

### Welcome and introductions

MfSJ welcomed the group to the meeting.

### Actions from November meeting

- Four actions from the last meeting
- Three complete, one outstanding for Kayleigh Sweet (WG) – liaise internally regarding birth registrations of EU citizens.

### Address from the Minister for Social Justice

- MfSJ thanked the members for attending the meeting and for the excellent collaborative work taking place across Wales
- MfSJ informed the group that, as of 30 September, 102,170 applications had been submitted to the EUSS from EU citizens in Wales.
- MfSJ was pleased that funding had been extended for Newfields Law, Citizens Advice Cymru and Settled but acknowledged that it was clear, from feedback received from members of the group in the autumn, that citizens who are still without status will need further support and WG officials are currently looking at how this can be done post March 2022.
- MfSJ notified the group of the new digital communications campaign that is being launched on 28 January 2022
- MfSJ stated that she was not aware of any EU citizens in Wales that had had their benefits terminated but continues to raise concerns in meetings with UKG regarding EU citizens who are at risk.

### Home Office update

- Home Office communications – remained quiet from media point of view
- Case studies that have been raised in the press are being looked at by the Home Office. If any partners have concerns about a particular case, they can feed this back to the Home Office and they will escalate them with UKG colleagues
- Stakeholder engagement work is ongoing and the Home Office remains committed to wide ranging engagement across the UK.

- The Home Office will continue to supply relevant communications materials to partners/organisations via Brandworkz
- New assets have been produced and are available to download
- Communications strategy for this year has several priorities and keen to ensure vulnerable people continue to have the scheme flagged to them
- Will continue to keep those with Pre-settled Status updated with what they can and can't do and to remind them to apply for Settled Status

Question (raised by Newfields Law): Is there going to be outreach to those whose family permit applications were made by 31 Dec 20 and would have been successful but for the rule change?

**Action – John Ambilino (JA), Home Office, will provide a response to Newfields Law regarding this matter**

Question (raised by Settled): Can members of the group come to Home Office Comms colleagues to try and get cases escalated if no resolution from Home Office?

JA – yes, if there are cases members are concerned about, HO Communications will then flag with relevant colleagues. But, for vulnerability cases, liaise with vulnerability team directly.

Question (raised by WG): How long will the EUSS monthly and quarterly stats continue to be produced?

JA – Currently being reviewed. Will update the group if any changes are due to be made.

### **Round table updates since November meeting - All**

#### **Kayleigh Sweet – WG Migration**

- Digital campaign being launched 28 January targeting Pre-settled to Settled Status, families and reminding citizens to update status. Links to campaign assets will be shared when the campaign launches
- Tripartite letter sent to Kevin Foster MP regarding physical proof of status. No response yet.
- EU citizens' rights factsheets on Preparing Wales have now been updated and reflect the outcome of the Fratila case.
- The migration team have now started the review of ongoing support post March 2022. Thank you to those that provided information. Hope to have an outcome by the end of the month.
- Welsh Government policy officials have continued to participate in the Cross Government task force on EUSS where we're able to feed back / raise any concerns that are raised in this forum.

**Action: Migration officials to circulate link for updated EU citizens rights factsheets to members**

## Settled

- Main issues clients are facing: refusal decisions, joining family members, late applications, proof of digital status.
- Number of queries are growing – Settled have been running sessions in different languages for clients
- Engaging with clients through Facebook, engagement rate is high
- Launched a client survey in December – 200 responses so far
- The top issue identified from the survey responses already received is being able to prove status. Client's second worry is fear of leaving the UK and not being able to get back into the country on return
- Survey also launched for Settled volunteers, 120 volunteers in total at present
- New office opening in Newport
- Dedicated Roma helpline set up
- Anticipate lots of future work will focus on pre-settled to settled status

## Citizens Advice Bureau

- Seeing issues with citizens' rights
- Needing to chase applications who have not been awarded a status
- More cases of dealing with applications for joining family members
- Providing more support on wider issues than status such as access to benefits and healthcare
- Local offices still reporting that recourse to public funds is an issue
- Continue to see trends in clients who didn't realise they needed to apply
- Working on complex cases for homeless and vulnerable applicants
- Several cases for modern slavery/trafficking
- Client demand for support is ongoing and the complexity of problems is increasing
- Also a number of success stories too, EU citizens working with CAB and being integrated into society to use their skills.

## Newfields

- Number of appeals ongoing. Paper based appeals are being slowed down while waiting for a response from Home Office
- Might be interesting to have some from Tribunals service to attend this meeting to give information to the group
- Experiencing delays in getting evidence for submission of documents for file requests for appeals
- Refusals – sometimes a decision is not necessary appealable. There will be situations where people are refused and the best option would be submitting a fresh application. People will lose rights as they fall out of the system. Some people don't want to put in an appeal
- We are seeing people who have been refused and are being told by the HO to make a new application rather than challenge the original decision - but there are implications for their rights with this approach.

- Starting to see outcomes of Fratilla case - seeing disputes over rights, benefits etc
- Going to see more benefits advisors being asked to argue fundamental rights
- Systemic problems adding to overtaxed system.

## **TGP**

- Share a lot of experiences of others
- Lots of outreach work being done in communities and other services
- Being able to identify and meet new clients through homelessness teams
- Still a number of people who didn't realise they needed to apply
- Steady stream of new applications
- Pre-application work is taking up a lot of resources
- Working with significant number of people who are still awaiting an outcome
- Meeting groups of people where language support is a struggle
- Funding makes it difficult to access high level translation that the team don't speak
- Meeting people from diff countries in Roma communities
- Working a lot with front line services who approach TGP for support
- Continuing to provide advocacy support for clients on housing etc homeless, children services, people needing support domestic violence
- A lot of the work for EUSS now has increasing wider needs
- Continuing to do a mix of formal appointment sessions in Cardiff and Newport and also some in west Wales as well as 1-2-1 visits, virtual meetings and telephone conversations. Being agile to meet client needs.
- Emergency situations will arise where people will require quick applications or quick appeals

**Action: KS to make contact with internal colleagues regarding outreach work with communities ie Roma affected by modern slavery /trafficking and of which will have citizens without status**

## **Newport mind**

- Drop in sessions have been held in Cardiff, Wrexham, Newport and Aberystwyth
- Seeing issues around converting from pre-settled to settled - people don't understand the timings and think they have to wait for 5 years before applying
- Seeing issues around travel, people are not travelling as they fear they will have issues returning to the UK
- Concerns regarding applications still stuck in the system that haven't had an outcome
- Dealing with 3 clients that can no longer claim benefits because no response from HO. One gentleman is now homeless, 1 family is temporary accommodation now facing homelessness because of no response from HO. Possibility of 1 other person becoming homeless as he has no evidence of journey into the country
- Want to know what happens when the service Newport Mind currently provides comes to an end? Who will support these people in the future?

- Undertaking an audit of all clients. This will feed into internal plans to how Newport Mind might be able to continue to provide and fund a service for clients post March

**Action: KS asked TF to send an email outlining the details of the 3 homeless cases**

### **Charles Whitmore**

- Great to hear about the ongoing work and new campaign. Happy to share campaign materials with network once launched
- Continuing to work with organisations to raise awareness of the Independent Monitoring Authority
- Currently working Disability Wales. Happy to disseminate information from the group via Disability Wales to reach the right communities

### **DWP**

- First time attending the meeting for Darran
- Happy to act as group contact for specific issues, happy to forward on to the right colleagues
- Interested in the discussion on protection for welfare benefits. Will take up with policy colleagues to see if there is anything that can be done
- Will share any updates with the group going forward

**Action: DWP colleagues to discuss appeals and access to benefits, internally, and feed back to group.**

### **WLGA**

- Limited operational role in EUSS applications although WLGA continue keep frontline staff in local authorities updated with various assets and information
- LAs have had funding from WG for last 3 years for EU Transition coordinators – funding now coming to an end
- WLGA will continue to contact and update people on the frontline and act as a conduit for this group

**Planned outreach activities and support over coming months – All**

**Cancelled item due to time**

### **The homeless and access to support – Kayleigh Sweet**

- Housing eligibility -Sian previously raised eligibility for homelessness report, Local Authority decision differing from DWP decision. KS asked if there are there any other organisations facing same issues?
- SP – it is a question of where the evidential burden is being placed. And in terms of how the LA have been approaching the request for evidence.
- KS asked NR, WLGA, if he knew how LAs were assessing eligibility?

**Action: NR will speak with housing policy officers and get back to group.**

**EUSS Statistics – Natalie Jones (UPDATE SHARED BY EMAIL)**

- The most recent stats were published by the Home Office on 25 November
- As of 30 September 2021, 102,170 applications have been submitted to the EU settlement scheme by EU citizens' in Wales
- Of the 102,170 Welsh applications made up until 30 September 2021, 96,620 applications have been concluded. (55,220 granted Settled Status, 36,200 granted Pre-settled Status, 2100 applications were refused)
- The highest percentage of applications made from EU citizens resident in Wales have been made by Polish and Romanian nationals (30,960 and 15,420 respectively).
- Since August 2018, the largest proportion of concluded applications made by EU citizens in Wales have been from applicants aged between 18-64 (78,090 applications in total, 42,640 granted Settled Status and 31,060 granted Pre-Settled Status).
- 2340 late applications were submitted by EU citizens' in Wales between 1 July – 30 September 2021

**Future of the EUSS Co-ordination Group – Kayleigh Sweet**

Cancelled item due to time

**Update on Independent Monitoring Authority and EU Citizens Rights- Kayleigh Sweet**

Cancelled item due to time

**Any Other Business**

N/A



Jane Hutt AS

Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol

1 Chwefror 2022

Annwyl Jane

## Y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE

Diolch am eich ymateb ar 26 Tachwedd i ohebiaeth y Pwyllgor. Rydym yn cytuno â'ch awgrym y dylai'r Pwyllgor dderbyn cofnodion Grŵp Cydgysylltu y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog i Ddinasyddion yr UE ac aros am gadarnhad o'r hyn a ddigwyddodd yn ei gyfarfod ar 22 Ionawr.

Yn ein cyfarfod ar 24 Ionawr buom yn ystyried diweddariad ar y Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog, gan gynnwys ystadegau ar gyfer y cyfnod rhwng mis Gorffennaf a mis Medi 2021, yn syth ar ôl dyddiad cau ceisiadau y Cynllun.

Nodasom nad oes dim diweddariad pellach wedi bod ers eich datganiad ar 20 Hydref 2021, pan wnaethoch gadarnhau y byddai Llywodraeth Cymru yn parhau i ddarparu gwasanaethau cyngor a chymorth am ddim "tan o leiaf 31 Mawrth 2022" i ddinasyddion Ewropeaidd sy'n gwneud cais i'r Cynllun Preswyllo'n Sefydlog. Rydym yn pryderu am y canlyniadau i'r rheini sydd â statws preswyllydd cyn-sefydlog y bydd angen iddynt lenwi ail gais o fewn 5 mlynedd i aros yng Nghymru pe bai'r gwasanaethau cymorth hyn yn dod i ben. A allech egluro eich bwriad ar gyfer ariannu'r gwasanaethau cymorth hyn, ac a yw Llywodraeth Cymru wedi ystyried ei ymestyn y tu hwnt i ddiwedd mis Mawrth?

Byddem hefyd yn ddiolchgar pe gallech gadarnhau a oes gan Lywodraeth Cymru unrhyw wybodaeth ychwanegol sy'n ymwneud â nifer y ceisiadau gan ddinasyddion sydd â statws preswyllydd cyn-sefydlog yng Nghymru sy'n ceisio trosi eu statws i statws sefydlog, sef mwy o wybodaeth na'r hyn sydd ar gael i'r cyhoedd. Os nad oes, a allech gadarnhau a ydych yn ymwybodol a fydd y ffigur hwn yn cael ei ddarparu mewn ystadegau chwarterol yn y dyfodol a gyhoeddir gan Lywodraeth y DU?

Yn gywir



Jenny Rathbone AS

Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor Cydraddoldeb a Chyfiawnder Cymdeithasol

