

Information for Staff and Students Travelling on University Business to Europe

Issued by Dr Veena O'Halloran, University Secretary and Compliance Officer

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Introduction

The University is preparing for the UK's departure from the European Union (EU), in the context of possible uncertainty as to future arrangements. Once the withdrawal agreement is reached it is understood that existing arrangements for travel to Europe will continue during a transition period and changeover arrangements until at least 31 December 2020. The University continues to monitor information issued by the Government and will provide updates to staff and students on a regular basis.

Staff and students travelling on University business are reminded that they should use the University's appointed Travel Management Company (Key Travel Tel: 0161 819 8849 email: strathclyde@keytravel.com) and check the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) website regularly prior to travel to establish the entry requirements for the country they are visiting.

Travel Preparations During the Transition Period

Staff and students travelling on University business should continue to prepare for travel by checking the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) webpages for information and requirements for the country being visited.

Passport Rules for Travel to Europe

British Citizens

Rules for travel to countries in Europe will not change and a visa will not be required. Passports must be valid for the duration of the trip. The [FCO website](#), contains a list of countries where country-specific advice can be obtained.

EU/EEA Citizens

Staff and students travelling on EU/EEA passports may also be concerned about re-entry to the UK after a trip to Europe.

Those **currently** living in the UK may be eligible to apply under the EU Settlement Scheme and should check their eligibility using the relevant [government webpage](#). Applicants who receive settled or pre-settled status will be able to re-enter the UK after a trip abroad but should check the details of the scheme and the information provided by the Home Office when their status is confirmed.

Although it is currently possible to travel to the UK with an Identity Card issued by an EU member state, it is advisable to carry a valid passport. It is also advisable to retain evidence

of the date of entry to the UK, and any evidence of residence prior to the UK leaving the EU (for example, tenancy agreements, bank statements or bills) which may be useful in an application under the EU Settlement Scheme.

The Settlement Scheme is described in this government [web page](#).

EU and EEA nationals who arrive in the UK, after the UK leaves the EU, and planning to stay will need to apply for either EU temporary leave to remain (Euro TLR) or another type of immigration permission by 31 December 2020. We expect more information to be available as the situation develops and in the meantime additional information can be found at the links below:

Government webpage:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/european-temporary-leave-to-remain-in-the-uk>

University of Strathclyde advice pages for students:

<https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/internationalstudents/brexitinformation/>

UKCISA: <https://www.ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice/EU-EEA--Swiss-Students/Brexit-what-does-it-mean-for-students-and-their-family>

Irish Citizens

Irish citizens do not need to apply to stay in the UK, including after 31 December 2020. They continue to have the right to enter, live, work and study in the UK under the [Common Travel Area arrangements](#).

Travel Health Insurance

The University has travel insurance in place for students and staff who travel on University business. Staff and students should continue to take the steps below prior to travel:

- Ensure you have registered your trip via the Travel Insurance Notification Form (which can be found on the webpage below)
- In the event of needing treatment abroad, you should contact Global Response (appointed by the University's insurer). They operate 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and can provide advice and assistance on the most appropriate course of action, including guarantees of payments.
- Further information on the University's travel insurance policy and how to register for trips abroad can be found on Finance Directorate's [webpage](#).

European Health Insurance Card

Staff and students travelling to the EU may have a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) that currently allows access to state healthcare in the country being visiting at reduced cost or for free. This is expected to remain in place during the transition period.

The [NHS webpage](#) provides details of the healthcare available in each country. **The EHIC is not a replacement for travel insurance which the University has in place.** Under current arrangements, those holding an EHIC are exempt from paying an excess of £25 in the event of a claim.

Driving Abroad

Provided you have a full UK driving licence, you don't need an additional licence to drive in the EU. This will continue during the transition period. An International Driving Permit (IDP) will not be required to drive in the EU, you do not need a GB sticker or a green card for insurance. Prior to driving abroad checks should be made to understand the requirements of each country.

<https://www.gov.uk/driving-abroad/international-driving-permit>

As a reminder to staff and students, when a vehicle is hired outside the UK, insurance for this should be taken out with the car hire company and the Department hiring the vehicle is responsible for ensuring this is in place.

Action Required

Prior to travelling check:

- Your passport is valid for the duration of travel.
- The FCO website regularly for the country you are travelling to for any country specific information including updates and changes as a result of leaving the EU e.g. entry requirements and acceptance of the EHIC.
- You have registered your trip using the Travel Insurance Notification Form as per the University Travel Insurance arrangements.