

# 10 years on from Brexit

## Mass lobby talking points - What MP's need to know

### Our Message to MPs

EU citizens were promised that “nothing would change” after Brexit – yet **thousands remain without secure status**, many face **wrongful loss of rights**, and the **digital-only eVisa system is failing**. The Government must act now to prevent a **second Windrush-style scandal**.



### The Three Ongoing Problems MPs Must Understand

#### 1. EXCLUDED FROM STATUS

Large numbers of people still do not have the status they are entitled to:

- **No status at all** – many never knew they had to apply; late applications now require complex justification.
- “There are still people who do not know they should have applied.”
- **Stuck waiting** – thousands have waited **2–4+ years** with only a Certificate of Application, which gives **inferior rights** and no **right to travel**.
- **Missing out on settled status** – **1.1 million people** with pre-settled status should now qualify for settled status but cannot navigate the system.

#### 2. LOSING STATUS

People who do have status are increasingly at risk of losing it:

- **Pre-settled status removals** based on **flawed travel data**; one missing entry stamp can trigger a cancellation letter.
- **Status “granted in error”** – the Home Office is retrospectively revoking rights, often incorrectly, with **no proportionality test** and **no appeal right**.

“People... see their rights fall off a cliff.”

#### 3. DENIED RIGHTS DESPITE HAVING STATUS

The **digital-only eVisa** system is unreliable and excludes many:

- People cannot prove their rights to **work, rent, travel, healthcare, benefits**.
- **System errors** have downgraded or mixed up thousands of statuses.
- **Digital lockout** affects married women, older people, and anyone whose passport MRZ does not match UK records.

“Whatever the reason, a malfunctioning eVisa can cause a serious impact.”

# Why This Matters to MPs

- Constituents are being **wrongly denied jobs, homes, healthcare, and re-entry to the UK.**
- The Home Office has **ended all funding** for support organisations, leaving vulnerable people with no route to justice.
- Without action, the UK risks **another Windrush-scale injustice**, but this time fully foreseen.

## What We Are Asking MPs to Support



### RESTORE AND EXPAND LEGAL SUPPORT FUNDING

Reinstate Home Office funding so organisations can:

- Help people apply for the status they are entitled to.
- Help digitally excluded people access their eVisa.
- Help people respond to letters threatening removal of status.



### FIX THE EUSS BACKLOG AND DECISION-MAKING

- Increase caseworker capacity.
- Reduce multi-year waits.
- Improve decision quality (30–50% of appeals overturn refusals)



### REPAIR THE EVISA SYSTEM

- Make it possible to speak to a real person quickly.
- Resolve technical issues within **24 hours**, not weeks.
- Publish statistics on eVisa errors and cancellations.
- Provide a **secure physical backup document**.



### PROTECT PEOPLE FROM WRONGFUL LOSS OF STATUS

- Apply **proportionality tests** before removing pre-settled status.
- Stop retrospective “granted in error” decisions without appeal rights.



### REMOVE THE DWP “RIGHT TO RESIDE” BARRIER

- Pre-settled status holders should not face a hidden form of No Recourse to Public Funds.

# Suggested Talking Points for Attendees

## SHORT, SIMPLE, EFFECTIVE LINES

- “EU citizens were promised nothing would change – but many are now living in limbo.”
- “A digital-only status is not secure. If the system fails, people lose jobs, homes, and miss flights.”
- “We need your help to prevent another Windrush.”
- “Please support restoring legal advice funding and fixing the eVisa system.”



## IF AN MP ASKS ‘HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE AFFECTED?’

- **1.1 million** still on pre-settled status after 5+ years.
- **5,100 late applicants per month** are still being granted status – showing how many remain unaware.
- **Thousands** stuck in the backlog for **2–4+ years**.
- **Tens of thousands** affected by eVisa errors.



## A one-minute ask for MPs



- “Will you write to the Home Secretary urging them to restore legal support funding, fix the eVisa system, and ensure no one loses their rights because of Home Office errors?”