



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Let Us Stay Campaign – Notification of Withdrawal Bil

Thank you for contacting me about the status of EU/UK Nationals in the UK/EU.

I welcome the Government's clarity that it wants to protect the status of EU nationals already living and working in the UK after the UK leaves the EU, and the only circumstances in which that wouldn't be possible is if British citizens' rights in other EU Member States were not protected in return.

It goes without saying that EU nationals make an invaluable contribution to our economy, our society and our daily lives. I can assure you that there will be no immediate change in their status in the UK.

The discussions that the Government has with the European Union to agree the arrangements for the UK's exit will undoubtedly reflect the immense contribution made by EU citizens to our economy, our NHS and our schools, and in so many other ways. However I am clear they must also secure the interests of the 1.2 million British citizens who live and work elsewhere in the EU.

It is in the best interests of all for this issue to be reconciled as quickly as possible. Until exit negotiations are concluded, the UK remains a full member of the European Union and all the rights and obligations of EU membership remain in force. There have been some truly abhorrent hate crimes perpetrated against EU nationals in the aftermath of the referendum, and I will not stand for attacks of any kind. They must be, and will be, tackled in the strongest possible terms.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Edward Timpson

Edward Timpson MP