# Request 6965 – Electoral register, EU nationals

(SCDC) European Nationals

1. The total number of European nationals living within the jurisdiction of the council (ie the total number of EU nationals that the council is aware of in their area) and how this number was arrived at.
2. A copy of all council communications targeting EU nationals specifically since 2016 (including social media ads or posts targeting the EU population)
3. Has the council written to European nationals in its area to inform them of their rights and options following Brexit? If yes, how many times? Please provide the letters.
4. What, if any, preparation has the council undertaken as regards European nationals within their area and the implementation of Brexit? Is there a communication strategy for EU nationals informing them of the impact of Brexit? If yes, please provide me with a copy.
5. Will the council be informing EU nationals that they can vote in the upcoming local elections? How?

## Response

1. The total number of European nationals living within the jurisdiction of the council (i.e. the total number of EU nationals that the council is aware of in their area) and how this number was arrived at.

The number of non-UK EU nationals living within the jurisdiction of South Cambridgeshire District Council from July 2018 to June 2019 was estimated to be 10,000. This is the estimate arrived at by ONS using their methodology. The number of Electors on the Council’s Electoral Register is 5871.

2. A copy of all council communications targeting EU nationals specifically since 2016 (including social media ads or posts targeting the EU population)

I attach a document containing council communications. It has provided difficult to access twitter posts pre: October 2019 however it is likely that a twitter post accompanied the Facebook posts in April and September 2019.

3. Has the council written to European nationals in its area to inform them of their rights and options following Brexit? If yes, how many times? Please provide the letters.

We are not aware of what the changes (if any) there will be following Brexit to voting rights so we have not written to them regarding voting at this time. However, South Cambridgeshire District Council wrote to non-UK EU nationals on our Open Electoral Register in October 2019 to draw their attention to the UK Government’s EU Settlement Scheme and to sources of support for applicants (as included in the attached communications summary).

4. What, if any, preparation has the council undertaken as regards European nationals within their area and the implementation of Brexit? Is there a communication strategy for EU nationals informing them of the impact of Brexit? If yes, please provide me with a copy.

The Council has convened a Member led Brexit Advisory Group to consider the key impacts on the local economy, including businesses and workers, of Brexit. The Group is currently on hold and awaiting further information on the outcomes of the trade and other negotiations. We do not have a specific communications strategy at this current time for EU nationals informing them of the impact of Brexit.

Other than the communications mentioned in response to your questions 2 and 3, South Cambridgeshire’s approach to informing non-UK EU nationals of the impact of Brexit has been through our website, where we have a range of information for residents and businesses, primarily drawn from Government sources. See: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/brexit-information-for-residents/> . We also have a Brexit web page for businesses <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/brexit-support/>

5. Will the council be informing EU nationals that they can vote in the upcoming local elections? How?

You will be aware that the May elections have been postponed for a year.

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