

# Benefits and People from Abroad...

Fact Sheet 5: For Residents and Advisers

30<sup>th</sup> September 2024

[www.wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk)

## 1. Introduction

1.1: This Fact Sheet seeks to provide an overview of the Social Security benefit rights of:

- **EEA nationals** who come to live / are living in the United Kingdom; and
- **Non-EEA nationals** who come to live / are living in the United Kingdom; and
- **British nationals** who are returning to / coming to live in the United Kingdom after a period spent living abroad.

1.2: This has always been a complex subject matter. However, since Brexit and the introduction of new rules to accommodate the United Kingdom leaving the European Union, things have become even more complicated. We advise that should matters appear uncertain in a particular case seek further information and advice.

1.3: The Social Security benefit rights covered in this Fact Sheet are:

- Universal Credit (UC)
- Pension Credit (PC)
- Child Benefit (CB)
- Disability Living Allowance (DLA)
- Personal Independence Payment (PIP)
- Attendance Allowance (AA)
- Carer's Allowance (CA)
- Housing Benefit (HB)
- Council Tax Support (CTS)
- New State Pension (NSP)
- New Style JSA (NS-JSA)
- New Style ESA (NS-ESA)
- Statutory Sick Pay (SSP)
- Industrial Injuries Benefit (IIB).

1.4: If you are seeking information concerning the wider Social Security benefit rights of people coming to the United Kingdom from abroad then please do seek further information and advice. We have limited the contents of this Fact Sheet to the above benefits because these are the 'key benefits', in particular since Universal Credit replaced Income-based JSA, Income-related ESA, Income Support, Working Tax Credit and Child Tax Credit.

**United Kingdom:** Please note that whilst we refer only to the **United Kingdom (UK)** throughout this Fact Sheet when referring to rules surrounding presence and residency we do so for reasons of simplicity. However, do note that some provisions apply in relation to the **Common Travel Area (CTA)** which embraces the United Kingdom, the Republic of Ireland, the Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey or simply **Great Britain (GB)** which embraces only England, Scotland and Wales. If, given this, things are uncertain then please do seek further information and advice.

## 2. The Starting Point...

2.1: The starting point is to be aware that to be entitled to Social Security benefits a person must:

- have the right immigration status / be living in the United Kingdom lawfully; and
- normally be physically present and living in the United Kingdom when they apply.

2.2: It is worth noting that in the case of most benefits a person must normally be present and living in the United Kingdom when they apply.

2.3: However, this does not mean that should a person leave the United Kingdom, for example to go on holiday / visit family or friends that their entitlement to a particular benefit will end automatically. Different rules apply in the case of different benefits.

2.4: Whilst in the case of Universal Credit and Pension Credit, as a general rule, a person can continue to receive these benefits whilst absent from the United Kingdom the period of overall absence should not exceed one month nor be expected to exceed one month from the outset.

2.5: In the case of a couple, both members may be absent for up to one month. However, should one member of a couple be away for more than one month and the other member be in the United Kingdom, in the case of Universal Credit, any 'joint claim' will come to an end and in the case of Pension Credit the remaining partner would only be paid as a single person.

2.6: In the case of Personal Independence Payment and Attendance Allowance, a person must not have been present and living in the United Kingdom when they applied; they must also have been living in the United Kingdom for 104 weeks out of the previous 156 weeks unless the person is claiming under the Special Rules provision because they are terminally ill.

2.7: Similar rules apply to Disability Living Allowance, but in the case of a child aged under 6 months, the child only needs to have been living in the United Kingdom for 13 weeks. If the child is aged between 6 months and 36 months, then the period of residency needs to be 26 weeks out of the last 156 weeks.

2.8: To establish an entitlement to Carer's Allowance a person must have been living in the United Kingdom for 104 weeks out of the previous 156 weeks.

2.9: A person may be temporarily absent for up to 13 weeks and remain entitled to Disability Living Allowance, Personal Independence Payment and Attendance Allowance. Whereas, in the case of Carer's Allowance a person may only be absent for up to 4 weeks.

2.10: Please see also the information in 5. Habitual Residence Test (HRT) concerning Universal Credit, Pension Credit, Child Benefit and Housing Benefit / Council Tax Support.

2.11: The HRT confirms that for these benefits not only do some people need to show that are habitually resident in the United Kingdom when claiming, but they must also have a, so called, 'free movement' right.

2.12: Do seek further information and advice as necessary regarding the payment of Social Security benefits whilst temporarily absent from the United Kingdom or where someone is actually living abroad. Some benefit entitlements can be paid even though a person is living overseas.

### 3. Immigration Status...

3.1: A person's ability to access Social Security benefits is dependent upon their immigration status.

3.2: There are several different types of immigration status, including:

- a **British citizen**
- a person with **Settled Status** under the European Union Settlement Scheme (EUSS)
- a person with **Pre-Settled Status** under the European Union Settlement Scheme
- a person who has **indefinite leave to remain** in the United Kingdom
- a person who has **limited leave to remain** in the United Kingdom.

3.3: Outside of the above, a person may have no immigration status at all. This could be because they entered the United Kingdom illegally without permission.

3.4: It may be that a person had permission to legally enter and remain in the United Kingdom but have since overstayed beyond the date of their limited leave to remain. Such a person would not be entitled to apply for any Social Security benefits.

3.5: A person may be granted leave to enter and remain in the United Kingdom for a variety of reasons. It may be that they simply wish to visit the United Kingdom as a tourist. It may be that they wish to come to the United Kingdom for a temporary period or permanently for reasons connected to employment, study, family connections, human rights and asylum.

3.6: If a person is a **British citizen** then they, of course, have full access to Social Security benefits providing they are able to satisfy the basic rules of entitlement for whichever the benefit they are claiming. The only caveat is that in relation to benefits that are subject to the Habitual Residence Test (HRT) a British citizen may, if they are returning to living in the United Kingdom having lived abroad, need to show not only that they plan to make the United Kingdom their home, albeit just for the time being, but also that they have already lived here for an 'appreciable period' of time before they claimed.

3.7: A person who has been granted **Settled Status** essentially has the same access to the Social Security benefit system as a British national. Please see 3.6 above and 4. EUSS for more information about who has Settled Status.

3.8: A person who has **Pre-Settled Status** can access the Social Security benefit system in the same way as a person who has Settled Status. However, for certain benefits they will need to show that they have a 'free movement' right to be eligible. Please see 6. Pre-Settled Status - Free Movement.

3.9: A person who has been granted **indefinite leave to remain** will normally have a right to live and work in the United Kingdom, and have access to Social Security benefits. However, an exception to this rule would be where a person's indefinite leave to remain is subject to a **sponsorship undertaking** whereby a sponsor has agreed to accommodate and maintain them.

3.10: In such cases, the terms of a person's indefinite leave to remain could be subject to a benefits exclusion clause. If a person is under a sponsorship arrangement, then applies for benefits, their sponsor may be required to repay the amount of any benefits awarded. Any Social Security benefit restriction would be lifted once the sponsorship arrangement has lasted five years or more or the sponsor actually dies.

3.11: When a person is granted **limited leave to remain**, that permission may be subject to specific work conditions. That is to say that whilst the person is in the United Kingdom they may not work or may undertake only a certain type of work or work only a limited number of hours.

3.12: Moreover, in limited leave to remain cases a person's permission to remain is normally subject upon the condition that they have 'no recourse to public funds' (sometimes referred to as NRPF cases).

3.13: That is to say that they may not / should not access the following Social Security benefits:

- Universal Credit ([LINK](#))
- Pension Credit ([LINK](#))
- Housing Benefit ([LINK](#)) / Council Tax Support ([LINK](#))
- Child Benefit ([LINK](#))
- Disability Living Allowance ([LINK](#)), Personal Independence Payment ([LINK](#)) or Attendance Allowance ([LINK](#))
- Carer's Allowance ([LINK](#)).

3.14: They may also not entitled to a payment from the DWP's Budgeting Loan ([LINK](#)) or a Sure Start Maternity Grant ([LINK](#)), Funeral Expenses Payment ([LINK](#)), Cold Weather Payment ([LINK](#)) or Winter Fuel Payment ([LINK](#)).

3.15: However, even in NRPF cases a person may still be eligible to claim New Style Jobseeker's Allowance ([LINK](#)), Statutory Sickness Pay ([LINK](#)), New Style Employment and Support Allowance ([LINK](#)), Maternity Allowance ([LINK](#)), Statutory Maternity Pay ([LINK](#)), New State Pension ([LINK](#)), Guardian's Allowance ([LINK](#)), Bereavement Support Payment ([LINK](#)) providing they meet the normal conditions of entitlement.

3.16: Please see this [LINK](#) for more information on the rights of those whose stay is dependent upon a NRPF clause.

3.17: If such a person actually breaches this condition, they may be considered to be committing a criminal offence and the terms of their stay could be revoked.

3.18: An **Asylum-Seeker** is a person who is seeking permission to live in the United Kingdom on grounds that they face persecution in their home country due to race, religion, sexuality or political views.

3.19: If an application for asylum is granted, the person will become a refugee and be granted permission to live in the United Kingdom for 5 years. After this period, if they still face persecution then they can apply for permission to stay permanently (indefinite leave to remain) in the United Kingdom.

3.20: An Asylum Seeker will not normally be entitled to claim Social Security benefits, they will typically receive accommodation and asylum support for basic living expenses from the Home Office. Please see this [LINK](#) for more information on Asylum Support.

3.21: A person with **Refugee** status will normally be a person who was formerly an Asylum Seeker who has been granted permission to live in the United Kingdom on grounds that they have had to be forced to flee his or her country of origin due to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a particular social group. Once a person has been granted refugee status, they will normally cease to be a Person Subject to Immigration Control (PSIC). They will be entitled to claim Social Security benefits providing their permission to remain in the United Kingdom is not subject to the condition that they do not claim any Social Security benefits.

3.22: A person with a **Right of Abode** is someone who is not a **British national** or an **EEA national** who has a '**right of abode**'. They do not require permission to enter or remain in the United Kingdom. A person with a 'right of abode' will be able to apply for Social Security benefits. Some Commonwealth citizens may, for example, have 'right of abode' which can be established by having a United Kingdom passport describing them as a British citizen or British subject with right of abode.

3.23: The **Windrush Generation** involves people who are Commonwealth citizens (or a child of a Commonwealth citizen) who looked to settle in the United Kingdom before 1<sup>st</sup> January 1973 (or in some cases before 1<sup>st</sup> August 1988). These people will have a 'right of abode' / a right of indefinite leave or British citizenship and therefore they will have full access to the Social Security benefits.

3.24: A person may be granted time limited permission to live in the United Kingdom on grounds of **humanitarian protection** (5 years) because it is decided that whilst they do not have refugee status, it would not be safe for them to return to home. A person could also be granted **limited leave to remain** (2.5 years) because they have some family connection to the United Kingdom. Upon application, a person could be granted **indefinite leave to remain** and live in the United Kingdom indefinitely. In such a situation, the person would be able to apply for Social Security benefits under the rules explained in this fact sheet.

3.25: An **unaccompanied young person** (person aged under 17.5 years old) who claims asylum may be given limited leave to remain as an unaccompanied child if they have no responsible adult / family to look after them. In such cases, the local authority has responsibility for them as a child in need under the Children's Act 1989.

## 4. European Union Settlement Scheme...

4.1: The European Union Settlement Scheme (EUSS) was established to afford European Union Nationals (and some European Union and non-European Union national family members) protected rights to remain living in the United Kingdom beyond Brexit.

4.2: The United Kingdom left the European Union on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020. However, a 'transitional period' (also known as the 'implementation period') was put in place to protect the rights of European Union Nationals up until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

4.3: Under the EUSS, European Nationals who were living in the United Kingdom on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 have been allowed to apply for permission to remain living in the United Kingdom.

4.4: The deadline for people to apply to EUSS was 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021. However, late applications may be allowed where the applicant has 'reasonable grounds' for not having applied in time. Those who have come to live in the United Kingdom after the 'transition period' (i.e. after 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020) to join a family member have 90 days after they arrived to apply to the EUSS.

EUSS: Up to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 a total of 6.2 million people applied to the EUSS. Of these 3.7 million people were granted SETTLED STATUS and 2 million were granted PRE-SETTLED STATUS.

4.10: People who have arrived in the United Kingdom after the end of the transition period on the basis that they have joined a European Union family member who was residing in the United Kingdom at the end of the transition period are also eligible to apply to EUSS.

4.11: A person who has Pre-Settled Status can seek to switch to Settled Status after they have lived in the United Kingdom for at least 5 years. If a person fails to make the move, then their Pre-Settled Status is automatically extended by 2 years shortly before it is due to expire.

4.5: A successful outcome of an application to the EUSS is where the applicant is afforded either:

- **PRE-SETTLED STATUS** - where the applicant has, by the date of their application, been living in the United Kingdom for less than 5 years
- **SETTLED STATUS** - where the applicant has, by the date of their application, been living in the United Kingdom for at least 5 years.

4.12: Please see this [LINK](#) for more information about the operation of the EUSS and how applications may be made.

4.6: Those granted Pre-Settled Status are afforded limited leave to remain in the United Kingdom for up to 5 years.

## 5. Habitual Residence Test (HRT)...

4.7: Anyone with Pre-Settled Status has the right to live and work in the United Kingdom. However, they only have limited rights to claim Social Security benefits.

4.8: A person with Pre-Settled Status can, once they have been living in the United Kingdom for at least 5 years, apply for Settled Status.

4.9: If someone has been granted Settled Status, they are afforded indefinite leave to remain, giving them a permanent right to reside which allows them to continue to live and work in the United Kingdom indefinitely and access Social Security benefits in the same way as British citizens are able to.

5.1: The Habitual Residence Test (HRT) has two parts. There is a test focused on residency and a test focused on a person's right to live in the United Kingdom.

5.2: The residency test was first introduced from 1<sup>st</sup> August 1994. It was introduced as a response to concerns surrounding 'benefit tourism' and to safeguard the benefits system from abuse by those without any real connection to the United Kingdom.

5.3: It all means that before being able to apply for some benefits (see below) a person needs to show that they are living in the United Kingdom and had a settled intention to remain living here for at least the time being and that they had lived in that area for an 'appreciable period' of time.

5.4: The right to reside test was then added from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004 for some other benefits meaning that to be eligible to those benefits not only did a person need to show that they satisfied the residency test but also that they were legally entitled to live in the United Kingdom.

5.5: For some benefits, a person need only show that they are resident here. Whereas for others a person would need to show that they satisfy the residency test and the right to reside test.

5.6: The residency test applies only to:

- Disability Living Allowance ([LINK](#))
- Personal Independence Payment ([LINK](#))
- Attendance Allowance ([LINK](#))
- Carer's Allowance ([LINK](#)).

5.7: The residency test and right to reside test applies to:

- Universal Credit ([LINK](#))
- Pension Credit ([LINK](#))
- Housing Benefit ([LINK](#))
- Council Tax Support ([LINK](#))
- Child Benefit ([LINK](#)).

5.8: The case law that has developed on the residency tests provides that to be 'habitually resident' a person must be resident, have a settled intention to reside, at least for the time being, in the United Kingdom.

5.9: Moreover, a person must be able to show that they have an 'appreciable period' of actual residence - this translates to having lived in the area for a period of between one month and three months.

5.10: However, do note that the stronger a person's settled intention to remain, the shorter the period of actual residence needs to be.

5.11: Even someone who is a British citizen will need to pass the HRT upon return to the United Kingdom after a period living abroad. However, there may be grounds for arguing that if that person had already established habitual residence here that they may automatically resume that habitual residence upon their return.

5.12: Some people are exempt from the HRT. This includes:

- a person who has been granted refugee status
- a person who lived in Ukraine until the end of 2021 and left in connection with the Russian invasion in February 2022
- a person who left Afghanistan in connection with the collapse of the Afghan government in August 2021
- a person who left Sudan in connection with the violence that escalated from April 2023
- a person who has been granted discretionary leave (including destitution domestic violence concessionary leave) to remain living in the United Kingdom
- a person (or family member of a person) who is an EEA national who is a 'worker' or 'self-employed' person
- a person (or family member of a person) who is an EEA national who has retained status as a 'worker' or 'self-employed' person.

5.13: A person (or family member of such a person) will also be exempt from the HRT if they are a person who is an EEA national who has a permanent right to reside due to having ceased work because of retired or became they became permanently incapable of work.

5.14: In the case of couples and Universal Credit, both members of the couple must satisfy the HRT (both residency and/or right to reside tests). If not then the application for Universal Credit will be treated as a single person claim but any income, earnings or capital of the other member of the couple would be taken into account in as part of the income of the individual claiming.

## 6. Pre-Settled Status - Free Movement...

6.1: Those people living in the United Kingdom who have Pre-Settled Status need to be able to satisfy the 'free movement' right to reside requirement to be able to apply for:

- Universal Credit ([LINK](#))
- Pension Credit ([LINK](#))
- Housing Benefit ([LINK](#))
- Council Tax Support ([LINK](#))
- Child Benefit ([LINK](#)).

6.2: A person with Pre-Settled Status will have a 'free movement' right to reside if they may be considered to be:

- a worker
- a self-employed person
- a person who is able to retain the status of a 'worker' or 'self-employed' person.

6.3: A **worker** is a person who may be considered to be in an employment relationship (i.e. they are an employee) because they provide services in return for remuneration under the direction of another person. However, the work undertaken must be 'genuine and effective' rather than 'marginal and ancillary'.

6.4: When deciding whether work is 'genuine and effective' the DWP must consider the duration of the person's employment, the number of hours they work, the level of their earnings and the regularity of the work undertaken.

6.5: The DWP suggest that a person should be treated as a worker if they have average earnings of £242.00 a week or £1,048.00 a month for a period of at least three months.

6.6: A **self-employed person** is someone who provides services in return for remuneration but who does not work under the direction of another person. A person should be considered to be self-employed if they are working for themselves. They may have to evidence this by providing evidence of the steps they have taken to establish their business / ways in which they have set themselves up as self-employed. It helps if they have registered with HMRC as self-employed.

6.7: A person may be considered to have **retained their worker or self-employed status** even though they no longer work due to being involuntarily unemployed and they have registered as a jobseeker at their local Job Centre, or they are temporarily unable to work because of an ill-health or an accident.

6.8: A person may also continue to count as a worker or self-employed person where they are undertaking vocational training; or they are unable to work because they are in the late stages of pregnancy or have just given birth.

6.9: A person may be considered to be 'involuntarily unemployed' if they are seeking employment, are available to take up employment and they have a genuine chance of obtaining employment.



6.10: The best way a person can seek to register as a jobseeker is for them to apply for Universal Credit and show that they are looking for work and available for work.

6.11: To qualify there must also be no 'undue delay' between a person becoming involuntarily unemployed and registering as a jobseeker. Where there has been some delay (e.g. more than just a few days), the DWP will consider the reasons for this and what the person did during the relevant period in deciding whether the person in question withdrew from the labour market.

6.12: If a person fails to establish a retained worker or self-employed status due to there being an unwarranted delay, then they will be treated as a 'jobseeker' (not a worker or self-employed person) and therefore not entitled to one of the benefits outlined.

6.13: If the person concerned was employed or self-employed for less than a year, then the rules limit the period during which they can retain their worker or self-employed status to a maximum of 6 months.

6.14: If they were employed or self-employed for more than a year, they can retain their worker or self-employed status indefinitely, unless there is an indication that they have withdrawn from the labour market entirely.

6.15: A person may retain their worker or self-employed status due to ill-health / accident providing their inability to work is temporary. That is to say that they are unable to work temporarily and there is a realistic prospect of them being able to work again at some point in the foreseeable future.

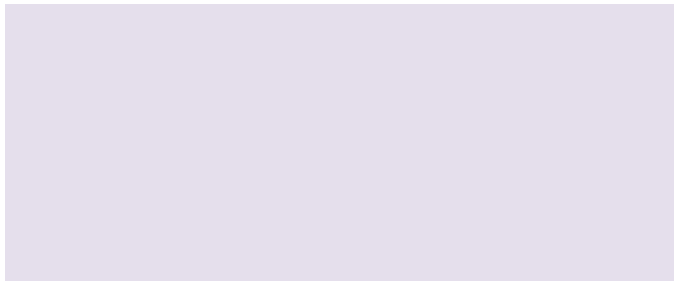
6.16: If a person has established worker or self-employed status and they are now not working because of being in the **latter stages of pregnancy** or because they have **recently given birth**, they may still count as a worker or self-employed person.

6.17: A person should not cease to be a worker whilst they are on maternity leave. Moreover, they can continue to be treated as a self-employed person providing they intend to resume their business after their maternity period. Further, they can retain their worker status if they have a pregnancy-related illness that prevents them from working and they can retain their status if they gave up work because of the physical constraints of the late stages of pregnancy or the aftermath of childbirth, provided they intend to start work again within a 'reasonable period' (e.g. 52 weeks) after giving birth.

6.18: A person may retain their worker status whilst they are undertaking **vocational training** following involuntary unemployment. However, if they are unemployed due to voluntary unemployment, then any vocational training must be in an area at least related to their previous employment.

6.19: Another group of people who are eligible for the benefits listed in 6.1 (on page 8) are those who have been granted Pre-Settled Status and who may be considered to have a 'derived right to reside' because they may be considered to be a 'primary carer'.

6.20: In this instance, a 'primary carer' is a carer of child of an EEA national who was a worker or self-employed person in the United Kingdom who would be unable to continue their 'education' (meaning compulsory education required from around the age of 5, not nursery or pre-school education) in the United Kingdom were they to leave.



6.21: The 'derived right to reside' can continue until the child reaches at least the age of 18 and beyond that if they continue to need the carer's presence in order to pursue and complete their education. This right extends to the carer if it were they themselves who was the person in work or if the worker were someone else.

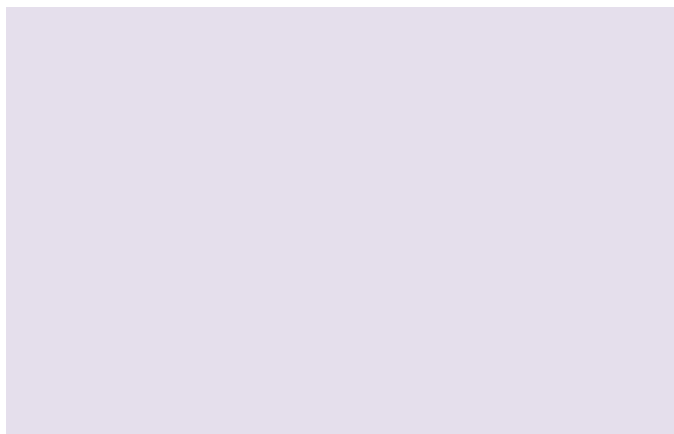
6.21: A person who may be considered to be a **family member** of a person who has a 'free movement' right because they are, for example, a 'worker' or 'self-employed person' should be treated as a person with a free movement right to reside and so therefore able to claim the aforementioned benefits.

6.22: A person may be considered to be a 'family member' where they are their:

- spouse or civil partner
- child, grandchild or great-grandchild and they are under 21
- child, grandchild or great-grandchild and they are dependent upon them
- parent, grandparent, or great-grandparent and they are dependent upon them.

6.23: The term 'dependence' is not defined, but caselaw has determined that to count, the person in question must have received some support that was 'material' - meaning that it was in the form of actual financial help or help involved the paying of bills or involved buying them food or providing them with meals.

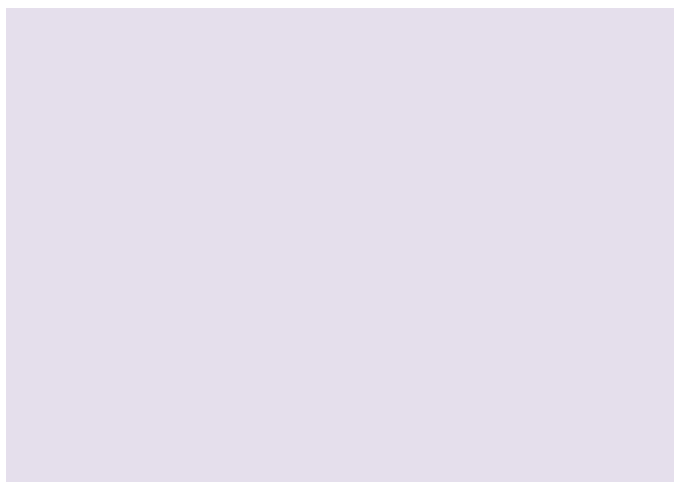
It also includes the provision of accommodation or caring for them because they are ill or disabled.



6.24: To qualify the support must contribute to the basic necessities of life. Providing language translation support, emotional support or social support is not enough.

6.25: If the person is not a 'family member' then they can still be treated as a family member if they are an 'extended family member' and has been issued with an EEA family permit, a registration certificate or a residence card under the EEA regulations.

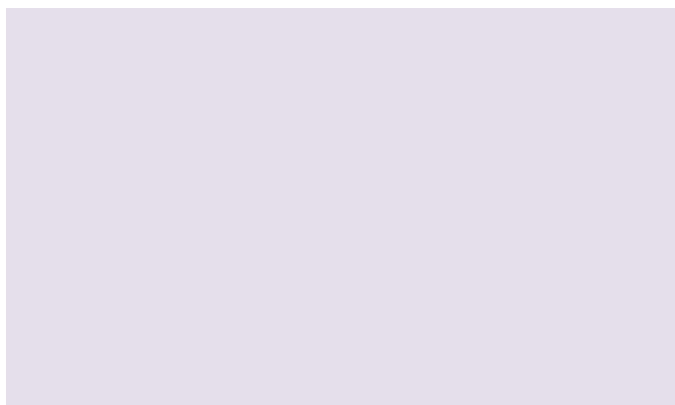
6.26: If the person ceases to have a free movement right to reside or if they cease to be a family member of theirs then their free movement right to reside will end.



6.27: If a person has **PRE-SETTLED STATUS** but is unable to establish a free movement right to reside, then they can still seek to apply for Universal Credit ([LINK](#)) / Pension Credit ([LINK](#)) if they can show that they / their family would be unable to live in '**dignified conditions**' without access to that benefit.

6.28: Living in 'dignified conditions' means having sufficient resources to have adequate food, clothing, hygiene and accommodation.

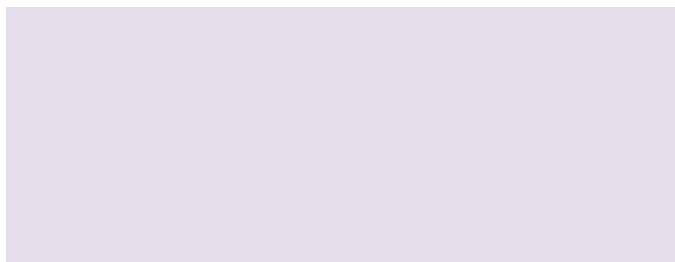
6.29: In assessing the risk of dignified conditions, the DWP can take account of alternative support that is currently available (such as third-party support, Local Authority support and the ability to get paid work).



6.30: Please See Benefits Bulletin Issue 5 [2024] for more information. See this [LINK](#).

6.31 A person may apply for **Destitution Domestic Violence (DDV) Concession Leave** if their stay in the United Kingdom was dependent upon them being a partner of a British citizen or settled person, but that relationship has broken down due to domestic violence and they are destitute as a result. The DDV Concession gives the person temporary leave outside of the normal immigration rules to remain in the United Kingdom for three months.

6.32: During this time, the person affected may apply for indefinite leave and Social Security benefits Universal Credit ([LINK](#)) / Pension Credit ([LINK](#)) and Housing Benefit ([LINK](#)) to enable them to find safe accommodation and support themselves financially.



6.33: Please see this [LINK](#) for more information about Domestic Violence Concessionary Leave and how to apply.

If a person is unsure of their nationality and/or immigration status, it is important that they seek specialist advice before seeking to apply for 'Social Security benefits'. It is a criminal offence for an individual or organisation to provide immigration advice or services in the United Kingdom unless they are qualified to do so. People can contact the [Refugee and Migrants Centre](#) for specialist support in these areas.

## 7. Fact Sheets and Information Guides

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7.1: The Welfare Rights Service produces the following Fact Sheets and Information Guides on Social Security benefits and welfare reform.

### Benefits Fact Sheets:

1. Benefits and Work
2. Benefits and Disabled Children
3. Benefits and Young People
4. Benefits and Older People
5. Benefits and People from Abroad
6. Private Tenants and Universal Credit
7. Volunteering and Benefits

### Benefits Information Guides:


1. Universal Credit
2. Universal Credit - Claims and Payments
3. Universal Credit - The Claimant Commitment
4. Universal Credit - Sanctions and Hardship Payments
5. Universal Credit and Vulnerable People - Claims and Payments
6. Universal Credit - Managed Migration
7. Universal Credit and The Work Capability Assessment - Toolkit
8. Personal Independence Payment
9. Personal Independence Payment - Toolkit

10. Form Filling: PIP2
11. Form Filling: ESA50 / UC50
12. DWP Social Fund
13. The Spare Room Subsidy
14. The Benefit Cap
15. Disputes and Appeals
16. Going to Appeal: First-tier Tribunals

7.2: The information in our fact sheets and guides is designed to provide details of the different benefits that may be available to people in a variety of situations including when they are in work, unable to work due to ill-health, unemployed or retired. It also seeks to inform people of the steps that may be taken should they wish to dispute a decision made surrounding their benefit entitlement.

7.3: A copy of the Fact Sheets and Information Guides may, together with other topical benefit information, be obtained from our [Social Security Benefits](#) page on the City of Wolverhampton Council website.

7.4: Please also watch out for our periodical **Benefits Bulletins** which provide news on the latest developments surrounding benefits and welfare reform. These are also available on the website.

 Telephone: (01902) 555351

 Email: [WRS@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:WRS@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Note: The details provided in this and our other Fact Sheets and Information Guides is meant to provide an overview on important and topical issues relating to Social Security benefits and welfare reform. The details should not be treated as an authoritative statement of the law. The details may be subject to change by new regulation and/or case law. Do seek further information and advice as necessary.

Welfare Rights Service  
Specialist Support Team  
City of Wolverhampton Council