

IMA

For the Citizens'
Rights Agreements

Independent Monitoring Authority

Yearly plan 2022 - 23



easy
read



Contents

Page

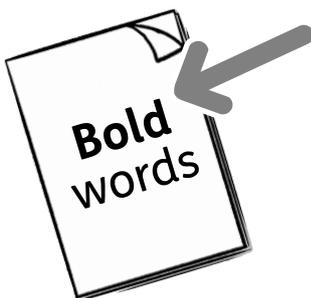
Introduction 3

What we do 5

The people we help 10

Our plan 12

For more information 17



In this Easy Read document, difficult words are in **bold**. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.



Some words are [blue and underlined](#). These are links which will go to another website which has more information.

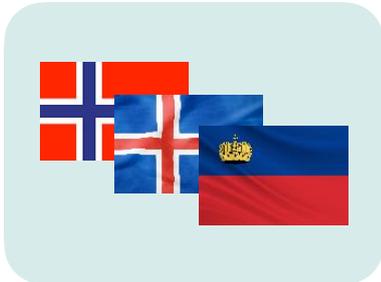
Introduction



The Independent Monitoring Authority (IMA) helps to make sure that people from **EU** and **EEA EFTA** countries and their families living in the UK and Gibraltar, are getting the same **rights** as they did before the UK left the EU.



EU stands for European Union. It is a group of 27 countries who work together. The UK used to be part of the EU, but has left.



By **EEA EFTA**, we mean Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. These are 3 countries that are not in the EU but are in the EEA and EFTA.



EEA stands for European Economic Area.



EFTA stands for European Free Trade Association.



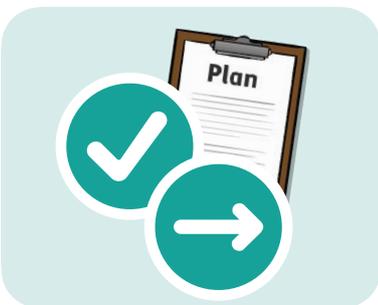
Rights are things you have or are allowed to do, by law.



We started work in 2020.



This document is our plan for 2022 - 2023.



It tells you what we want to do.

What we do



We look at whether people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families have the same rights as before the UK left the EU.



Some of the rights we look at are:

- The right to live in the UK and Gibraltar.



- The right to work in the UK or Gibraltar.

This includes:



- Self-employed people. This means you work for yourself, not a company.



- Frontier workers. These are people who live in an EU or EEA EFTA country but travel to work in the UK or Gibraltar.



- The right to have your **qualifications** accepted in the UK and Gibraltar.

Qualifications say you have passed an exam.



- The right for the national insurance contributions of people who moved between the UK and the EU and EEA EFTA countries before 31 December 2020 to count when deciding on pensions, healthcare and benefits in the country where they live.



- The right not to be treated unfairly because of what country you come from.

How we do this



We look for information about whether people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families are getting their rights.

To do this, we:



- Look at information from lots of different places about how people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families are treated.



- Tell people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families about their rights.



- Ask people to contact us to complain if they think they are not getting their rights.



- Check that governments and **public bodies** are keeping their promises to improve things.

Public bodies are organisations that give services to the public. They get money from the government but are not part of it.



We also try and find out whether things are getting worse for a lot of people.



We may not look into a single complaint, unless it makes us think there could be a bigger problem.



If we get lots of complaints about something, we know there may be something wrong.

If things are not going well



If we think there are problems that affect a lot of people we will:



- Work with public bodies to find a way of solving problems where people are not getting their rights.



- Think about taking public bodies to court if they are not giving people their rights.



- Let everyone know where things are going well and whether things are going wrong.



- Let people know about our work.



- Write reports that explain what we do and find out.

The people we help

We help:



- People from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families who have rights under the **citizens' rights agreements**.



The **citizens' rights agreements** are the agreements that the UK made with the EU and EEA EFTA when we left the EU.



- Frontier workers and their families who have rights under the citizens' rights agreements.



- Some people from the UK who have rights because of the citizens' rights agreements.



- People who don't have rights under the citizens' rights agreements but have either **pre-settled or settled status**.



Pre-settled or settled status lets people from the EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families carry on living in the UK after 30 June 2021.

Our plan



We have 4 **priorities**.

Priorities are the most important things we want to do first.

Check that people are getting their rights



This is something that the law says we have to do.

To do this, we will:



- Look into complaints that people send us on our website.



- Collect good information to help us find out when people aren't getting their rights.



- Do a survey of people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families who live in the UK and Gibraltar to find out what they think.



- Look at laws that affect the rights of people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families.

Encourage public bodies to give people their rights



This is something that the law says we have to do.

To do this, we will:



- Quickly stop public bodies that are not giving people their rights.



- Find out why something has gone wrong.



- Take public bodies and other organisations to court if they carry on not giving people their rights.

Let people know about our work



It is important that we let people know about what we are doing.

This will:



- Help people to understand their rights.



- Stop different public bodies having the same problems.

To let people know about our work, we will:



- Write reports and plans every year.



- Let the public read our reports.



- Make a new website.



- Let people know about the main problems that people have with getting their rights.



- Talk to lots of different people and public bodies to find out what they think.



- Write reports on laws that will affect people from EU and EEA EFTA countries and their families.

Make sure we work in a good way

To do this, we will:



- Spend our money carefully.



- Make sure people can use our website at all times.



- Help our staff to get the right training and a good place to work.



- Check that we are working in a way that is good for our staff and the people we want to help.



- Answer questions and complaints quickly.

For more information

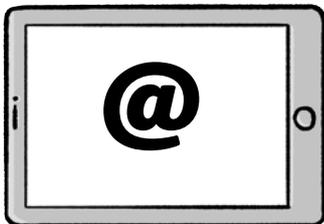


You can look at our website here:
www.ima-citizensrights.org.uk

If you need more information please contact us by:



- post:
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