

Dear colleagues and students,

I appreciate that this remains an unsettling and uncertain time as we wait to see if an extension is granted to Britain's exit from Europe following last night's votes in the UK Parliament, and if the Prime Minister's withdrawal deal is accepted.

Against that evolving backdrop, I'd like to provide reassurance to you all that we continue to work tirelessly with our sector colleagues and the Scottish Government to protect the interests of our students and staff, and to do what we can to try to ensure that disruption is kept to a minimum. Attached is a letter I received yesterday from Mr Richard Lochhead, Minister for Further Education, Higher Education and Science, highlighting the actions the Scottish Government is taking.

Updates and more detailed information on the implications of Brexit for EU staff and students can be found on our [Brexit pages](#) but in summary, the University is giving particular focus to the following:

- University staff will be supported in applying for Settled Status when the settlement scheme opens to all EEA citizens on 30 March
- Universities UK, on behalf of the sector, are urging the UK government to reconsider their planned immigration policy post-Brexit
- The UK government is also being urged to secure continued access to Erasmus exchange schemes, even in the event of a no-deal exit, and we continue to liaise closely with our European university partners to maintain our strong ties
- Clarity is being sought from the Scottish Government on the fee status of new EU entrants from academic year 2020 onwards
- We are liaising closely with staff who are in receipt of EU funding to provide reassurance around the underwrite commitment made by the UK government
- We have mitigation plans in place to minimise the impact that a no-deal exit could have on university business

We will continue to update you as and when we can.

Best wishes

George