

# VRS Newsflash

DECEMBER 2020

To all Voluntary Returns Stakeholder Group Members,

Please find below information about changes to Voluntary Returns eligibility.

From 1 January 2021, an EEA national who contacts the Voluntary Returns Service for assistance in returning to their country of origin and who is without status or leave in the UK will be deemed eligible for the service.

Depending on their circumstances and immigration history, the VRS may be able to arrange and pay for their flight home and they may be eligible for financial support in their home country.

VRS can provide practical support – from providing access to a passport or emergency travel document, purchasing flight tickets or help arrange a complex return with financial support for those who are eligible.

Applicants can apply online or over the phone:

Online: [www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily](https://www.gov.uk/return-home-voluntarily)

Telephone: **0300 004 0202 (Monday – Friday between 09.00 and 17.00)**

EU, EEA or Swiss citizens and their families can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme [here](#) to continue living in the UK. The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021. Applicants must have started living in the UK by 31 December 2020.

**If you require further information or training on the Voluntary Returns Service please contact:**

**[VRSPartnershipsandCommunicationsTeam@homeoffice.gov.uk](mailto:VRSPartnershipsandCommunicationsTeam@homeoffice.gov.uk)**