

## Leader and Cabinet Office

Councillor Joseph Ejiofor  
Leader of the Council



Date: 01.02.19

### An open letter from Cllr Joseph Ejiofor to Haringey's EU citizens

Dear EU Citizen,

As the Brexit deadline of March 29<sup>th</sup> approaches, I have no doubt that many of you will be feeling anxious about the ongoing uncertainty over the UK's Brexit terms and what that means for your rights to live and work here. I am writing to you today to assure you that, whatever happens, we want Haringey to remain an open, tolerant and diverse borough in which you feel welcome.

Haringey is a vibrant and multicultural borough, where people of all cultures are proud to live. We have a long history of welcoming migrants from all over the world and I value the spirit of openness and tolerance that Haringey is rightly associated with. We have 42,000 non-British and Irish European citizens living in Haringey (almost one in every six residents) and I want to ensure that each of you feel welcome here now, and will remain feeling welcome here in the future.

You are our friends, neighbours, family and colleagues, and you make an enormous contribution to the cultural and economic life of our borough. Many of you run thriving local businesses, others of you work in roles which are essential to vital local services, or play roles which are important in our community in other ways.

I am committed, on behalf of the council, to helping ensure our EU residents know what they need to do to protect their rights and apply for settled or pre-settled status to stay in the UK beyond December 2020. Where you need more support, we want to make sure you receive this. Our dedicated Brexit webpage will continue to be updated with information as it becomes available [www.haringey.gov.uk/brexit](http://www.haringey.gov.uk/brexit), including information on how to register for settled or pre-settled status.

To reaffirm our support for all EU nationals, and anyone who may be concerned about a friend or family member, the council will hold a **Brexit public meeting on Monday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 6 – 8pm, at Haringey Civic Centre**, offering advice and support to residents and businesses across the borough who will be affected by Brexit. The meeting, which I have organised with support from the council's EU Citizens' Ambassador Cllr Adam Jogee, will provide residents and businesses with an opportunity to discuss their concerns and find out what support is available.

I look forward to welcoming as many EU citizens, residents and visitors as possible to our meeting on February 18<sup>th</sup>. Let there be no doubt: Haringey wants you to stay and we will do everything we can to support you through the Brexit transition period and beyond.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. Ejiofor', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Councillor Joseph Ejiofor  
Leader of the Council