



Home Office

Supporting the Windrush Generation

Presented by Rachel Churney

Background

Some people who arrived in the UK many years ago and do not have documentation confirming their immigration status have faced difficulties in proving their right to work, to rent property and to access benefits and services to which they are entitled.

The Home Secretary has made it clear that his top priority is to right the wrongs suffered by Commonwealth citizens as a result of measures put in place to tackle illegal immigration.

The Government has apologised to people in this position and has made a commitment to help them get the documents they need. A series of measures have been implemented to support the Windrush generation who have been affected.

Who are the Windrush Generation?

The Windrush Scheme will consider applications made by the following people:

- ❖ A Commonwealth citizen who was either settled in the UK before 1 January 1973 and has been continuously resident in the UK since their arrival or has the Right of Abode;
- ❖ A Commonwealth citizen who was settled in the UK before 1 January 1973, whose settled status has lapsed because they left the UK for a period of more than 2 years, and who is now lawfully in the UK and who has strong ties to the UK;
- ❖ A child of a Commonwealth citizen parent, where the child was born in the UK or arrived in the UK before the age of 18, and has been continuously resident in the UK since their birth or arrival, and the parent was settled before 1 January 1973 or has the Right of Abode (or met these criteria but is now a British Citizen)
- ❖ A person of any nationality, who arrived in the UK before 31 December 1988 and is settled in the UK.

If an individual does not fit clearly into one of these categories but has been in the UK for a length of time they are encouraged to contact the Taskforce to discuss their entitlement to leave.

What support is available for those affected?

A) Windrush Taskforce & Scheme

The Home Office has announced creation of a dedicated Windrush Taskforce to support individuals who may be eligible to obtain status under Windrush. The team offer advice and support to those contacting the helpline.

The Government has agreed that if an individual submits a citizenship application under Windrush the application will be considered free of charge. It also helps individuals to source documentation to demonstrate their existing right to be in the UK.

The dedicated Windrush Taskforce has been set up to provide support with applications or with documentation. Individuals can contact them 7 days a week on **freephone 0800 678 1925** or you can email commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk. Application forms are available on www.gov.uk/windrush.

The taskforce can also offer advice to Windrush individuals who may need help in securing services as a consequence of the ability to provide evidence of status.

Information obtained by the Taskforce will not be passed to Immigration Enforcement. The Home Secretary has made a commitment on this.

By August, the Windrush Taskforce has now helped 2,272 people to get the documentation they need to prove their existing right to be in the UK.

What support is available for those affected?

B) Compensation scheme consultation

A consultation on the design of the Windrush compensation scheme is open for 12 weeks from July to 11 October 2018.

It covers:

- ❖ who should be eligible for compensation;
- ❖ what losses should be compensated for;
- ❖ how the process should work.

To respond individuals can apply online (www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-scheme), over the phone (**0800 678 1925**) or request a hard copy to complete at home (windrushcompensation@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk or online).

What support is available for those affected?

C) Lessons learned

The Home Secretary has commissioned an internal review that will seek to draw out;

- ❖ how members of the Windrush generation came to be entangled in measures designed for illegal immigrants;
- ❖ why that was not spotted sooner;
- ❖ whether the right corrective measures are now in place.

The review will be overseen by an Independent Advisor. The call for evidence is open until the **19th October 2018**.

If you would like to provide evidence, please email
WindrushLessonsLearned@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Lessons Learned and Compensation Roadshows

The Lessons Learned Review and the Windrush Consultation Scheme want to hear directly from people who have been affected.

Both Wendy Williams (Lessons Learned) and Martin Forde QC (Compensation Scheme), will be running a number of roadshows, where they hope to meet with people affected and hear their personal accounts.

London	Thursday 6th September 13:00 to 16:00	New Testament Church of God, 179 High Road Willesden, London, NW10 2SD
Nottingham	Tuesday 11 September 12:00 to 15:00	Pilgrim's Church
Bristol	Monday 17 September 12:30 to 15:15	Bethel Church, 254 Church Rd, Bristol BS5 8AF
Birmingham	3 October 13:00 to 16:00	Venue TBC
Leeds	8 October	Venue TBC
Manchester	9 October	Venue TBC

What support is available for those affected?

D) Outreach Surgeries

In addition to the Taskforce, we are delivering events which look to offer individuals concerned about their status the opportunity to talk in confidence to staff within the taskforce. Help and advice will be provided. This is confidential and any information provided outside of establishing Windrush will not be shared with any other department.

We are asking community groups to support us in hosting these events.

If you are interested in assisting this initiative, please email us at WindrushSurgeries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

Support for partners

Guidance:

- **Landlords:** [right to rent checks on long-resident non-EEA nationals and Windrush generation](#)
- **Employers:** [right to work checks on long-resident non-EEA nationals and Windrush generation](#)
- **NHS Overseas Visitor Managers:** link TBC

If you encounter someone from the Windrush generation without the documentation to evidence their status in the UK, please sign post them to the Taskforce: **0800 678 1925**

How you can help...

Can you help spread the word of the support available?

- ❖ Hosting a surgery
- ❖ Newsletters
- ❖ Social media channels
- ❖ Your website
- ❖ Printed materials are available for distribution – wallet cards and posters

We have created a communications pack to help you do this. It includes:

- ❖ Core copy to be used on websites or in newsletters
- ❖ Available digital files and suggested posts for sharing on social media channels
- ❖ Printed materials available for distribution upon request

Available materials: Social Media assets

 HM Government



If you **arrived** in the UK **before 1 January 1973** but do not have the **correct documents** to prove your **right to be here**, the Home Office **could help you**

 HM Government



If you **settled** in the UK between 1 January 1973 and the end of 1988, but do not have the **correct documents** to prove your **right to be here**, the Home Office **could help you**

Available materials: Videos

If you arrived in the UK **before 1973**, you could be eligible to apply for **free citizenship**

A dedicated team at the Home Office could also help you if you arrived in the UK between **1973 and 1988**

If you don't have the **correct documents** to prove you have the right to be in the UK call our **freephone number**

0800 678 1925
Monday to Saturday
9am to 5pm
Sunday
10am to 4pm

Are you a **Commonwealth citizen** who settled in the UK **before 1973** but now live abroad?

If you have questions about returning and your status in the UK, the Home Office **could help you**

Please contact the **dedicated taskforce** on:
Freephone
0800 678 1925

Visit
gov.uk/windrush

 Home Office



Available materials: Posters and wallet cards

A statement from the Home Office

We value the contribution made to the UK by Commonwealth citizens

The Home Secretary has expressed his commitment to do right by those long standing residents who, through no fault of their own, have struggled to demonstrate their status in the UK.

We have launched a dedicated scheme to make it easy for anyone who settled in the UK before 1988 to confirm their right to be here. We will process citizenship applications for Commonwealth nationals in the UK who settled here before 1973 free of charge. This also applies to children of Commonwealth citizens who joined family in the UK before they turned 18.



Speak in confidence to our dedicated team:
Contact us for free on: 0800 678 1925
Or email: commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk
For more information visit: [GOV.UK/windrush](https://gov.uk/windrush)

If you are a Commonwealth citizen with concerns about your status in the UK, we want to help you

Please contact our dedicated taskforce on:
Freephone 0800 678 1925
commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

For more information and to sign up for email updates on announcements relating to Commonwealth citizens, visit gov.uk/windrush



Windrush Compensation Scheme

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VIEWS

The Home Office, alongside independent advisor Martin Forde QC, is working to put in place a compensation scheme for the 'Windrush generation' and Commonwealth citizens. This relates to those who have faced difficulties in establishing their rightful status under the immigration system.

A public consultation is now live and we want to hear your views on:

1. Who should receive compensation
2. What losses should be compensated for
3. How the scheme should work

You can complete the consultation form online at gov.uk/windrush. For any queries or to request a paper copy call 0800 678 1925.



If you settled in the UK before 1988 and have concerns about your immigration status, the Windrush Taskforce could help you.
Contact them on Freephone 0800 678 1925

Questions



Links

Windrush Scheme & Taskforce

www.gov.uk/Windrush

commonwealthtaskforce@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

0800 678 1925

Windrush Compensation Scheme

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/windrush-compensation-scheme

windrushcompensation@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

0800 678 1925

Windrush Lessons Learnt

www.gov.uk/government/publications/windrush-lessons-learned-review

WindrushLessonsLearnt@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk

To request a Windrush Outreach Surgery:

WindrushSurgeries@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk