

## **Embassy-stakeholder groups meeting - 15 December 2020**

*This is a summary of discussion topics and advice shared, as compiled by Bremain Council.*

### **Travel**

- Border guards throughout the Schengen zone have been updated on how to treat people who fall under the WA
- From 1 January 2021, it will be necessary to travel with both your **passport** and your **residency documents**, (TIE or green doc/card)
- You can pass through any country in the zone, to get to Spain, without issues, visas or stamps
- For those that don't yet have residencia documentation, provide a proof of address, e.g. a utility bill, student card etc.
- If you enter Spain after January without your residencia documents, you may get a 'stamp'. This will not affect your ability to travel subsequently
- Unlike UK citizens who will require 6 months validity on their passports to travel, residents under the WA will not and that applies across all borders in the Schengen area
- Non-EU lanes will need to be used at airports
- Be careful with food and drink – different customs rules will now be in force
- Updates as to what will class as "essential travel" will be found on the Embassy website
- Anyone travelling into Spain should sign up for Embassy email alerts at their regularly updated [travel advice page for Spain](#)

### **TIE**

- There are still issues re the availability of appointments so keep all the evidence of your residency that you can. The green residencia document/TIE is perfectly legal if you unable to exchange it for a TIE. Guidelines on the older green certificate have been reissued to the relevant authorities
- If the wording on the TIE is incorrect this will be rectified in due course and free of charge
- On reaching 5 years residency, you can upgrade to "permanent" residency
- If your temporary residency is now out of date, you only need prove you were resident in Spain

### **Empadronamiento**

For those struggling to make an appointment, the Embassy advise that you compile all evidence that you were in Spain prior to 31 December 2020.

### **Pet Passports**

Listed status is still under negotiation and information is expected imminently. It is recommended that you sign up for updates from the government website 'living in Spain', to be kept up to date as things develop:

<https://www.gov.uk/email-signup/?topic=/world/living-in-spain>

## Driving Licences

- Delays are common, but the process is working well
- For new arrivals, all that is needed to start the process is an NIE number (not residencia), but you will need to have your TIE before you can complete the process
- Information must be supplied to the DGT by the end of the year – the details of your licence are needed for verification purposes by the UK authorities
- There is a 6-month buffer – it is hoped that during this period the UK/Spain will come to some further agreement
- You can find the DG the rules in English here:

<https://sede.dgt.gob.es/es/permisos-de-conducir/canje-permisos/canje-permisos-extranjeros/canje-renovacion-sustitucion-uk/index.shtml?Reino+Unido=>

## EHIC

- For visitors, those that arrived before end of December will be able to use their card for the duration of their stay, even if that runs into 2021. For those arriving in January 2021, the EHIC will no longer be valid & alternative arrangements for healthcare should be made
- The UK EHIC **should not** be used by residents living in Spain
- A new version is available for those under the WA agreement, i.e., pensioners, students and posted workers
- For further information about how to register for healthcare in Spain as a resident, refer to the Embassy [Healthcare in Spain](#)
- For those S1 form holders who wish to apply for the new EHIC ([www.nhs.uk/ehic](http://www.nhs.uk/ehic)), be aware that you will only be able to apply once you have registered your S1 form with the INSS in Spain



BREMAIN  
in Spain  
*with EU all the way!*



British Embassy  
Madrid