# Changes to how clients evidence immigration status

Many of our clients are non-UK nationals who have the right to live in the UK. Currently, our clients can evidence their status in different ways including through Biometric Residence Permits (BRP). However, there are some important changes coming this year.

**What’s changing?**
The Home Office is phasing out the use of physical documents to evidence immigration status. From 2025, people will need to evidence their immigration status online. This will work in a similar way to how status under the EU Settlement Scheme is evidenced – through an e-visa. This e-visa will be an online record of someone’s immigration status and their permissions in the UK (e.g. the right to work). From 2025, our clients will need to know how to evidence their immigration status online.

In addition, some clients have 31 December 2024 as the expiry date on their BRP and may be concerned that this doesn’t match the date on other documents that they have received from the Home Office. This is because the Home Office has been issuing all new BRPs with an expiry date of 31 December 2024 regardless of when the client’s status expires.

**Why do we need to support our clients with this?**
Our clients need to be able to evidence their status in the UK to access their rights and entitlements (e.g. right to work, live, rent and claim benefits in the UK).

**What do we need to do to support our clients with this?**
**Where your clients have a BRP with an expiry date of 31 December 2024, please:**

1. Support them to confirm the correct expiry date of their status. They will be able to find this on their Home Office decision letter or can check online by entering the details of their BRP here – <https://www.gov.uk/prove-right-to-work>.
2. They will need to make an account on the UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) [website](https://www.gov.uk/get-access-evisa). The Home Office is emailing individuals with information on how to do this in a staggered way. When clients receive this email, they will need to follow instructions to set up their account. The Home Office has said it will be sharing guidance on how to make an account later in the year, in case an email is not received.
3. In line with usual practice, if the client’s leave is due to expire in the next six months then they should be referred for immigration advice. If you need support with this, please contact streetlegal@mungos.org.
4. If you have any doubt or concerns, please have a low threshold for contacting us. If there’s any follow up needed or uncertainty about someone’s status, we will advise you to refer your client for immigration advice.

**When your clients don’t have a BRP but have a valid status in the UK:**

* Some of our clients might have another physical document that they use to evidence their status in the UK such as a stamp in their passport. They should be referred for immigration advice and if they are eligible their immigration adviser will support them to make a ‘no time limit’ application. If successful, this will enable them to access an e-visa.
* Some of our EEA national clients might have a BRC (Biometric Residence Card) confirming they have status under the EUSS. They’ll already have an e-visa so don’t need to take steps to get one. They can access this through this link <https://www.gov.uk/view-prove-immigration-status>. If they are unable to log in, please contact streetlegal@mungos.org for advice on next steps.

Again, if you are unsure of anything please get in touch with streetlegal@mungos.org.