

**Subject:** Brexit Deal - State pensions and EHIC

I wanted to flag that the Brexit deal which went through ahead of the 31 December deadline included access for individuals to reciprocal healthcare cover and an uprated state pension.

This is [covered](#) under Heading Four Social Security Coordination and Visas for Short-term Visits of the deal.

Broadly the deal provides for a protocol which means that the UK and EU Member States will be able to take into account relevant contributions paid into each other's social security systems, or relevant periods of work or residence, by individuals for determining entitlement to a state pension and to a range of benefits. The Government state the Protocol also provides for the uprating of the UK State Pension paid to pensioners who retire to the EU.

The Protocol also means that where the UK or an EU Member State is responsible for the healthcare of an individual, they will be entitled to reciprocal healthcare cover. In addition, the Protocol will ensure necessary healthcare provisions similar to that provided by the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) scheme continue. This means individuals who are temporarily staying in another country, for example a UK national who is in an EU Member State for a holiday, will have their necessary healthcare needs met for the period of their stay.