



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Nick Thomas-Symonds MP
Minister for the Constitution and European Union Relations
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

By email only

10th December 2024

Dear Minister,

Re: Youth Mobility Scheme

We are writing to call for the government to establish a Youth Mobility Scheme between the EU and the UK.

We are glad that the government has committed to resetting our relationship with the EU and that the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary are actively engaging to rebuild trust and relations with our European neighbours through meeting with the European Commission and Foreign Affairs Council.

Providing opportunities to young people should be at the heart of government policy and we believe that establishing a Youth Mobility Scheme would not only offer huge benefits to young people but also would have a broader range of benefits including strengthening cultural, social and economic links between the EU and the UK.

We want to forge a new partnership with our European neighbours, built on co-operation, not confrontation and move towards a new comprehensive agreement. A crucial step in this process is rebuilding confidence by agreeing partnerships and associations, helping to restore prosperity and opportunities for British people.

As you know, this would not lead to a return to freedom of movement. Establishing a UK-EU Youth Mobility Scheme would mirror existing capped arrangements the UK has with 13 countries including Australia, New Zealand and Canada. Delivering such a scheme would provide a “return on investment” in the form of “soft power” that was never seemingly factored into the approach of the previous Conservative Government.

Given the EU has been very clear that they would welcome a Youth Mobility Scheme with the UK, we urge you to embark on these negotiations to expand opportunities for young people across the country and acknowledge the broader benefits which this scheme could provide.

We very much look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

Yours sincerely



Sarah Olney
Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Cabinet Office

Gideon Amos MP

Steff Aquarone MP

Josh Babarinde MP

Paula Barker MP

Alison Bennett MP

Alex Brewer MP

Jess Brown Fuller MP

Charlotte Cane MP

Alistair Carmichael MP

David Chadwick MP

Wendy Chamberlain MP

Danny Chambers MP

Ellie Chowns MP

Chris Coghlan MP

Victoria Collins MP

Daisy Cooper MP

Adam Dance MP

Steve Darling MP

Bobby Dean MP

Lee Dillon MP

Sarah Dyke MP

Sorcha Eastwood MP

Colum Eastwood MP

Tim Farron MP

Richard Foord MP

Will Forster MP

Zöe Franklin MP

Andrew George MP

Stephen Gethins MP

Clive Jones MP

Paul Kohler MP

Ben Lake MP

James MacCleary MP

Angus Macdonald MP

Ben Maguire MP

Helen Maguire MP

Mike Martin MP

Brian Mathew MP

Charlie Maynard MP

Calum Miller MP

John Milne MP

Layla Moran MP

Edward Morello MP

Helen Morgan MP

Tom Morrison MP

Tessa Munt MP

Susan Murray MP

Manuela Perteghella MP

Al Pinkerton MP

Joshua Reynolds MP

Ian Roome MP

Anna Sabine MP

Roz Savage MP

Vikki Slade MP

Lisa Smart MP

Ian Sollom MP

Jamie Stone MP

Zarah Sultana MP

Sarah Gibson MP
Rachel Gilmour MP
Olly Glover MP
Marie Goldman MP
Tom Gordon MP
Sarah Green MP
Monica Harding MP
Pippa Heylings MP
Wera Hobhouse MP
Christine Jardine MP
Liz Jarvis MP

Luke Taylor MP
Cameron Thomas MP
Freddie van Mierlo MP
Caroline Voaden MP
Max Wilkinson MP
Munira Wilson MP
Martin Wrigley MP
Claire Young MP