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AGENZIA CONSOLARE D'ITALIA JERSEY C.I.

11 November 2020

Deputy Kirsten Morel
Chair, Brexit Review Scrutiny Panel
States Greffe
Scrutiny
Morier House
St Helier
Jersey
JE1 1DD

Dear Deputy Morel

Brexit Preparations and EU Citizens Resident in Jersey

Thank you for your letter of the 28th October, and I trust you are well. I apologise for the delay in replying, however, I have only recently received this letter as It had been addressed incorrectly.

I am grateful for the opportunity to reply to the questions set out in your letter.

1) With regards to Settled Status, I note the numbers for the Italian community who have registered are not high, however, as we have been on the island since the 50's and prior to that, many of our residents are now old and have either passed away, returned to Italy or have naturalized. Through the Circolo Italiano (our Italian community club) we have issued newsletters and requested that all those, who only hold an Italian passport, register for Settled status. We will continue to remind our community and I have personally helped some register when I have had meetings with them.

With regards to how this has been received, I am sorry to say, it has not been received well. The process of being registered after all this time has brought up many unwelcome memories of the 'Aliens office' Many of the older generation feel Jersey is and has been for their home for many years, and to be asked to register after all these years of residency, has not gone down well. I personally have been on the island for 61 years and have also had to register.

Perhaps there could have been a less invasive way of giving settled status to our nationals who have resided on this island for over 50 years, but it is too late now to change the system.

I will continue to endeavor that the registration of all our nationals is done, however, not all Italians are obliged to register with me, therefore, this can only be done by newsletter, word of mouth etc.

2) I am unaware of any major issues, however, I know of a few who are vulnerable and were asked to go to 'Maritime House' for their final meeting, but whom have not yet been contacted. I am assuming that Covid has something to do with this.

The only residents that are of concern, are those in nursing homes who may have out of date identification, and whom may have lost their memories. I feel the only way to get these registered, or to know if anyone is in a nursing home, is for the government to contact all nursing homes and request that residential homes ensure that any international residents have registered for settled status.

3) With regards to this economic question, it is difficult to comment, however, as imports of wine, bicycles, food etc. will be affected, I am sure there will be a 'knock on' affect to consumers of these products on our island. With regards to Jersey's Italian population leaving the island, there may be some movement of younger Italians, however, as previously stated, most of our Italian community are somewhat older and retired from their various enterprises. We are now into our fourth generation Italians who have been born and raised on the island.

I trust the above information is of some use to you, should you require any further information, or require us to help in any way, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Serafina Jones-Venticinque

Agente Consolare d'Italia Jersey (Onorario)