

## Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit Circular

Department for Work and Pensions

1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Caxton House, Tothill Street, London SW1H 9NA

# HB/CTB A13/2011

### ADJUDICATION AND OPERATIONS CIRCULAR

<b>WHO SHOULD READ</b>	All Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Benefit (CTB) staff
<b>ACTION</b>	For information
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Non-Citizens of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia</b>

### Guidance Manual

The information in this circular does affect the content of the HB/CTB Guidance Manual. Please annotate this circular number after paragraph 4.62 of the HB/CTB Guidance Manual.

### Queries

If you

- want **extra copies of this circular/copies of previous circulars**, they can be found on the website at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/local-authority-staff/housing-benefit/user-communications/hbctb-circulars/>
- have any queries about the
  - **technical content of this circular**, contact People from Abroad Policy team  
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Contents

para

**Non-Citizens of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia**

Introduction.....	1
Entry Requirement.....	2
ECSMA/ESC national.....	3

## **Non-Citizens of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia**

1. People of Russian origin, who became resident in the European Economic Area (EEA) Member States of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia when those states were part of the former Soviet Union, are not considered citizens of these countries nor of any other country and are issued with non-citizen or Aliens passport by the authorities of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.
2. Holders of such passports from these EEA Member States may travel without a visa to all EU Member States except the UK and Ireland. For travel to the UK therefore they will need a visa, and require valid leave to live and work here. In addition to normal conditions of benefit entitlement they must demonstrate a right to reside and be habitually resident in the UK.
3. A person who is a non-citizen of an EEA Member State, which is also a country that has ratified the European Convention on Social and Medical Assistance (ECSMA) or the European Social Charter (ESC), who is lawfully present in the UK, must also demonstrate a right to reside and be habitually resident in the Common Travel Area (CTA). (please refer to paragraphs 4.23, 4.63, 4.67 and Annex A of the Housing Benefit Manual, Part C4 People from Abroad, for information on ECSMA and ESC nationals).