I am a Care at Home Provider from Argyll and Bute and currently provide around 2000 hours of care a week in the region. I currently employ around 25 E.U. nationals, mostly from Poland. We have successfully recruited over the past 10 years from Poland and this has helped reduce the number of unmet needs of care in Argyll and Bute. We have managed to stabilise the provision of care in two localities. Recruitment of Care workers is a real issue in Argyll and Bute and a number of providers of care have left the area because of this creating even more pressure on the sector and the capability of providing a safe service to the local people.

We are concerned over Brexit and what this could mean to our staff group and the people of Argyll and Bute. The staff currently directly support around 40 service users here and If we lost them this would have a huge impact on the capability of delivering care in places like, Campbeltown, Oban and Mid Argyll. The staff do not live here, they travel over for periods of time and then return home for a break, a similar work pattern to someone working in the offshore industry. So far I have no clear information on what will happen to the staff group. I am not only concerned about the impact on my business I am hugely concerned about the people we support and the impact this may have on them. We just do not have enough people in Argyll and Bute who are willing/wanting to work in care to replace the E.U. nationals currently working for us.