



Office for Life Sciences

Office for Life Sciences EU Exit Bulletin – 25 October 2019



OLS Introduction

The Office for Life Sciences (OLS) is a joint unit between the Department of Health & Social Care (DHSC) and Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide you with information about the steps that businesses can take to be prepared if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. Please help us reach your suppliers, clients, customers and members by forwarding or sharing the content.

If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email anisha.visram@beis.gov.uk.

No Deal Readiness Report

Government has published The No Deal Readiness Report which sets out in one place what will change if we leave the EU without a deal, and outlines what the Government is doing to get ready for Brexit on 31 October. Please find it [here](#).

Get Ready for Brexit campaign:

The government has launched a 'Get Ready for Brexit' public information campaign which sets out what the public and businesses can do to get ready to leave the EU on 31 October.

Visit: www.gov.uk/brexit

HM Government Online Brexit Business Readiness Event

For those businesses unable to attend one of the roadshow events, why not encourage your members or networks to watch this free HM Government online Brexit Business Readiness Event to watch presentations from government advisers and to find out what actions your business needs to take to prepare for Brexit. Understand what Brexit means for business, find out why personal data matters, plan for imports, exports and international trade after Brexit, and learn more about how to prepare your services business, or what to do if you operate in food and drink, farming, fisheries, waste, or chemical sectors.

You can view the presentation online by clicking this link – [Online Brexit Business Readiness Event](#).

Brexit Business Readiness Forum

These forums are held weekly and aimed at trade associations and business intermediaries. For details on how to register to attend or subscribe to the bulletin, email sed@beis.gov.uk.



Regulations (Medicines)

NEW MHRA have published new guidance providing further information on comparator products used in studies supporting abridged marketing authorisation applications in a No Deal Brexit, [here](#).

UPDATED NIBSC have updated their guidance 'Manufacturers of biological medicines - independent batch release in the United Kingdom following Brexit' to provide a list of EEA states at exit day and a list of states that have a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) with the UK in relation to batch release testing of biological medicines, please find it [here](#).

Further information about the regulation of medicines and medical devices if there is a no-deal Brexit can be found [here](#).



Regulations (Medical devices)

There have been no new updates on medical devices regulations, current guidance, including all aspects of regulating devices in No Deal can be found [here](#).



Workforce

There have been no new workforce updates.

The Home Secretary has commissioned the Migration Advisory Committee (MAC) to review how an Australian-style points-based immigration system (PBS) could be introduced to strengthen the UK labour market.

The MAC has issued a call for evidence on a new 'Points Based' migration system and the system of salary thresholds for skilled workers. The consultation closes at 9am 5 November 2019 and you can access it by clicking [here](#).



Continuity of Supply:

DHSC, in consultation with the Devolved Administrations (DAs), has been working with trade bodies, product suppliers, and the health and care system in England to make detailed plans that should ensure continuation of the supply of medical products to the whole of the UK and its Crown Dependencies in the event of a No Deal EU exit.

Medical products within scope of this planning include:

- medicines (prescription-only, pharmacy, general sales list and unlicensed medicines);
- medical devices and clinical consumables;
- supplies for clinical trials and clinical investigations;
- vaccines and countermeasures; and
- blood, tissue and transplant materials.

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care (Matt Hancock) laid a Written Ministerial Statement (WMS) on 8 Oct providing an update on DHSC's plans to support the continuity of supply of medicines and medical products into the UK if we leave the EU without a deal on 31 October. The WMS can be found [here](#).

The government has signed freight capacity contracts that will help ensure vital medicines continue to enter the UK after Brexit, whatever the circumstances. The press release can be found [here](#).

Contracts have been awarded to UPS, DFDS and Biocair for the Department of Health and Social Care's express freight service. The new service will help to ensure that patients and care providers have access to medicines and medical products after Brexit. You can read about this [here](#).

National Supply Disruption Response (NSDR)

As part of the national contingency planning to get ready for EU Exit on 31 October 2019, led by DHSC with support from NHS England and NHS Improvement, details of the NSDR and actions trusts, suppliers and social care providers should take in the event of supply disruption if the UK leaves the EU without a deal, were sent this week.

DHSC dedicated trader readiness unit

DHSC has put in place a unit of customs specialists to advise medical suppliers on preparations for the new customs and border arrangements that will come into place from Day One if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

This dedicated health trader readiness unit will support medical suppliers in preparing for border and customs changes, including working with companies to ensure they have the necessary customs paperwork in place. Medical suppliers can contact the unit here: betraderready@dhsc.gov.uk.



Trader readiness

In a No Deal scenario, the UK will trade with the EU as a most-favoured-nation under WTO terms. Businesses should consider what changes this might mean for how they trade with the EU and what impact it may have on their supply chains.

New or updated materials for traders

NEW DHSC have produced guidance about the three government services that supply businesses can use to keep medical products flowing into the UK after Brexit, found [here](#).

NEW DFT have produced guidance on Operation Brock, a new system to reduce traffic disruption to the port of Dover and Eurotunnel, found [here](#).

NEW DCMS have produced guidance of what you must do to comply with the regulations covering the security of network and information systems, found [here](#).

NEW DCMS have produced guidance with actions organisations in the UK that provide online services should take to prepare for a no-deal Brexit, found [here](#).

UPDATED IPO have updated their No Deal gov.uk landing page with details on various aspects of IP in a No Deal which may be useful to companies – no policies or guidance have changed, the new page simply brings together existing guidance in one place, please find it [here](#).

UPDATED DIT have updated their guidance for UK business offering services if there is a No Deal Brexit. Updates have been made to the ‘Business travel and entry requirements’ section [here](#).

HMRC series of webinars

HMRC are hosting webinars to provide an overview for UK businesses involved in the movement of goods between the EU and the UK. Details can be found [here](#). The next webinar will be on Tuesday 29 October from 9:00am-10:00am.

HMRC are hosting webinars on Transnational Simplified Procedures. It will explain how TSP will make it easier to import goods from the EU after Brexit, and cover the procedures, how to register, import declarations, import value of goods and if duties are payable. The next webinar will be held on Monday 28 October 2:00pm-2:30pm, details can be found [here](#).

Please find recordings of past webinars [here](#).

DIT “Get Ready for Brexit” workshops

DIT are running over 100 additional “Get Ready for Brexit” Workshops to help businesses (primarily existing exporters to the EU) develop a personalised Brexit Readiness Action Plan. The events are a mix of DIT led workshops, webinars, and participation by DIT with a “Brexit package” in events already being run by partners.

For more details and to book visit [this link](#). Next week’s workshop will be held in Knowsley on 29 October.

UK Government Border Delivery Group advice for EU businesses trading with or via the UK

The UK Government Border Delivery Group (BDG) is arranging a series of webinars targeted at EU businesses which will help to provide clarity on what is expected of them, their clients and their supply chain as they look to trade goods across the border. This series of webinars will include information on border preparedness, customs procedures at the border, relevant sector-specific content and a Q&A session. Participants are invited to register for the webinar most relevant to their sector.

Please register for the webinars [here](#). The next life sciences webinar will be held on 29 October 14:00-15:30.



Useful Links

- [Brexit](#) provides a central hub of resources
- Life Sciences [landing page](#) collating guidance for preparing for a No Deal EU Exit.
- DHSC have produced guidance on what providers and commissioners of healthcare services can do to manage the risks of a no-deal Brexit, available [here](#).
- You can sign up to email alerts about EU Exit on GOV.UK at this [link](#).
- EU citizens and other interested stakeholders can sign up for Home Office email updates about developments on the status of EU citizens in the UK after we leave the EU and the next steps for EU citizens in the UK at this [link](#).
- Online [Triage Tool](#) to Help Businesses Prepare for the UK Leaving the EU.
- NHS [patient messaging](#) on getting medicines in a No Deal scenario.
- NHE England's [website page](#) regarding continuity of supply of medical products.
- Please find HMRC's YouTube channel [here](#) to catch up on a range of support available.
- The HMRC EU Exit Import and Export Trader Helpline for traders and hauliers importing from/exporting to the EU after October 31 is **0300 3301 331**. Lines are open from 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.
- HMRC has funding available for customs intermediaries, traders and hauliers who complete, or intend to complete, customs declarations following the UK's exit from the EU. The application window is currently open and will close on 31 January 2020, or earlier once all funding is allocated. For more information please visit [this site](#).