



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Preparing businesses for EU Exit



Forestry Commission
England



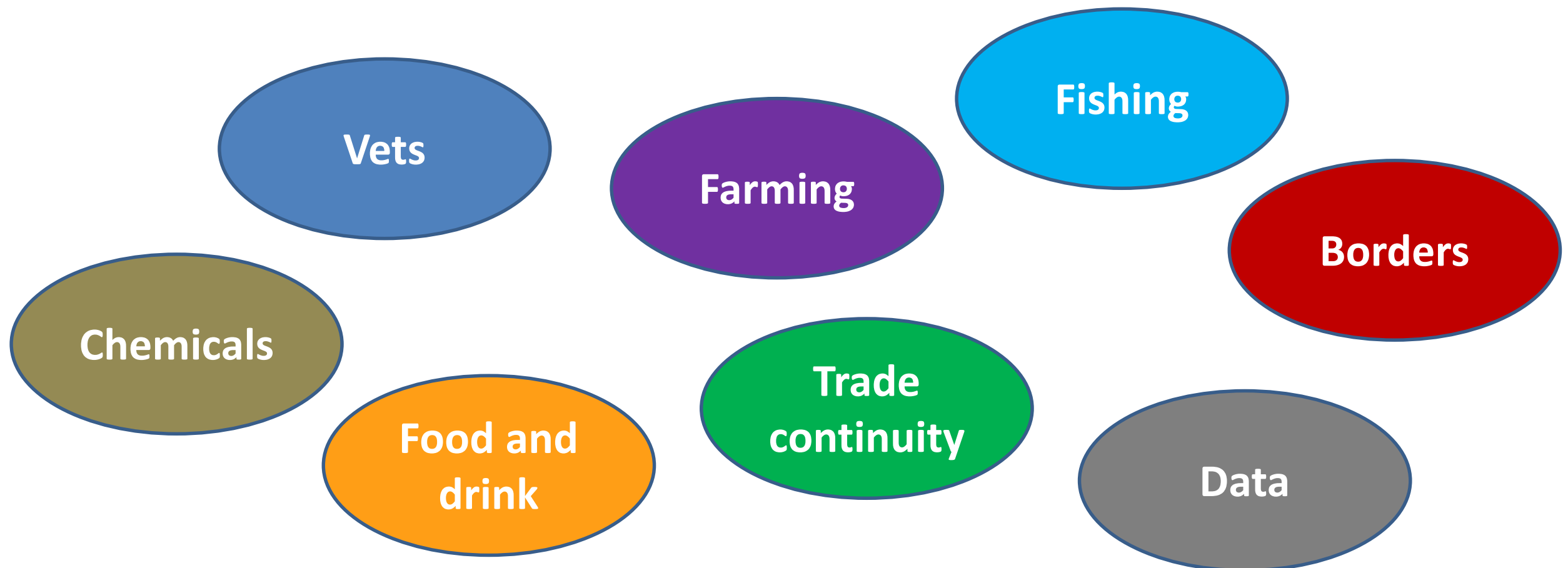
Environment
Agency

Preparing businesses for EU Exit

- Leaving the EU means businesses may need to prepare for change.
- Leaving with a deal is the government's top priority however 'no deal' is still a possibility.
- Businesses may need to take action before we leave, and Defra recommends that businesses ensure they are prepared.
- New user friendly online tool for businesses to find the latest information on EU Exit, how they will be affected, and the actions they can take: www.gov.uk/euexitbusiness
- Several government departments including BEIS, FSA and BDG have recently published information on the steps that businesses may need to take to prepare for EU Exit.
- This presentation focuses on Defra guidance for businesses.

Preparing businesses for EU Exit

- Government recently published information for businesses on several key themes affecting businesses, and will continue to provide information and guidance on other topics that may affect businesses should we leave the EU without a deal.
- Up to date guidance and tools have recently been launched on the following topics:



[Home](#) > [Producing and distributing food](#) > [Import, export and distribution of food](#)

Guidance

The food and drink sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU without a Brexit deal on 12 April, there will be changes that affect your food and drink business. Find out how you can prepare.

Published 18 February 2019

Last updated 22 March 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Food labelling](#)
- [Marketing standards](#)
- [Your employees](#)
- [Chemical regulations](#)
- [Trade agreements](#)
- [Tariffs](#)
- [Data protection](#)

Related

[Food labelling](#)

[The farm](#)

[Exit](#)

[Customs](#)

[EU with](#)

[Trading](#)

[no Brexit](#)

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Food and drink sector

landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the food and drink landing page include:

- *Importing and exporting*
- *Food labelling*
- *Your employees*
- *Chemical regulations*
- *Trade agreements*
- *Tariffs*
- *Data protection*
- *More information*



Labelling Update

The UK has no control over how food labelling changes will be enforced outside the UK. The EU has issued guidance [here](#) confirming that labelling changes will need to be in place from exit day to export to its markets.

Other non-EU countries may also require changes to be in place from exit day to export to their markets.

*The EU has also confirmed its definition of goods on the market. If an individual food product is placed on the EU 27 market before the UK leaves the EU, this “stock” of food can continue to be sold, distributed or transferred in the EU 27 as of the exit date without the need for labelling changes. Food can be considered to be placed on the EU market if it has been:
held in the EU 27 for the purpose of sale, including offering for sale or any other form of transfer, whether free of charge or not
sold, distributed, or transferred by other forms to the EU 27*

Read the EU’s guidance for goods on the EU market [here](#)

Guidance

The farming sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU on 12 April without a Brexit deal, there may be changes that affect your arable, livestock or horticulture farming business.

Published 18 February 2019

Last updated 25 March 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

- [Farm and rural payments: EU funding](#)
- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Your employees](#)
- [Food and drink labelling including organic produce](#)
- [Marketing standards](#)
- [Genetically modified organisms \(GMOs\)](#)
- [Fertilisers](#)

Related

[The food and drink sector and EU Exit](#)
[Importing and exporting food products without a Brexit deal](#)
[Make or buy decisions for food labelling](#)

Farming sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the farming landing page include:

- *Farm and rural payments: EU funding*
- *Importing and exporting*
- *Your employees*
- *Food and drink labelling including organic produce*
- *Pesticides regulations*
- *Chemical regulations*
- *Trade agreements*
- *Data protection*

Farm and rural payments: EU funding

In 2019, EU funding for [rural payment schemes including the Basic Payment Scheme](#) will continue, regardless of whether the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal deal.

To get payments, you'll need to follow the same standards as you do now. Where relevant, this will include on-site inspections to UK farms. The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) will continue to administer the schemes.

Importing and exporting

There are some actions you'll need to take if you import or export products between the UK and EU.

Preparing for disruption to trade at the UK-EU border

To minimise disruption to your business at border points you should take the following steps:

- 1 [Get a UK Economic Operator Registration and Identification \(EORI\) number](#) so you can continue to import or export goods and apply for authorisations.
- 2 Decide if you want to hire an import-export agent, or [make the declarations yourself](#).
- 3 Contact the organisation that moves your goods (for example, a haulage

Farm and rural payments: EU funding sub-page

Advice includes that in 2019 EU funding for rural payment schemes including the Basic Payment Scheme will continue, and provides details of the relevant agency administering the scheme.

It also advises that to get payments, farmers will need to follow the same standards as they do now.

[Home](#) > [Environmental management](#) > [Chemicals](#)

Guidance

The chemicals sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, and you are a company that makes, supplies or uses chemicals, there may be changes that affect your business.

Published 13 February 2019

Last updated 14 March 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy](#)

Contents

- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Regulation and standards](#)
- [Energy and climate](#)
- [Your employees](#)
- [Trade associations](#)

Your business may need to make changes before the UK leaves the EU.

Related con

[Customs proce](#)

[EU without a de](#)

[How to comply](#)
[regulations](#)

[The electricity](#)
[Exit](#)

[Declaring your](#)

Chemicals sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the chemicals landing page include:

- *Importing and exporting*
- *Regulation and standards*
- *Energy and climate*
- *Your employees*
- *Trade associations*



Regulation and standards

Chemical regulations

After the UK leaves the EU there will be changes to all chemical regulations, including EU REACH (the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation).

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the EU REACH regulations will be brought into UK law to create 'UK REACH.'

Maintain your access to EU/EEA market

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, you will need to transfer your registrations to an EU/EEA-based organisation or support your EU/EEA-based importers to become registrants. Read the [guidance from the European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\)](#).

Maintain access to UK markets

If you are a business based in the UK with an EU REACH registration, your registration will be legally recognised in UK REACH. However, you will need to take action to validate your grandfathered registration.

You will need to:

- open an account on REACH IT once it is established and provide initial information on your registration within 120 days of the UK leaving the EU
- provide full technical information on your registration within 2 years of the UK leaving the EU

Regulation and standards sub-page

Advice includes that after EU Exit there will be changes to all chemical regulations, including the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation (REACH).

It also advises that businesses will need to transfer their registrations to an EU/EEA-based organisation or support their EU/EEA-based importers to become registrants.

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the EU REACH regulations will be brought into UK law to create 'UK REACH'







Departments

Worldwide

How government works

Get involved

Publications

Consultations

Statistics

News and communications

Home > Business and enterprise > Trade restrictions on exports

Guidance

The fisheries sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU on 12 April without a deal, there may be changes that affect your fisheries business.

Published 1 March 2019

Last updated 12 March 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

— Access to waters

— Quota allocations and fishing opportunities

— Control and Enforcement regime

— Regional fisheries management organisations

— Access to ports

— Importing and exporting

— European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

— Labelling and marketing of fishery and aquaculture

— Your employees

Related content

[Exporting and importing fish and seafood after the Brexit deal](#)

[Food labelling changes after the Brexit deal](#)

[The food and drink sector after the Brexit deal](#)

[EU Exit](#)

[Exporting animals, fish, and plants after the Brexit deal](#)

[The farming sector and preparing for the Brexit deal](#)

Fisheries sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the fisheries landing page include:

- *Access to waters*
- *EU and third country waters*
- *Western waters*
- *Quota allocations and fishing opportunities*
- *Control and enforcement regime*
- *Access to ports*
- *Fishing in UK waters*
- *Foreign vessel licensing*

10



Access to waters

Access to waters will change if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Rules for access to UK waters from 12 April 2019

The UK will control and manage access to fish in UK waters, and be responsible for managing our:

- territorial waters (out to 12 nautical miles)
- Exclusive Economic Zone (out to 200 nautical miles or the median line with other states)

Non-UK vessels will no longer have the automatic right to fish in UK waters.

Non-UK vessels will still be able to sail through UK waters under their right of safe passage set out in The United Nations Convention of the Sea (UNCLOS).

EU and third country waters

There will be no automatic access for UK-registered vessels to fish in EU or third country waters (subject to any existing agreements covering territorial waters).

Future access to fish in EU and other coastal state waters in the event of a no deal scenario is still under negotiation. Owners and skippers of fishing vessels that weigh 100 gross tons or more, or vessels that are 12 metres long or more, must [apply for an IMO number now](#) to prepare for all EU Exit scenarios.


Access to waters sub-page


Advice includes that access to waters will change if the UK leaves the EU without a deal and provides guidance on rules for access to UK waters from 12 April 2019.

It also advises that the UK will control and manage access to fish in UK waters, and be responsible for managing our:

- territorial waters (out to 12 nautical miles)
 - Exclusive Economic Zone
- Non-UK vessels will no longer have the automatic right to fish in UK waters.*¹¹







Departments

Worldwide

How government works

Get involved

Publications

Consultations

Statistics

News and communications

[Home](#) > [Animal welfare](#) > [Pets](#)

Guidance

The veterinary sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU on 12 April without a deal, there may be changes that affect private, official or abattoir veterinarians.

Published 7 March 2019

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

— [Importing and exporting](#)

— [Changes to pet travel](#)

— [Veterinary medicines](#)

— [Your employees](#)

— [Veterinary qualifications](#)

— [Data protection](#)

— [More information](#)

Related content

[Pet travel to Europe after 1](#)

[Exporting animals, fish, an](#)

[products after EU exit](#)

[VMD EU Exit Information](#)

[Export horses and ponies:](#)

[Bringing your pet dog, cat](#)

[UK](#)

Veterinary sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the veterinary landing page include:

- *Importing and exporting*
- *Changes to pet travel*
- *Veterinary medicines*
- *Your employees*
- *Veterinary qualifications*
- *Data protection*
- *More information*

12

Changes to pet travel

The rules for taking pets to any EU country will change if the UK leaves the EU with no deal and is treated as an unlisted country.

If you're a private vet or an OV, you'll need to advise pet owners on what steps they can take to prepare for all scenarios.

Pet owners will need to contact you at least 4 months in advance of travelling to allow time for additional health preparations.

Read the guidance on [Pet Travel to Europe after Brexit](#).

You can find the latest advice for OVs on the [APHA Vet Gateway](#) when it become available.

Veterinary medicines

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the new UK veterinary medicine regulation will make sure you continue to have access to safe and effective veterinary medicines.

All registered veterinary medicines in the UK will continue to be registered after EU Exit.

For veterinarians, there will be changes to the following processes:

- [operating the cascade](#)
- [applying for a Special Import Certificate/Special Treatment Certificate](#)

Visit the [Veterinary Medicines Directorate \(VMD\)'s EU Exit hub](#) for detailed

Changes to pet travel sub-page

Advice includes that the rules or taking pets to any EU county will change if the UK leaves the EU with no deal and is treated as an unlisted country.

It also provides vets with guidance on what to advise pet owners, and information on a number of veterinary regulations and processes that will change e.g. cascade and certificate application systems.

[Home](#)
[Guidance](#)

Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU with no deal

The UK is transitioning existing trade agreements which it participates in as a member of the EU. This guidance sets out the status of the agreements that may not be in place when the UK leaves the EU.

Published 21 February 2019

Last updated 22 March 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for International Trade](#)

Documents



[Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU with no deal](#)

HTML

Related content

[Signed UK trade agreements from the EU](#)

[Trade Tariff: look up rates and VAT rates](#)

[Temporary rates on imports after Brexit](#)

Existing trade agreements information

Find [here](#)

This guidance contains information about:

- *The status of agreements with countries we have agreements with as a member of the EU*
- *How you would trade without a trade agreement in force*
- *Other trade preferences for imports to the UK*



[Home](#) > [Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU with no deal](#)



Department for
International Trade

Guidance

Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU with no deal

Updated 22 March 2019

Contents

[Signed UK trade agreements](#)

[What's changing if the UK leaves the EU with no deal](#)

[Steps businesses need to take to prepare](#)

[Other trade preferences for imports to the UK](#)

[Further information](#)

The UK is in the process of transitioning existing trade agreements which the UK participates in as a member of the EU. This note sets out the status of those agreements that may not be in place if the UK leaves the EU with no deal.

Leaving the EU with a deal remains the government's top priority. This has not changed. While a number of these continuity agreements are likely to be concluded, it is the duty of government to produce a highly cautious list of those that may not be in place in order that businesses and individuals ensure that they are prepared for every eventuality.

It remains the government's priority to conclude trade continuity agreements with these countries when the UK leaves the EU or as soon as possible thereafter. The government is exploring a range of options to ensure continuity of effect for trade agreements if an agreement has not been ratified and brought into force in time.

The guidance outlines that we are in the process of transitioning existing trade agreements of which the UK participates as a member of the European Union, and sets out the status of those agreements that may not be in place by exit day.

It also advises that without arrangements to maintain preferences, trade will take place on World Trade Organisation (WTO) terms which may affect businesses' ability to trade, and outlines measures businesses can take to prepare.



A 'Border' Business Readiness Communications Toolkit is now available [here](#) this week to help businesses prepare for EU Exit.

The communications products (videos, leaflets, social media graphics) have been created to help businesses understand how they can prepare for changes at the border in a no deal EU Exit and avoid disruption to trade. They encourage businesses to take action, and direct them towards GOV.UK for more information.

The toolkit and accompanying materials are available on the Partnership Pack page on GOV.UK.

Summary

- Businesses may need to take action before we leave the EU, and Defra recommends that businesses ensure they are prepared
- EU preparation pages can be found here:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/brexit_en
- National preparation pages on the EU27:
https://ec.europa.eu/info/brexit/brexit-preparedness/national-brexit-information-member-states_en
- Defra is working closely with other government departments and has published information on the steps that businesses may need to take to prepare for EU Exit.
- The Gov.UK sector landing pages, and other webpages, outlined today can be accessed through the links in this presentation.
- Businesses can find the latest information on EU Exit, how they will be affected, and the actions they can take here:

www.gov.uk/euexitbusiness