



HM Government
UK TRANSITION



BUSINESS SECTOR BRIEFING PACK

Part B – A guide for businesses to understand the actions they must take for Brexit transition changes.

TAKE ACTION NOW

[GOV.UK/TRANSITION](https://www.gov.uk/transition)

-  Check
-  Change
-  Go

INTRODUCTION

- The UK has left the EU. If you trade with Europe, there are actions you need to take to keep your business moving.

What support is available?

The best place for businesses to get support and information is [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition), which includes:

1. The Brexit [checker tool](#) for a personalised list of actions;
2. The [latest news](#) from the Government.
3. The new [on demand videos](#) which explain how businesses can adapt to the changes.

Additional key Government advice:

- The [Border Operating Model](#) is a guide to how the border with the EU works. See the 'Guide to changes at the border' for a summary.
- Businesses can sign up to Business Readiness bulletins produced by BEIS [here](#).
- Guidance on the [Northern Ireland Protocol](#) and what this means for businesses moving goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland

There are also a number of other publications which you may find useful:

- The Institute for Government has published explainers on the transition period [here](#).
- The British Chambers of Commerce has published a checklist to support businesses prepare for the UK transition. You can download it [here](#).
- The Federation of Small Business has published guidance for small businesses [here](#).
- The Institute of Directors has a designated hub on Navigating Brexit for Business [here](#).
- Make UK has published guidance for manufacturers [here](#).

The Devolved Administrations have also published their own guidance:

- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)

ACTIONS FOR BUSINESSES TO TAKE NOW

| Topic | Action | Guidance |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Businesses that import and export goods</p> | <p>To continue to trade with the EU, you will need to follow new rules for importing and exporting , including changes to processes and licensing. Visit gov.uk/transition to find out what you need to do. You can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ get an EORI number if you do not already have one (you may need a separate one if you move goods to or from Northern Ireland) ▪ decide how you want to make customs declarations and whether you need to get someone to deal with customs for you <p>You should also check the latest guidance on the Northern Ireland Protocol. There are special provisions which only apply in Northern Ireland so if a business moves goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland they need to check the latest guidance on GOV.UK.</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/export-goods</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/import-goods-into-uk</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/moving-goods-into-out-of-or-through-northern-ireland</p> |
| <p>Businesses that have staff working between the UK and EU</p> | <p>If you travel to the EU for work purposes, you may need a visa or work permit. Visit gov.uk/transition to find out what to do.</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021/business-travel-extra-requirements</p> |

ACTIONS FOR BUSINESSES TO TAKE NOW

| Topic | Action | Guidance |
|--|--|---|
| <p>Businesses that deliver services between the UK and the EU</p> | <p>Ensure your staff are able to continue to practise and provide services to clients in the UK by ensuring their professional qualification(s) are recognised by their professional body in the UK. Go to gov.uk/transition to find out what to do.</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/get-your-eea-qualification-recognised-in-the-uk-from-1-january-2021</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/providing-services-to-any-country-in-the-eu-iceland-liechtenstein-norway-or-switzerland-after-eu-exit</p> |
| <p>Businesses that hire staff from the EU</p> | <p>Free movement has ended and the UK is introducing a new points-based immigration system.</p> <p>The way you hire from the EU has changed. If you want to hire anyone from outside the UK, you must be a Home Office licenced sponsor. This includes recruiting people from the EU.</p> <p>Anyone coming to the UK to work will need a job offer from a licenced sponsor in advance, and will need to meet certain skills and salary criteria.</p> <p>Find out more on gov.uk/transition</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-points-based-immigration-system-employer-information/the-uks-points-based-immigration-system-an-introduction-for-employers</p> |
| <p>EU citizens you already employ in the UK</p> | <p>Inform your current EU employees about the EU Settlement Scheme. EU citizens and their family members living in the UK should apply to the EU Settlement Scheme. The deadline for applying is 30 June 2021.</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/staying-uk-eu-citizen</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families</p> |

ACTIONS FOR BUSINESSES TO TAKE NOW

| Topic | Action | Guidance |
|--|---|--|
| Travelling to the EU | <p>There are new rules for travel to Europe.</p> <p>Things you may need to do before you travel include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ check the validity of your passport; ▪ get travel insurance which covers your healthcare; ▪ check you have the right driving documents; ▪ check roaming policies with your mobile provider before travelling. | <p>https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021</p> |
| Continue living and working in the EU | <p>Living and working in the EU, EEA EFTA, Switzerland and Ireland depends on the rules in that country.</p> <p>You may need to take action such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ register or apply for residency; ▪ check that you are covered for healthcare; ▪ exchange your UK driving licence for a licence issued by the EU country where you live. | <p>https://www.gov.uk/uk-nationals-living-eu</p> |
| Businesses that transfer data between the UK and the EU | <p>If you receive personal data from the EU for business use, you should check the current guidance on using personal data in your business or organisation. Find out more at gov.uk/transition.</p> | <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-in-your-business-or-other-organisation</p> |

ACTIONS FOR BUSINESSES TO TAKE NOW

What support is available?

The best place for businesses to get support and information about the changes is at [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition), which includes:

- A [transition checker tool](#), so businesses can get personalised results about the specific actions they need to take;
- The [latest news](#) from the Government.

Additional key Government advice:

- The [Border Operating Model](#) is a guide to how the border with the EU works. See the 'Guide to changes at the border' for a summary.
- Businesses can sign up to Business Readiness bulletins produced by BEIS [here](#).
- Guidance on the [Northern Ireland Protocol](#) and what this means for businesses moving goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland

There are a number of other publications which businesses may find useful:

- The Institute for Government has published explainers on the transition period [here](#).
- The British Chambers of Commerce has published a checklist to support businesses prepare for the UK transition. You can download it [here](#).
- The Federation of Small Business has published guidance for small businesses [here](#).

- The Institute of Directors has a designated hub on Navigating Brexit for Business [here](#).
- Make UK has published guidance for manufacturers [here](#).

The Devolved Administrations have also published their own guidance:

- [Scotland](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)

For sector-specific guidance on gov.uk, please visit:

- [Aerospace sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Automotive sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Chemicals sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Construction sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Consumer Goods sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Electronics and Machinery sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Life Sciences sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Metals and Materials sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Professional and Business Services sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)
- [Retail sector-relevant guidance on gov.uk](#)

HELPLINE NUMBERS

Borders (Importing and exporting)

- Customs declarations, simplified customs procedures, duties and tariffs: **0300 322 9434**
- Trader import and export licences and certificates of free sale: **03300 416500**
- For exporting food, drink and agricultural products: **0300 020 0301**
- Import and export of timber: **0300 067 5155**
- Plants and plant products: **0300 1000 313**
- Importing and exporting of waste: **03708 506 506**
- Vehicles enquiries: **0300 790 6802**
- Driving licences and International driving permits: **0300 790 6802**
- Importing and exporting vehicle and trailer registration: **0300 790 6802**
- Operator licence and permits: **0300 790 6801**
- Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC): **0300 790 6801**

Economy

- Regulation of manufactured goods: **0121 345 1201**
- CE / UKCA marking: **0121 345 1201**
- Regulation of medicines and medical devices: **020 3080 6000**
- Supply of medicinal products: **0800 915 9964**
- European Timber Regulations: **0300 067 4000**

- Forest Law Enforcement Governance and Trade Regulation: **0300 067 4000**

Energy

- EU Emissions Trading System, Allowances and Carbon Emissions, UK Energy Markets, Single Electricity Market, Civil Nuclear and Electricity Suppliers and Systems: **020 7215 5000**

Fish

- Fish Exports, Catch Certificates, Processing Statements and Prior Notification or Pre-Landing Declarations: **0330 159 1989**

Animals

- Exporting of Equines and Import/Export of Animals, Endangered Species and Animal Products: **0300 020 0301**

Data and Intellectual Property

- Establishing/Operating a Business, Accounting, Auditing and Mutual Recognition of Professional Qualifications: **0800 998 1098**
- Consumer Rights: **0808 223 1133** (Welsh Language option: **0808 223 1144**)

Programmes

- Funding by the EU, HMG Guarantee for EU Funds, Horizon 2020, Research Fund for Coat and Steel, COSME, Nuclear Fission, Fusion 4 Energy, EUROfusion and Connecting Europe Facility for Energy: **020 7215 5000**

Other

- DfE helpline: **0370 000 2288**
- Home Office helpline: **0300 790 6268**
- DIT Brexit Enquiry Service: **0300 123 7379**

BUSINESS FAQs

Do I need to do anything specific?

- Your business has to make a number of changes to ensure continued flow of people, data, goods and services between the UK and the EU. Businesses should take action because the UK is no longer in the single market or the customs union:
 - If you sell goods to the EU you must prepare for new customs procedures.
 - Make sure your business is ready to export or import to/from the EU, for example by getting an EORI number or registering with the relevant Customs Authority.
 - If you travel to the EU for work purposes you need to check if you need a visa or work permit and apply if necessary.
 - Make sure you are ready to travel to the EU and EFTA states, for example by getting comprehensive travel insurance, ensuring your passport is valid, and checking your roaming policy with your mobile phone provider.
 - If you employ overseas nationals you need to prepare your business for the implementation of the new immigration system.
 - If you are a UK business or organisation that receives personal data from contacts in the EEA, you should check the current guidance on using personal data in your business or organisation..
 - If you provide services involving work of a profession that is regulated in the EU you'll need to have your UK professional qualification officially recognised by the appropriate regulator in each country where you intend to work.
 - You can check what you specifically need to do at [gov.uk/transition](https://www.gov.uk/transition).

My business is primarily based in the EU – what do I need to do?

- If you run an EU-based business, you need to check the new rules and prepare for the changes so that you can continue trading with the UK.
- Rules have changed and there are border requirements placed on the movement of goods between the EU and UK.
- Check the guidance and find help and support at [gov.uk/eubusiness](https://www.gov.uk/eubusiness)

Will I be able to hire EU nationals in the future, and under what conditions?

- Yes – but the way you hire from the EU has changed. Free movement has ended and the UK has introduced a new points-based immigration system.
- If you want to hire anyone from outside the UK (excluding Irish citizens) you must be a Home Office licenced sponsor. This includes recruiting people from the EU.
- Anyone coming to the UK to work will need a job offer from a licenced sponsor in advance and will need to meet certain skills and salary criteria.
- EU citizens already resident in the UK before 31 December 2020 are not affected and can apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and studying in the UK.
- Find out more information on [GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk)

How can my company continue to move goods between Northern Ireland and Great Britain?

- As we set out in the Command Paper on 20 May, we are committed to working closely with businesses as we implement the Northern Ireland Protocol – they are at the heart of our approach.
- That is reflected in the commitments we have made: to unfettered access to the whole UK market; to no tariffs on goods remaining in the UK's customs territory; to NI benefiting in full from the UK's FTAs with third countries; and to streamlining the processes under the Protocol to the maximum extent – to ensure there is no new customs infrastructure.
- We have set up a new Trader Support Service, providing an end-to-end service which guides traders through all import processes at no additional cost. This is a unique intervention, backed by £200m in Government funding, ensuring that businesses of all sizes can draw on the support it provides.



HM Government

UK TRANSITION



NEW RULES ARE HERE ACT NOW TO

KEEP YOUR BUSINESS MOVING

TAKE ACTION NOW

GOV.UK/TRANSITION

-  Check
-  Change
-  Go