EU Exit Business Readiness Forum: Focus on Workforce & People
Thanks for your feedback in the survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What we heard from you</th>
<th>Actions we are taking</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q&amp;A with policy experts really useful</td>
<td>Detailed write up of Q&amp;A shared after the Forum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Background and context for each topic really helpful</td>
<td>Introduction to each topic with 'how things work today'</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sound quality could be improved</td>
<td>Mics for panel, roaming mic for Q&amp;A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Links to further sources of information</td>
<td>Weekly bulletin with recent announcements, tools and links</td>
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<td>Dial in or webinar option would be helpful</td>
<td>WebEx and dial in available. EU Exit Webinar series planned with British Library</td>
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Objectives for these forums

- Share the key information businesses need to prepare for Exit
- Provide you with materials to cascade to your network of members
- Respond to your questions and gather your feedback
# Business Readiness Forums: Programme to end-March

**February: Cover all key policy themes**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>7 Feb</td>
<td>Importing &amp; Exporting, Regulations &amp; Standards - Good</td>
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<td>14 Feb</td>
<td>Digital &amp; Data</td>
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<td>21 Feb</td>
<td>Workforce &amp; People</td>
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<td>28 Feb</td>
<td>EU/UK Funding</td>
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**March: Share new content released**

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<tr>
<td>7 March</td>
<td>Focus for today: Workforce &amp; People</td>
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<td>Energy &amp; Climate</td>
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*Topics TBC based on key announcements and emerging business needs*

*Agenda subject to change based on key announcements*
Agenda for today

1. Welcome and Introductions 10 mins
2. Parliamentary and EU developments 10 mins
3. Consumer protection 15 mins
4. EU/UK Business mobility (travel & students) 20 mins
5. Recognition of qualifications 15 mins
6. Q&A 15 mins
Context: Consumer protection and business

- Consumers are central to our economy: their choices about what they spend on goods and services drives innovation and competition.

- Robust consumer protections promote consumer confidence in the UK market, supporting economic growth.

- These consumer protections support responsible business practices, ensuring that irresponsible businesses never benefit.

- Business plays a significant role in the maintenance of these protections.

- Government relies on compliant business to help consumers understand their rights and protections.
The UK has a long history of protecting consumer rights and are committed to maintaining this for UK consumers. This will not change in any scenario.

UK consumers should not see any immediate differences in protection under UK than under EU law, as UK and EU law is highly aligned.

We are retaining all necessary powers for UK enforcers to continue protecting consumers in the UK courts.

Government has carried out extensive engagement on EU exit with civil society groups including consumer bodies and trades unions.
How things work today

The EU consumer protection regime means consumers can buy from any country in the EU with their rights protected and products meeting safety standards.

It is supported by a cross-border consumer enforcement framework & Civil Judicial Cooperation.

These also provide advice on individual consumer rights.

UK consumers can use UK law and UK courts for redress.
Consumer protection: what is staying the same

UK consumers will retain all existing protections when buying from UK businesses
UK consumers will retain all existing protections when buying from UK businesses

- There will be no change in the responsibilities of UK businesses when selling to UK consumers.
- UK traders will likely have continuing obligations to EU consumers under EU law post-exit.
- This would depend on the Directive concerned and how much a UK trader is physically present in the EU MS.
- Directives such as Sale of Goods, Timeshare and Product Safety Directives may represent continued obligations for UK traders.

Sources: Consumer rights if there’s no Brexit deal - Available [here](#)
Consumer protection: what is changing

- General UK-EU consumer protection
- Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution
- Package travel and timeshare regulations
UK-EU consumer protection may be impacted

UK consumers will no longer be able to use the UK courts to seek redress from EU based traders

Businesses selling into EU MS should keep apprised of any future changes in EU MS laws

If uncertain, whilst selling into the EU, businesses should seek legal advice relating to the individual MS law

Sources: Consumer rights if there’s no Brexit deal - Available here
Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution

- Businesses will still be able to use the ADR process when buying and selling in the UK
- The obligations around ADR for businesses will not change as a result of a no-deal
- The UK will no longer have access to the ODR platform; hosted by the European Commission for Member States
- Businesses should remove references to the ODR platform from their websites.

Sources: Consumer rights if there’s no Brexit deal - Available here
Package travel and timeshare regulations

- Insolvency protections for UK consumers buying package travel from UK traders will not change

- UK traders will have to comply with the regimes of whichever MS they are selling into.

- Timeshare contracts made in UK law will offer consumers the same protections

- UK businesses selling timeshare in the UK will not have to take any action

- Businesses selling into EU MS should keep apprised of any future changes in EU MS laws

Sources: Consumer rights if there’s no Brexit deal - Available [here](#)
Further advice and guidance on action to take

Source of material in this section
Consumer rights if there's no Brexit deal - Available [here](#)

Additional information beyond this presentation
There may be other issues not addressed in this material

In some areas, policy content is still being developed

Please visit [gov.uk/euexit](#) for the latest information
EU membership means freedom of movement, EU/EEA/Swiss citizens do not need a visa to make short-term trips to the UK (personal or business)

EU/EEA/Swiss nationals currently have an unrestricted ability to study in the UK and are free to work without restrictions both during and after study

No limit on the number of international students who can come to study in the UK

Non-EU/EEA/Swiss students must apply for a Tier 4 visa except if they are coming to study for a short course (6 or 11 months) for which there is a short term study visa

Sources: The UK’s future skills-based immigration system - Available here
EU-UK business mobility: what is staying the same

In a no deal scenario, EU/EEA/Swiss citizens will still be able to enter the UK for up to 3 months, to work, visit or study, without requiring a visa (personal or business). European Temporary Leave to Remain is available for those wishing to stay beyond 3 months.
EEA & Swiss citizens will continue to have visa free access to the UK

The UK has a wide range of visa-free “fly-in fly-out” permitted business activities

In the event of no deal, the European Commission has proposed granting UK citizens visa-free travel to the EU, conditional upon the UK granting reciprocal and non-discriminatory visa-free travel for all EU Member States. Under these conditions, UK citizens will be permitted visa free travel in the EU/EEA for business meetings, training, sports/cultural events and short-term study for up to 90 days in any 180 day period.

Should UK citizens need to undertake activities not listed above or intend to stay beyond 90 days in any 180 day period, they should check with the host country authorities as visa and work/resident permit requirements vary between EEA and EU countries.

Sources: European Commission’s proposal - Available [here](#)
EU-Uk students in the event of the UK leaving the EU with no deal

EU nationals entering the UK to study for more than three months would need to apply for European Temporary Leave to Remain and, if intending to stay for more than three years, might need to apply for a visa to cover any period of stay beyond three years.

The UK Government announced that EU nationals (and their family members) who start a course in England in the 2019/20 academic year or before will remain eligible for ‘home fee’ status and undergraduate and postgraduate financial support from Student Finance England for the duration of their course provided they meet the existing residency requirement.
UK students in the EU

The government will need to reach agreement with the EU for UK organisations to continue participating in Erasmus+ and ESC projects and is seeking to hold these discussions with the EU. If discussions with the Commission to secure UK organisations’ continued ability to participate in the programme are unsuccessful, the government will engage with Member States and key institutions to seek to ensure UK participants can continue with their planned activity.

UK citizens wishing to continue education in the EU should check the immigration requirements of the education institution and Member State they wish to study in.

Sources: Further financial support for UK and EU students - Available here
The UK’s participation in the current Erasmus+ programme and European Solidarity Corps (ESC) - Available here
EU-UK students: Immigration requirements from 2021 onwards

EU students will in future be treated in the same way as students from the rest of the world regarding immigration controls
EU students treated in same way as rest of world

Need to demonstrate same eligibility requirements as current non-EU/EEA students

No limit on the number of international students who can come to study in the UK

EU/EEA students study for up to 30 days without a visa - short-term visa for 6 month courses

Increased post-study leave period (to six months) for Masters and Bachelors students.

Sources: The UK’s Immigration White Paper (outlines changes to student visa rules)- Available [here](#)
Further advice and guidance on action to take

Source of material in this section

EU Exit information for UK nationals in the event of no deal - [here](#)

European Commission proposal on visa-free travel to the EU for UK nationals - [here](#)

Foreign travel advice for all countries - [here](#)

Erasmus+ in the UK in no deal - [here](#)

Additional information beyond this presentation

There may be other issues not addressed in this material

In some areas, more information will be published on GOV.UK

Please visit [gov.uk/euexit](http://gov.uk/euexit) for the latest information
How things work today

**MRPQ Directive** sets out reciprocal framework of rules that facilitates recognition of qualifications for EEA and Swiss nationals in a state other than that in which it was awarded.

General system recognition based on equivalence of qualifications. Applies to engineers, teachers etc.

Automatic system recognition based on minimum training requirements or professional experience.

Also provides a mechanism for those who want to work on a temporary or occasional basis in another EEA state or Switzerland.

Sources: Providing services including those of a qualified professional if there’s no Brexit deal- Available [here](#)
Recognition of qualifications in a No Deal Scenario: what is changing?

Current system of reciprocal recognition of professional qualifications no longer applies

Equivalent EEA and Swiss Qualifications in scope, content and level will be recognised

Regulators are no longer obligated to offer aptitude tests or supervised work experience for non-equivalent EEA or Swiss qualifications
Reciprocal recognition of qualifications stops

New system will be in force for exit day

Recognition decisions received in the UK before exit will remain valid

Recognition decisions ongoing at exit will be decided under the rules in place prior to exit as far as possible

Applications submitted after exit day will be subject to a new system

Sources: Providing services including those of a qualified professional if there’s no Brexit deal - Available [here](#)
EEA lawyers will be the treated same as third country lawyers after Exit Day

- Lawyers already admitted to the UK profession will be able to continue to practice as they currently do now.
- Lawyers who have applied for admission to the UK profession by exit day will be allowed to continue the application process under pre-exit rules.
- Transition period until Dec 2020 for lawyers who registered as Registered European Lawyers before Exit Day, to transfer to UK title.

Sources: Providing services including those of a qualified professional if there's no Brexit deal - Available [here](#)
EEA lawyers will be the treated same as third country lawyers after Exit Day

EEA Lawyers who do not transfer to UK title will continue to be able to provide services in unreserved activities. EEA Lawyers who own a firm may need to amend their business structure to meet regulatory rules in England & Wales

Swiss Lawyers will be able to continue to practice as they do now, both on a permanent and temporary basis, provided they meet the conditions set out in the UK-Switzerland Separation Agreement
Further advice and guidance on action to take

Source of material in this section
Providing services including those of a qualified professional if there’s no Brexit deal- Available [here](#)

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Please visit [gov.uk/euexit](http://gov.uk/euexit) for the latest information
Send further questions on these and other issues to sed@beis.gov.uk

Please visit euexit.campaign.gov.uk for more information