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Dear all,

JOINT LETTER TO WELSH BUSINESSES ON READINESS TO EU TRANSITION

The UK has left the EU. On 31 December the Transition Period will end and we will leave the single market and the customs union.

New rules for business with the EU start on 1 January 2021. There will be changes that business must prepare for. Time is running out. You need to prepare your business now.

Both our governments are fully committed to supporting business in Wales to prepare, and some key UK government and Welsh Government links are enclosed with this letter.

There are actions your business needs to take and you can find guidance and support on:

- **GOV.UK/transition**
- **Businesswales.gov.wales/eu-transition-portal**
- Your business will have to make changes to ensure continued flow of people, data, goods and services between the UK and the EU. These actions are required for businesses in Wales and right across the UK:
 - If you sell goods to the EU you must prepare for new customs procedures.
 - If you travel to the EU for work purposes you will need to check if you need a visa or work permit and apply if necessary.
 - If you employ overseas nationals you will need a visa or work permit and apply if necessary.
- If you are a UK business or organisation that receives personal data from contacts in the European Economic Area (EEA), you may need to take extra steps to ensure that the data can continue to flow legally at the end of the Transition Period.
- If you provide services in the EU, you must ensure that your qualifications are now recognised by EU regulations to be able to practice or service clients in the EU.



UK Government
Llywodraeth y DU



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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We understand the impact Covid-19 has had on businesses' ability to prepare. We know it isn't always easy to plan ahead given the daily challenges you are facing. But more and more businesses in Wales are making the preparations they need in order to be ready and, with less than a month remaining until the Transition Period ends, our ask is that you take time now to get your business ready.

We will be jointly hosting a webinar to talk directly to business in Wales about the challenges and opportunities that the end of the Transition Period presents. It will take place on **10 December 2020, 11.30am – 12.15pm** and you can register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/eu-transition-discussion-with-both-uk-and-welsh-government-tickets-131464123733>. We look forward to seeing you there.

Best wishes,

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The End of the Transition Period: Action to Take and Guidance to Look For

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Action</i>	<i>Guidance</i>
Business that have staff working between the UK and EU	If you travel to the EU for work purposes after 31 December 2020 you may need a visa or work permit. Visit GOV.UK/transition to find out what to do.	https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021/business-travel-extra-requirements
Businesses that employ staff from the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free movement is ending and the UK is introducing a new points-based immigration system. • The way you hire from the EU is changing. • From 1 January 2021, 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. • 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>Find out more on GOV.UK</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>https://gov.wales/preparing-wales/eu-citizens</p>



<p>Businesses that transfer data between the UK and the EU</p>	<p>Prepare for new rules around personal data. If you receive personal data from the EU for business use, you may need to take action on data protection. Find out more at GOV.UK/transition.</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/using-personal-data-after-brexit</p>
<p>Businesses that import and export goods.</p>	<p>To continue to trade with the EU after 31 December 2020, you will need to follow new rules for 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. • Decide how you want to make customs declarations and whether you need to get someone to deal with customs for you. 	<p>https://www.gov.uk/eori https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appoint-someone-to-deal-withcustoms-on-your-behalf https://www.gov.uk/prepare-toexport-from-great-britain-fromjanuary-2021 https://www.gov.uk/guidance/helpand-support-if-your-businesstrades-with-the-eu</p>
<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 after 31 December 2020 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/getyour-eea-qualification-recognisedin-the-uk-from-1-january-2021</p>



Travelling to the EU	<p>From 1 January 2021 there will be new rules to travel to Europe. Things you may need to do before you go include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Check the validity of your passport.• Get travel insurance that covers your healthcare.• Check you have the right driving documents.• Organise pet travel - contact your vet at least 4 months before you go.• Check roaming policies with your mobile provider before travelling.	<p>https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021</p>
Staying in the UK if you're an EU citizen	<p>Check if you need to apply to the EU settlement scheme (EUSS) if you or your family are from the EU, or from Switzerland, Norway, Iceland or Liechtenstein.</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/staying-uk-eu-citizen</p> <p>https://gov.wales/preparing-wales/eu-citizens</p>
Continuing living or working in the EU	<p>Living and working in EU, EEA EFTA, Switzerland and Ireland depends on the rules in that country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You may need to register or apply for residency.• You should check that you're covered for healthcare.• You may also need to 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>