

# Department for Exiting the European Union (DExEU)

## Strategic Asset Management Plan - Executive Summary

### **Key Statistics**

DExEU does not hold any property assets, as it occupies buildings owned by other government departments.

DExEU is located across five locations in Whitehall covering 4839.9 sq m, which includes offices in

- 70 Whitehall (913.9 sq.m),
- MOD Main Building (1751 sq.m),
- 100 Parliament Street and 1 Horseguards Road (2175 sq.m),
- with Ministers in 9 Downing Street.

The estate running cost in 2018/19 was £6.58 million

We anticipate the same spend on rent/rates for the financial year 2019/20.

### **Our Business**

DExEU was established on 14 July 2016 and is responsible for overseeing negotiations to leave the European Union and establishing the future relationship between the UK and EU.

DExEU is a ministerial department - further information is available in our Single Departmental Plan<sup>1</sup>.

Our objectives are to:

1. Achieve the best possible outcome for the UK's departure from the EU; and build a new ambitious, deep and special future partnership between the UK and the EU
2. Coordinate delivery and legislation across government, to ensure the UK is prepared for all scenarios, including a smooth transition to our future relationship with the European Union
3. Engage with Parliament, Member States and interested parties at home and abroad to shape a successful exit from the EU and to help build an ambitious future relationship
4. Attract, develop and retain diverse and great people to organise ourselves flexibly and to deliver our objectives effectively and efficiently

Over this parliamentary period, we will work with the devolved administrations, Parliament, EU Member States and Institutions and a wide range of other interested parties throughout the negotiations to leave the EU.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/department-for-exiting-the-european-union-single-departmental-plan>

We will lead and coordinate cross-government work to seize the opportunities and ensure a smooth process of exit, including the required domestic legislation, on the best possible terms. DExEU will continue its work across Whitehall and in Brussels to coordinate European business, exercise the UK's rights and meet its obligations as a member of the EU until we exit;

### ***Our Estate***

As a department with a time bound agenda, all of the space occupied by the department is rented from other government departments. In total DExEU occupies space across five buildings in Whitehall:

- 100 Parliament Street
- 1 Horse Guards Road
- 70 Whitehall
- 9 Downing Street
- MoD Main Building

The department's approach to property has necessarily been led by the availability of office space in the Whitehall campus. This has led to being split across several sites, but these are within a 5 minute walk and don't create a significant impact on the operations of the department.

The estates strategy of the department is to consolidate the estate where possible, to strengthen business operations and promote co-location. We plan to work closely with the Government Property Agency (GPA) to manage our exit from these accommodations on the completion of the department's business.

We work closely with the landlord departments and have been supported by the GPA since April 2019 - ensuring that our accommodation is fit for purpose, both in terms of being sufficient in size for the number of staff, as well as being suitable for the needs of a dynamic and fast paced workforce.

DExEU has a small retained property function, supported by a shared service arrangement with GPA, who provide strategic property advice and support.

We will place particular emphasis on supporting the development of our Intelligent Client Function (ICF) to ensure that our business needs are captured and managed effectively by GPA.

The department will support the GPA's objectives to deliver a significant estate transformation/reform programme by optimising their space and negotiating short-term and flexible arrangements with their government landlords to meet the changing demand of the department over the next 18 months.

### **Sustainability**

As a coordinating department, DExEU's policies continue to have a negligible direct impact upon sustainable development, climate change adaptation and rural proofing, and

implications on wider government policy arising as a result of exiting the EU are managed within the department(s) owning the relevant policy.

DExEU occupies space within buildings owned by other government departments; namely Cabinet Office, MoD and HMRC. Metrics relating to the department's occupation of these premises, such as carbon emissions, waste, paper consumption and water consumption are captured in the respective Annual Reports of the landlord departments/GPA.

### **Smarter Working**

We are working on adoption of smarter working and have completed a baseline self-assessment of maturity based on PAS3000. In addition, we have developed an implementation plan and working group. We continue to work closely with GPA to develop this across the four pillars to the required standard.

### ***Our Capability***

Since onboarding to GPA, our role is to act as an ICF, i.e. we will work with and oversee delivery by our partners in the GPA. In particular, we will focus on areas such as consistency and quality of accommodation.

Our aspiration is to continue the development of our capability to provide the department with a strategic, high performing estate function, aligned to our business, and delivering operational excellence.

Our workforce planning has therefore assessed and identified our capability needs over this forthcoming period. The department places a heavy emphasis on its professional capability and is committed to the appointment and training of professionally qualified staff in its property professional roles.

Over the period to 2020 we will support our people across our Whitehall sites, enabling staff to work more collaboratively together across our offices, with modern working environments, more efficient use of space and reduced costs.

Our smarter working strategy will support us to transform our culture and reconfigure working practices, physical environments and behaviours. Our strategy, and the programme that will deliver it, is committed to improving the wellbeing of our staff, through enhancing work-life balance, engagement and productivity of our most valuable assets: our people. In turn, we hope to attract and develop great people and organise ourselves flexibly to deliver our objectives efficiently and effectively.