

Brexit Update

Research Briefing

08 July 2019



The Assembly and

BREXIT

The National Assembly for Wales is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people, makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

National Assembly for Wales
Senedd Research

Brexit Update

Research Briefing

08 July 2019

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Copies of this document can also be obtained in accessible formats including Braille, large print, audio or hard copy from:

National Assembly for Wales
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

Tel: **0300 200 6565**

Email: Nigel.Barwise@Assembly.Wales

Twitter: [@SeneddResearch](https://twitter.com/SeneddResearch)

Blog: SeneddResearch.blog

LinkedIn: [Senedd Research, National Assembly for Wales](https://www.linkedin.com/company/Senedd-Research-National-Assembly-for-Wales)

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BREXIT

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Introduction

This paper provides an update on the most recent developments on Brexit of relevance to Wales. It includes sections on the work of the Assembly and Welsh Government; EU; UK; and Scotland and Ireland. The period covered is 18 June – 3 July 2019, although reference is made to later events where information is available at time of final drafting.

Developments in Wales

National Assembly for Wales

External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee

The External Affairs and Additional Legislation (EAAL) Committee is the lead Committee in the Assembly for co-ordinating the Brexit-related activities of Committees.

The EAAL Committee is currently undertaking work on **Changes to Freedom of Movement after Brexit: the implications for Wales** and **follow-up work on Brexit preparedness**.

The most recent sessions of the EAAL Committee were:

- 24 June: The Committee held a scrutiny session with the Romanian Ambassador on the Romanian Presidency of the EU Council. **Transcript**.
- 1 July: The Committee met in private.

On 24 May the Committee published its third report on international agreements: **Report on the agreement on trade in goods between Iceland, Norway and the UK**. On 19 June the Chair **wrote to the Counsel General and Brexit Minister about Brexit preparedness in Wales**.

Plenary

19 June: **Debate on Leaving the European Union**.

26 June: **Questions to the Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language**

The Research Service's own blogs are published on **In Brief**. The latest Brexit blog is:

- New Publication: Brexit Monitoring Report - Environment June 2019**

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee is has an inquiry into **Environmental principles and governance post-Brexit**, and is considering the Welsh provisions in the **UK Government's Agriculture Bill**. In June the Committee published its **Report on the Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum for the Agriculture Bill**.

The Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee publish reports on Subordinate Legislation relating to the UK's exit from the EU. They can be found on the **Committee's webpages**. In June the Committee published its report **The Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No 2) on the Agriculture Bill**.

Welsh Government

17 June: **Chaotic no deal Brexit threatens the future of the UK warns Jeremy Miles**.

17 June: **Brexit and Devolution speech by the Counsel General and Brexit Minister**.

20 June: **Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C**.

22 June: **3 years on, there remains no mandate for no deal**.

24 June: **Written Statement: Valuable contribution of EU nationals in Wales**.

24 June: **Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C**.

24 June: **£3 million EU funds to support new Social Business Wales project**.

24 June: **Brexit preparedness**.

26 June: **Written Statement: Minister International Relations and the Welsh Language Visit to Dublin 13 June 2019**.

26 June: **Inward investment projects create and safeguard 3,700 jobs in Wales in the last year - new figures show**.

26 June: **Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C**.

27 June: **Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C**.

28 June: **Over £3 million investment for Lampeter's new Social Enterprise Centre**.

28 June: **Joint statement from First Ministers of Wales and Scotland - Future PM must rule out no deal Brexit**.

28 June: British Irish Council in Manchester - **Communiqué**.

28 June: **No deal Brexit and EU funded projects**

2 July: **Is your business ready for no deal? If not, you're running out of time.**

2 July: **Written Statement on extensions of the EU funded Communities for Work and Parents Childcare and Employment programmes.**

2 July: **£29 million EU funding to break down employment barriers.**

News

17 June: **Fears for the future - FUW calls for good governance to ensure stability for the family farmers of Wales.**

24 June: **Brexit warnings still relevant three years on says FUW.**

24 June: **Future payments must be capped at far lower level says FUW.**

25 June: **Tory leadership candidates asked to back five pledges for the rural economy** (CLA)

1 July: **CLA responds to proposals for a relief programme for farming in case of 'no deal' Brexit.**

2 July: **FUW welcomes moves to increase supply chain transparency.**

EU Developments

European Council

19 June: **Invitation letter by President Donald Tusk to the members of the European Council ahead of their meeting on 20 and 21 June 2019.**

20-21 June: **European Council conclusions; Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the European Council meeting on 20 June 2019.**

26 June: **Joint letter of Presidents Donald Tusk and Jean-Claude Juncker on the upcoming G20 summit.**

29 June: **G20 Osaka Leaders' Declaration.**

2 July: **European Council appoints new EU leaders**

2 July: **European Council conclusions, 30 June - 2 July 2019**

2 July: **Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the special meeting of the European Council on 30 June - 2 July 2019**

European Commission

The Commission has published '**Brexit preparedness notes**' on the legal and practical implications of the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union - subject to any transitional arrangement that may be contained in a possible withdrawal agreement.

17 June: **2019 Innovation Scoreboards: The innovation performance of the EU and its regions is increasing.**

18 June: **Energy Union: Commission calls on Member States to step up ambition in plans to implement Paris agreement.**

18 June: **Reply from Michel Barnier, Chief Negotiator, to Steve Barclay, Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, on citizens' rights.**

21 June: **Mapping of North-South cooperation & Implementation Bodies, Report and key findings of the exercise.**

27 June: **State aid: Commission invites comments on simplified rules for State**

aid combined with EU support

28 June: **Remarks by President Juncker at the joint press conference with President Tusk ahead of the G20 Summit**

28 June: **EU and Mercosur reach agreement on trade.**

29 June: **Remarks by President Juncker at the joint press conference with President Macri in the presence of EU and Mercosur leaders**

30 June: **Joint press statement by EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström and Minister of Industry and Trade Tran Tuan Anh on the occasion of the signing of the Free Trade Agreement and the Investment Protection Agreement between Vietnam and the EU**

European Parliament

2 July: **Constitution of the 9th legislature of the European Parliament.**

2 July: **Parliament starts new term with seven political groups**

3 July: **MEPs elect David Sassoli as Parliament President.**

3 July: **The new European Parliament Vice-Presidents.**

UK Developments

UK Government

18 June: **Treaty on voting rights signed with Luxembourg.**

18 June: **Costa Amendment: Correspondence with the EU institutions**

20 June: **Technical advisory group on alternative arrangements to the backstop established.**

26 June: **Business group established to look at Brexit backstop alternatives.**

House of Commons

18 June: Urgent question on **EU/British Citizens' Rights.**

18 June: Westminster Hall debate: **Diplomatic Representation in Wales.**

19 June: Scotland questions: **Leaving the EU; Intergovernmental Relations; The Union; Fisheries Bill.**

19 June: **Prime Ministers questions.**

20 June: Environment, Food and Rural Affairs questions: **Leaving the EU: Food Shortages; Seasonal Agricultural Workers Pilot Scheme; Leaving the EU: Fisheries Policy.**

24 June: **Prime Minister's statement on the European Council.**

26 June: Wales questions: **Leaving the EU: Manufacturing; EU Withdrawal Agreement; Welsh Economy.**

26 June: **Prime Ministers questions.**

26 June: Westminster Hall debate: **EU Structural Funds: Least Developed Regions.**

27 June: 14 Exiting the European Union questions, starting with: **Future Relationship: Public Vote.**

2 July: Treasury questions: **Leaving the EU: Scotland; Shared Prosperity Fund.**

3 July: Northern Ireland questions: **Devolved Government: Restoration: Leaving the EU: Talks on Restoring Devolution; Being Part of the UK: Benefits.**

3 July: **Prime Ministers Questions.**

3 July Prime Minister's statement on the **G20 and Leadership of EU Institutions.**

Committees

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs:

19 June: **Letter to the Secretary of State on the department's preparations for negotiating UK-EU fisheries agreements following Brexit.**

27 June: **Government must be more ambitious in building Britain's global brand for food and drink** – Report: **Brand Britain: promoting British food and drink.**

European Scrutiny:

25 June: **68th Report - Documents considered by the Committee on 19 June 2019.**

2 July: **European Scrutiny Committee launches inquiry examining post-Brexit scrutiny of EU law and policy**

2 July: **69th Report - Documents considered by the Committee on 26 June 2019.**

European Statutory Instruments:

19 June: **Instruments to be considered on 2 July.**

3 July: **Instruments to be considered on 16 July.**

Exiting the EU:

19 June: **Impact of no-deal departure on UK pharmaceutical, chemical, higher education and research sectors examined. Transcript.**

20 June: **UK Government documents relating to 'mapping exercise' examining North-South cooperation on the island of Ireland published:**

- **North-South Cooperation on Healthcare: Draft UK Non-Paper to Support Scoping Work.**

- **North-South Cooperation Scoping Exercise.**

- **Letter from Hilary Benn to David Lidington, 17 June 2019.**

- **Letter from David Lidington to Hilary Benn, 18 June 2019.**

20 June: **Letter from Foreign Secretary on citizens' rights**

26 June: **Impact of no-deal departure on UK services industries discussed. Transcript.s**

3 July: **Committee hears from UK and EU citizens ahead of October deadline**

Home Affairs:

26 June: **Written evidence from the Home Office** on the inquiry into the work of the Home Secretary.

27 June: **Transcript of oral evidence session with the Home Secretary on his work, including Brexit preparations.**

International Trade:

25 June: **Committee considers potential impact of future UK-US Free Trade Agreement on NHS services.**

27 June: **Letter from Secretary of State on 'roll-over' of EU Free Trade Agreements**

3 July: **Secretary of State updates Committee on 'roll-over' of EU Free Trade Agreements**

Northern Ireland Affairs:

24 June: **Alternative arrangements to the backstop examined. Transcript.**

Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs:

20 June: **Letter to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster on follow-up to the Devolution and Exiting EU report.**

Scottish Affairs:

20 June: **Government response to the Committee's report on Scotland, Trade and Brexit**

10 July: Evidence Session on the work of the Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland.

Welsh Affairs:

8 July: **Committee questions Ford on closure of Ford Bridgend plant**

House of Lords

18 June: Statement on **British Citizens' Rights**.

19 June: Question on **Brexit: Border Controls**.

20 June: Question on **Brexit: Discussions with the European Union**.

24 June: Statement on the **European Council**.

1 July: Question on the **EU: Law-making Process**.

2 July: Question on **Brexit: Other Policy Areas**.

2 July: Short Debate in Grand Committee: **European Union-Western Balkans Summit**.

3 July: Motion: **Appointment of a 'No-deal Brexit' Joint Committee**.

Committees**Constitution:**

24 June: **Letter from the Secretary of State for Exiting the EU on the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill**

EU Select:

19 June: **Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster David Lidington MP questioned. Transcript.**

27 June: **Parliament needs a bigger role in scrutinising international agreements** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements: lessons learned.**

EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee:

19 June: **Committee hears evidence on the impact of Brexit on refugees. Transcript.**

2 July: **Committee examines legal implications of asylum cooperation after Brexit**

EU Internal Market Sub-Committee:

20 June: **Brexit and State aid: British Steel case discussed.**

EU Justice Sub-Committee:

25 June: **Written evidence from Edward Argar MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice on the inquiry into rights after Brexit.**

26 June: **Human rights protection at risk after Brexit warns Committee – Letter to David Gauke.**

News

10 June: **Discards ban is working – Unwanted catches are being reduced** (Fishing News)

17 June: **BCC Forecast: Brexit stockpiling to hit economic growth in coming years.**

17 June: **Prevent no-deal Brexit and safeguard the NHS, RCGP urges Tory leader hopefuls** (Royal College of General Practitioners)

18 June: **UK led towards no-deal Brexit by untruthful elite, says ex-EU envoy** (Guardian)

20 June: **Bojo's Brexit plan will not work, Dutch PM Mark Rutte warns** (Reuters)

20 June: **Air freight must be prioritised in government's aviation strategy** (FTA)

21 June: **'Withdrawal Agreement not open for renegotiation': Tusk & Merkel deliver Brexit blow to Tories** (Reuters)

22 June: **Alternative arrangements: Holy grail or fig leaf?** (RTÉ)

24 June: Prosperity UK's Alternative Arrangements Commission published its **Alternative Arrangements for the Irish Border Interim Report**.

24 June: **EU deplors UK 'voting obstacles' in May European elections**.

24 June: **Logistics businesses struggle to fund Brexit preparations, according to FTA report**.

24 June: **BCC comments on review of immigration proposals**.

25 June: **Retailers see fastest drop in sales since Financial Crisis - CBI**.

26 June: **FTA chosen to advise on Northern Ireland Brexit preparations**.

27 June: **Brexit contingency plans not up to scratch** (RHA)

27 June: **Japan urges UK to avoid no-deal Brexit** (BBC)

27 June: **Vauxhall Astra: Ellesmere Port manufacture 'depends on Brexit'** (BBC)

27 June: **Why the British Take Glory in Defeat** (The Atlantic)

27 June: **Business, charities, researchers and universities unite to appeal to next Prime Minister** (CBI)

30 June: **Sharpest fall in private sector activity since 2012 - CBI Growth Indicator**.

1 July: **CLA responds to proposals for a relief programme for farming in case of 'no deal' Brexit**.

1 July: **BCC Quarterly Economic Survey Q2 2019**: UK growth stalling amid manufacturing slowdown.

1 July: **Make UK comment on today's PMI data**.

2 July: **BCC comments on Lord Heseltine's report on future of devolution**.

3 July: **Government needs to do more to prepare firms for a 'no-deal' Brexit** (RHA)

Scotland

Scottish Parliament

Brexit Update: **26 June**.

Scottish Parliament Information Centre: **Negotiating the future UK-EU relationship after a no-deal Brexit**.

19 June: Finance and Constitution Committee: Evidence taking on the **UK Internal Market**, and on **Structural Fund Priorities (Post-Brexit Funding)**.

26 June: Finance and Constitution Committee: **Taking evidence on funding of EU Structural Fund Priorities in Scotland, post-Brexit**.

Scottish Government

16 June: **Brexit: Unheard Voices** - New report brings together views on EU exit.

28 June: **Joint Ministerial Committee: June 2019**.

28 June: **Statement from the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales**

Northern Ireland

The Assembly publishes a **[‘Brexit Brief’ newsletter and Brexit information](#)**.

[What next for the environment, Brexit and cross-border co-operation?](#)

Brexit Brief **[May 2019, June 2019](#)**.

The Assembly’s Research and Information Services has a **[Brexit Hub](#)** with information and links to resources on the subject of Brexit and Northern Ireland.

UK-Ireland relations

28 June: **[An Taoiseach attends the British Irish Council Summit in Manchester](#)**.

30 June: **[Taoiseach and Minister McEntee travel to Brussels for a special meeting of the European Council](#)**

Reports published

Houses of Commons and Lords Libraries

[The progress of the EU Settlement Scheme so far](#)

[Replacement of EU structural funds for Least Developed Regions](#)

[The UK's contribution to the EU budget](#)

[European Parliament elections 2019: results and analysis](#)

[Taking control of the order paper](#)

[Proposal for Joint Committee on the Costs and Implications for the UK of a No-Deal Brexit on 31 October 2019](#)

[Brexit: a reading list of post-EU Referendum publications by Parliament and the Devolved Assemblies](#)

[Brexit: devolved legislature business](#)

Institute for Government

[No deal Brexit could be a legal mess](#)

[Parliament's fight to control Brexit moves to government spending](#)

[Both parties need to recognise that civil service impartiality is worth protecting](#)

[The Conservative leadership contest is becoming a no deal arms race](#)

UK in a Changing Europe

[To break the Brexit impasse, the new Prime Minister must establish a cross-regional approach](#)

[How many non-EU workers have to meet the £30,000 minimum income requirement?](#)

[New academic report evaluates impacts of Brexit to date - The Brexit scorecard](#)

[Leavers may prefer Salvini's Fortress Europe to Boris's Global Britain](#)

[Beyond Brexit: the crossroads facing us all](#)

[Brexit: Australia's choices in engaging with the UK](#)

[Ambition and reality: a UK-South Korea free trade agreement](#)

[Brexit and Investment: a three year assessment](#)

[Could Brexit yet undermine the future of the British state?](#)

LSE Brexit

[Feeling vulnerable and unwelcome: the impact of Brexit on EU nationals](#)

[Long read | Brexit is an English problem](#)

[Both Northern Ireland and the UK will suffer at least 3-4 % reduction in GDP per year for a decade as a consequence of Brexit](#)

[Did we ever really understand how the EU works?](#)

[Common Travel Area Memorandum of Understanding: a Brexit consolation prize?](#)

Other

[Where Brexit goes, the law shall follow](#) - How the financial industry and the law firms that support it are preparing for what comes next (Bruegel)

[The European Parliament's composition after Brexit](#) (Open Europe)

[Brexit: 3 Years On](#) videos (Cardiff Brexit blogs)