

# **Brexit Update**

## Research Briefing

25 March 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**

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# Brexit Update

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The Assembly and

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 26 February – 19 March 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 inquiries into [How is the Welsh Government preparing for Brexit? Wales' Future Relationship with the EU and the World - Part two](#), and [EU law in Wales: What happens during the Brexit Transition?](#)

The most recent sessions of the EAAL Committee were:

- 4 March: The Committee had a scrutiny session with the Minister for International Relations and the Welsh Language. [Transcript](#).
- 11 March: The Committee held a 'Preparing for Brexit' scrutiny session with the Counsel General and Brexit Minister. [Transcript](#).
- 18 March: After noting papers the Committee met in private. [Transcript](#).

On 4 March EAAL noted letters:

- from [CLAC Chair to the First Minister regarding scrutiny of Brexit-related legislation](#) - 6 February 2019.
- from [CLAC Chair to Lord Boswell regarding post-Brexit UK-EU interinstitutional relations](#) - 12 February 2019.
- from the [Minister for International Relations to the Chair regarding the UK Trade Bill – Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum](#) - 15 February 2019.
- from [Baroness Fairhead to the Chair regarding the Trade Bill](#) - 19 February 2019.
- Correspondence from the [Minister of International Relations and the Welsh Language to the Chair regarding international agreements](#) - 26 February 2019.

On 11 March EAAL noted a letter:

- from the [Counsel General and Brexit Minister to the Chair regarding UK common frameworks](#) - 1 March 2019.
- On 18 March EAAL noted:
  - Letter from the [Auditor General for Wales to stakeholders regarding a consultation on their three-year forward work programme](#) - 7 March 2019.
  - Letter from [Jeremy Miles AM to the Chair regarding the Welsh EU Exit SI programme](#) - 11 March 2019. [Annex](#).
  - [Draft clauses proposed by the Welsh Government to the Withdrawal Agreement Bill](#) - 11 March 2019.
  - Letter from [Eluned Morgan AM to the Chair regarding the UK Trade Bill: Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum EAAL Report](#) - 12 March 2019.

8 March: The Committee published its report: [The Trade Bill – second report on legislative consent and associated issues](#). The Committee also published its first report on international agreements: [Agreements considered on 4 March 2019](#).

#### Plenary

5 March: Debate on the [EU Withdrawal Negotiations](#). The debate was held at the same time as a [similar debate in the Scottish Parliament](#). The resolution was: opposition to the Withdrawal Agreement, rejection of 'no-deal', extension of the Article 50 period.

6 March: [Debate on the Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee report: Inter-Institutional relations agreement between the National Assembly for Wales and the Welsh Government](#).

12 March: [Legislative Consent Motion on the Trade Bill and Legislative Consent Motion on the Healthcare \(International Arrangements\) Bill](#).

13 March: [Emergency Question: The Welsh Government's policy on Brexit and Statement by the Chair of the Culture, Welsh Language and Communications Committee: The effect of Brexit on the arts, creative industries, heritage and the Welsh language](#).

19 March: [Statement by the First Minister: Update on EU Negotiations](#).

20 March: **Questions to the Counsel General and Brexit Minister (in respect of his Brexit Minister responsibilities), and Debate on the Children, Young People and Education Committee Report: Degrees of Separation? The Impact of Brexit on Higher and Further Education.**

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

- **Assembly to debate whether to give legislative consent to the UK Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill**
- **Degrees of Separation: Debating the CYPE Committee's report on the impact of Brexit on further and higher education**
- **New Publication: Trade Bill**

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee is currently considering the Welsh provisions in the **UK Government's Agriculture Bill**.

On 1 February **the Welsh Government responded** to the Children, Young People and Education Committee's report 'Degrees of Separation?' On 26 February the **Chair wrote to the Minister for Education with the Committee's concerns about the Government's response**. The Report was discussed in plenary on 20 March.

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 January the Committee published its report **The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Agriculture Bill**. Also in January the Committee published its report on the **Inter-Institutional relations agreement between the National Assembly for Wales and the Welsh Government**.

In February the Committee published its report **The Welsh Government's Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Fisheries Bill**. Also in February the Committee published its report **Scrutiny of regulations under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018: Progress report**, and the Committee **wrote to the First Minister** regarding the scrutiny of Brexit-related legislation. In March the Committee published its report **The Welsh Government's Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum (Memorandum No 2) on the Trade Bill**.

The Health, Social Care and Sport Committee published its report on the **Legislative Consent Memorandum on the Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill** on 22 January. The LCM was agreed in plenary on 12 March.

## Welsh Government

4 March: **Scheme to help young people across south west Wales gets EU funding boost.**

4 March: **Written Statements laid under Standing Order 30C.**

5 March: **Joint statement by the first ministers of Scotland and Wales – EU exit debate.**

7 March: **Written Statement: Automotive Sector.**

8 March: **Written Statements laid under Standing Order 30C.**

11 March: **New Brexit funding announced as minister speaks up for Wales in Strasbourg.**

11 March: **Welsh Government Health Minister in Brexit impact meeting.**

11 March: **Rhondda Cynon Taf Council secures £3 million EU funds.**

11 March: **Implementing Securing Wales' Future**

12 March: **Economy Minister in Geneva for Brexit Talks with Automotive Sector.**

13 March: **£1.2m for Local Government Brexit preparations.**

13 March: **"The UK government is paralysed by Brexit" says Finance Minister following Spring Statement.**

13 March: **Written Statement: Welsh Government response to the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Spring Statement.**

14 March: **Written Statement: Brexit Business Resilience.**

14 March: **Additional £1.7m to help Welsh business weather Brexit.**

14 March: **Ken Skates and automotive industry meet to discuss Welsh future.**

15 March: **No deal tariffs plan will impact Welsh ports – Ken Skates.**

15 March: **Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C.**

15 March: **Written Statement: Visit to North America.**

18 March: **Consultation on environmental principles and governance post-Brexit launched.**

18 March: **New immigration rules will hit the Welsh economy finds report.**

18 March: **Written Statement: Core Valley Lines asset transfer - updated 'no deal' Brexit risk assessment.**

18 March: **Written Statement: Environmental Principles and Governance in Wales Post European Union Exit.**

19 March: **Plenary statement on EU negotiations**

## News

27 February: **FUW meets key EU figures as Brexit countdown reaches 30 days.**

28 February: **Farmers need stability and clarity on Brexit calamity** (FUW)

1 March: **US trade deal must not undermine our farming standards, NFU Cymru says.**

6 March: **Welsh meat industry warning on post-Brexit recruitment** (BBC)

6 March: **FUW seeks further assurance on protecting vulnerable sectors post-Brexit following tariff cut reports.**

11 March: **Revoke Article 50 for smooth Brexit maintains FUW.**

12 March: **NFU Cymru responds to the Prime Minister's defeat in the meaningful vote.**

13 March: **Revealed tariffs highlight need for refusing no-deal Brexit, says FUW.**

13 March: **NFU Cymru responds to publication of 'No-deal' import tariff schedule.**

13 March: **CLA responds to meaningful vote result as potential tariff regime is published.**

14 March: **Post Brexit Policy for Agriculture Must Be Better Not Just Different** (TFA)

14 March: **Urgent amendment to Withdrawal Act needed to respect democracy, says FUW.**

18 March: **1.6% hit to Welsh economy from UK immigration plans - Migration in Wales The impact of post-Brexit policy changes** (Wales Centre for Public Policy)

18 March: **FUW seeks clarification on tariff proposals that appear to breach WTO rules.**

21 March: WLGA - **Local Authority Brexit Exposure Dashboards.**

27 March: **Wales in a Post-Brexit world**, Welsh Centre for International Affairs, Temple of Peace, Cardiff, 17:45 to 20:00.

## EU Developments

### European Council

19 February: **The Withdrawal Agreement and the Political Declaration, Official Journal of the European Union.**

26 February: **Basic road connectivity in the event of no-deal Brexit – provisional agreement with Parliament.**

5 March: **Western Waters fisheries: Council gives go-ahead to multiannual management plan.**

6 March: **Railway safety and connectivity with the UK in the event of a no-deal Brexit – Council agrees its position.**

14 March: Council President Donald Tusk **tweeted** that he would ‘appeal to the EU27 to be open to a long extension if the UK finds it necessary to rethink its Brexit strategy and build consensus around it’.

19 March: **Brexit: Council adopts a series of contingency measures for a “no-deal” scenario.** Social security coordination; Erasmus+ and PEACE programmes **Ensuring the continuation of Erasmus+ activities in the event of no-deal Brexit;** Fisheries; Transport; dual use items.

20 March: Council President Donal Tusk **stated in a speech** that he believes that a short extension to Article 50 will be possible, but it will be conditional on a positive vote on the Withdrawal Agreement in the House of Commons.

### 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.

27 February: **European Semester Winter Package: assessing Member States’ progress on economic and social priorities.** Country Report - **United Kingdom.**

7 March: **March infringements package:** key decisions.

7 March: **International Women’s Day 2019: more equality, but change is too slow.**

11 March: **Remarks by President Jean-Claude Juncker at today’s joint press conference with UK Prime Minister Theresa May.**

11 March: **Letter from the President of the European Commission to the President of the European Council.**

11 March: **Joint Statement supplementing the Political Declaration setting out the framework for the future relationship between the European Union and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.**

11 March: **Instrument relating to the agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community.**

11 March: **Commission Communication on the endorsement by the Commission of the results of the discussions with the United Kingdom on Interpretative Declarations related to the Agreement on the withdrawal of the UK from the EU and Euratom.**

12 March: **Commission reviews relations with China, proposes 10 actions.**

13 March: **EU budget for 2021-2027: Commission welcomes the provisional agreement on funding for the environment and climate action.**

13 March: **Speech by First Vice-President Timmermans on behalf of President Juncker at the Plenary Session of the European Parliament on the Preparation of the European Council meeting of 21-22 March 2019 and the UK’s withdrawal from the EU.**

### European Parliament

26 February: **Protecting citizens’ access to social security in case of no-deal Brexit.**

1 March: **New seat projections for the next European Parliament.**

12 March: **From farms to supermarkets: MEPs approve new EU rules against unfair trading.**

13 March: **UK must make clear what it wants, MEPs say in Brexit debate.**

13 March: **Statement by Michel Barnier at the European Parliament Plenary session**

## News

26 February: **Hard Brexit could wipe at least 0.5 percent off German GDP: BDI** (Reuters)

1 March: **Ivan Rogers on Brexit “What Surprises Me Is the Extent of the Mess”** (Der Spiegel)

4 March: **Dear Europe, Brexit is a lesson for all of us: it’s time for renewal** - Emmanuel Macron (Guardian)

7 March: **The Commission erred in law by refusing to register the European citizens’ initiative aimed at improving the situation of national minority regions** (Court of Justice of the European Union)

8 March: **Douanebaas calls every company to a brexitpauze** - ‘Who are we as customs to give the business world instructions? But we are still asking the SMEs and all other parties to wait. Do the necessary export to your customers before March 29th.’ (De Tijd, machine translation)

20 March: **Why Brexiteers forgot about the Border** - British tendency to ignore North has brought Brexit dream to its knees (former Vote Leave staffer Oliver Norgrove, in the Irish Times)

## UK Developments

### UK Government

25 February: **UK and Switzerland sign citizens’ rights agreement**.

26 February: **Ministerial Forum communiqué : 25 February 2019**. This summarises the eighth meeting of the Ministerial Forum (EU Negotiations), which was held in Cardiff. Jeremy Miles AM attended.

26 February: **Implications for business and trade of a no deal exit on 29 March 2019**.

26 February update: **Staying in the UK for longer than 3 months if there’s no Brexit deal** - Guidance for EU, EEA and Swiss citizens coming to the UK to visit, study, work or join family if the UK leaves the EU with no deal.

26 February update: **Letters on no deal Brexit advice for businesses only trading with the EU** - HMRC letters to VAT-registered businesses only trading with the EU explaining how to prepare for changes to customs, excise and VAT if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

26 February: **PM statement to the House of Commons on Brexit**.

27 February: **WTO agreement [Agreement on Government Procurement] secures £1.3 trillion market for British contractors**.

1 March update: **UK nationals living in the EU: essential information**.

5 March: **Costa Amendment: Letter to the EU Institutions** - Secretary of State Steve Barclay has written to EU negotiator Michel Barnier seeking views on ring-fencing the citizens’ rights part of the Withdrawal Agreement whatever the outcome of negotiations.

6 March: **Workers’ rights to be protected in UK law** - Parliament, trade unions and businesses will be given a new and enhanced role in shaping the future of workers’ rights after Brexit.

7 March: **International Agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal** - The UK is taking steps to deliver continuity across a number of international agreements that we currently participate in as a member of the EU.

8 March: **Changes to SPC and patent law if UK leaves the EU without a deal.**

8 March: **Prime Minister Theresa May gave a speech on Brexit in Grimsby.**

11 March: **Commonwealth Day 2019: PM message.**

11 March: **EU and UN partnership vital for rules-based international system** - Statement by Stephen Hickey, UK Political Coordinator at the UN, at the Security Council briefing on UN/EU cooperation.

11 March: **Critical goods for government-secured freight capacity** - Medicines, medical devices, vaccines, baby milk, blood organs; Veterinary medicines; Critical chemicals or consumables used within the energy sector.

11 March: **Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration laid before Parliament following political agreement.**

12 March: Attorney General's **Legal Opinion on Joint Instrument and Unilateral Declaration concerning the Withdrawal Agreement.**

12 March: **PM statement in the House of Commons.**

12 March update: Prepare to drive in the EU after Brexit: **lorry and goods vehicle drivers; all drivers.**

12 March update: **French customs guidance after Brexit.**

13 March: The UK Government's '**temporary**' arrangements for avoiding a hard border on the island of Ireland in the event of a 'no deal' Brexit. It also published its **temporary tariff schedule** for imports into the UK, which will come into effect from 11pm on 29 March in the event of a 'no deal' Brexit, along with **accompanying guidance** for businesses. **The proposed tariffs** would apply for a period of 12 months while a full consultation and review is undertaken to inform a permanent approach to tariffs.

14 March: **EU Exit: Parameters of extending Article 50.**

18 March update: **MHRA guidance and publications on a possible no deal scenario** - Information about the regulation of medicines and medical devices if the UK leaves the EU with no deal.

18 March: **Leaving the EU: advice for businesses.**

19 March: **Ireland** and **Switzerland**: providing services after EU Exit.

20 March: **Prime Minister's letter to President Tusk.**

20 March: **PM statement on Brexit: 20 March 2019.**

## House of Commons

26 February: Foreign and Commonwealth Office questions: **Leaving the EU: Diplomatic Network.**

26 February: Prime Minister's Statement and Debate on **Leaving the European Union.**

27 February: Wales questions: **International Trading Opportunities; Withdrawal Agreement Bill: Legislative Consent; Leaving the EU: Economic Support; Leaving the EU: Business Preparations.**

27 February: **Prime Ministers questions.**

27 February: Debate on the **UK's Withdrawal from the EU.**

28 February: 14 Exiting the EU questions, starting with **Cross-party Talks**, and including **Devolved Administrations: Talks.**

4 March: Urgent Question: **Eurotunnel: Payment.**

5 March: Treasury Questions on No Deal EU Exit: **Job Losses; Manufacturing Sector.**

5 March: Emergency debate: **EU Exit Preparations: Ferry Contracts.**

5 March: Westminster Hall debate: **No-deal EU Exit: Public Sector Catering.**

6 March: Northern Ireland questions: **Leaving the EU: No-Deal Preparations; EU Withdrawal Agreement: Backstop Protocol.**

6 March: **Prime Ministers questions.**

6 March: Statement: **Leaving the EU: Protection for Workers.**

7 March: Digital, Culture, Media and Sport questions: **Leaving the EU: Tourism.**

7 March: Attorney General questions: **EU Withdrawal Agreement: Northern Ireland; Leaving the EU.**

7 March: Written Statement by Stephen Barclay: **EU Exit: International Arrangements.**

11 March: Urgent Question on **EU Withdrawal Agreement: Legal Changes.**

11 March: Statement on **Exiting the European Union.**

11 March: Westminster Hall debate on a **petition about Leaving the European Union.**

12 March: Justice Questions: **European Convention on Human Rights; Leaving the EU: Departmental Priorities.**

12 March: The Attorney General presented **Withdrawal Agreement: Legal Opinion.**

12 March: Debate on the **European Union (Withdrawal) Act.** The House rejected the Withdrawal Agreement, the Political Declaration, and the 11 March Joint Statement and Instrument agreed with the European Commission.

13 March: Cabinet Office and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster questions: **Leaving the EU: No Deal; Leaving the EU: Civil Service Responsibilities.**

13 March: **Prime Ministers questions.**

13 March: The **Spring Statement.**

13 March: Debate on the **UK's Withdrawal from the European Union.** The decision was to reject leaving the European Union without a deal.

13 March: Westminster Hall debate: **Leaving the EU: Fishing.**

14 March: International Trade questions: **Trade and Investment: Switzerland; Leaving the EU: Agricultural Sector and Overseas Goods; Leaving the EU: Health Services and Legal Action; Future Trade Deals: NHS and Other Public Services; Leaving the EU: Interim Trade Tariffs.**

14 March: Debate on the **UK's Withdrawal from the European Union.** The decision was that the government should ask for an extension of the Article 50 period. If there is another vote on the Withdrawal Agreement by Wednesday 20 March, and if the vote passes, the government should ask for an extension to 30 June. If the vote is not passed "it is highly likely that the European Council at its meeting the following day would require a clear purpose for any extension, not least to determine its length, and that any extension beyond 30 June 2019 would require the United Kingdom to hold European Parliament elections in May 2019."

18 March: **Speaker's Statement.**

18 March: Urgent Question on the **Article 50 Extension Procedure.**

18 March: Motions on **Exiting the European Union (Agriculture).**

19 March: Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy questions: **Leaving the EU: Businesses in Scotland.**

19 March: Motions on **Exiting the European Union (Food and Agriculture).**

19 March: Westminster Hall debate: **Leaving the EU: Health and Social Care.**

20 March: **Prime Ministers questions.**

20 March: Urgent Question on **EU Withdrawal Joint Committee: Oversight.**

20 March: Urgent Question on **No-deal EU Exit Preparations.**

20 March: Emergency debate (Standing Order No. 24) on **Article 50 Extension.**

20 March: Motion on **Exiting the European Union (Armorial Bearings, Ensigns and Flags).**

## Committees

### Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy:

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6 March: **Chair comments on workers' rights after UK leaves EU.**

### Environment, Food and Rural Affairs:

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February: **Letter from the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the Minister's attendance at the December Fisheries Council, 25 February 2019.**

27 February: **Pre-legislative scrutiny of the Environment Bill examined.**

#### **Transcript**

6 March: **Secretary of State questioned on Pre-legislative scrutiny of the Environment Bill. Transcript.** Written evidence submitted by: **The National Trust; Sustainable Soils Alliance; Dr David Wolfe; Water UK.**

6 March: **Ministers questioned on promoting and marketing British food and drink. Transcript.** Supplementary **written evidence submitted by Agriculture & Horticulture Development Board.**

27 March: Evidence Session on Is Defra ready for Brexit? With Thérèse Coffey.

#### **Environmental Audit:**

27 February: **Evidence Session on the Draft Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill with legal experts. Transcript.**

20 March: **Secretary of State and Minister questioned on draft Environment Bill,** with Michael Gove and Thérèse Coffey.

#### **European Scrutiny:**

27 February: 56<sup>th</sup> Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 27 February 2019.**

6 March: 57<sup>th</sup> Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 6 March 2019.**

8 March: 58<sup>th</sup> Report: **The draft EU/UK Withdrawal Agreement: key legal and political questions.**

13 March: 59<sup>th</sup> Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 13 March 2019.**

#### **European Statutory Instruments:**

27 February: **Instruments to be considered by the Committee on 5 March.**

7 March: **Instruments to be considered by the Committee on 12 March.**

14 March: **Instruments to be considered by the Committee on 19 March.**

#### **Exiting the EU:**

28 February: **Letter from the Secretary of State regarding international agreements and the role of Departmental Select Committees.**

6 March: **Committee examines Parliament's role in Brexit preparations. Transcript.**

6 March: **Letter from the Secretary of State for Business regarding protecting and enhancing workers' rights after the UK's withdrawal from the European Union.**

7 March: **Letter from the Secretary of State for Exiting the European providing an update on progress to transition existing EU - third country international agreements in the event the UK leaves the EU without a deal.**

12 March: **Committee question Secretary of State ahead of second meaningful vote. Transcript.**

13 March: **Extend Article 50 and hold indicative votes to find way forward – Report: Response to the 12 March 2019 vote on the Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration: next steps for Parliament.**

#### **Home Affairs:**

26 February: **Government responds to report on Home Office preparations for Brexit.**

27 February: **Home Secretary questioned on his department's preparations for Brexit.**

26-27 February: EU Settlement Scheme inquiry written evidence: **the3million, the3million, the Home Office.**

7 March: **Letter from the Immigration Minister regarding the EU Settlement Scheme.**

#### **Human Rights:**

12 March: **Government must guarantee human rights standards in treaties post Brexit – Report: Human Rights Protections in International Agreements.**

### International Trade:

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27 February: **UK investment policy examined with academics and experts.** [Transcript](#).

27 February: UK trade in services inquiry written evidence: **Department for International Trade; EEF; techUK.**

6 March: **Liam Fox questioned by Committee.** [Transcript](#).

6 March: **Letter from the Minister of State for Trade Policy on independent trade remedies.**

13 March: Evidence Session on Trade in services. [Transcript](#).

13 March: **Chair comments on Government publication of no-deal tariff plans.**

15 March: **Lack of progress leaves roll over of EU trade agreements at “code red” – Letter to Liam Fox.**

20 March: **Committee examines post-Brexit trading relationship with Turkey.**  
Also: Evidence Session on Developments at the WTO.

### Northern Ireland Affairs:

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6 March: Evidence Session on the Implications of the EU Withdrawal Agreement and the backstop for Northern Ireland. [Transcript](#).

9 March: Report: **The Northern Ireland backstop and the border: interim report.**

20 March: **MLAs voice opinions on implications of Withdrawal Agreement for NI.**

### Public Accounts:

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12 March: **Technical solution to border possible with trust and goodwill, finds Committee** - Report: **Brexit and the UK border: further progress review.**

### Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs:

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28 February: **Cabinet Secretary and Civil Service Chief Executive questioned on Brexit preparedness.**

### Scottish Affairs:

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26 February: **Environmental priorities for Scottish agriculture considered by Committee.** [Transcript](#). Written evidence submitted by the **Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.**

5 March: Evidence Session on the relationship between the UK and Scottish Governments. [Transcript](#).

10 March: **Scottish Government must have a guaranteed role in future trade negotiations** - Report: **Scotland, Trade and Brexit.**

12 March: Evidence Session on the relationship between the UK and Scottish Governments. [Transcript](#).

19 March: **Committee consider funding and policy priorities for post-brexit Scottish agriculture. No-deal tariffs could be “disastrous” for Scottish agriculture, comments Chair.**

### Treasury:

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28 February: **Nissan’s financial package should be in public domain**, says Chair. **Letter from Greg Clark.**

7 March: Evidence session on the UK’s economic relationship with European Union. [Transcript](#).

14 March: **Letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer re tariffs and no-deal.**

20 March: **Impact of no-deal Brexit tariff plan on public finances “unknown”.**

### House of Lords

26 February: Statement on **Leaving the European Union.**

27 February: Debate on **Further Discussions with the European Union under Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union.**

4 March: Question on **Brexit: Museums and Galleries.**

4 March: Statement on **Eurotunnel.**

5 March: Questions on **Brexit: British Airlines**, and **Brexit: Small Businesses.**

6 March: Question: **United States: Trade Deal.**

6 March: 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Report stage on the **Trade Bill.**

7 March: Private Notice Question on **Brexit: Import of Radioisotopes.**

7 March: Statement on **Brexit: Protection for Workers.**

11 March: Question on **Brexit: Food Labelling and Food Safety.**

11 March: Question on **Brexit: Research Funding.**

11 March: Debate on **Further Developments in Discussions with the European Union under Article 50 of the Treaty on European Union**, and **continued.**

12 March: Report Stage of the **Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill.**

12 March: Statement: **Withdrawal Agreement: Attorney General's legal opinion on the Joint Instrument and Unilateral Declaration.**

13 March: 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Report Stage of the **Trade Bill.**

13 March: Motion on **Agreement Establishing an Economic Partnership Agreement between the Eastern and Southern Africa States and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.**

13 March: Motion on **Free Trade Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Kingdom of Denmark in respect of the Faroe Islands.**

13 March: Motion on **Agreement Establishing an Association between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Republic of Chile.**

14 March: Question on **Brexit: Non-Disclosure Agreements.**

14 March: Private Notice Question: **Brexit: Date of Exit.**

14 March: Motion on **State Aid (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.**

18 March: Statement on **Brexit: Article 50 Period Extension Procedure.**

19 March: Question on **Brexit: Farming Tariffs.**

19 March: Third Reading of the **Healthcare (European Economic Area and Switzerland Arrangements) Bill**, bill passed.

20 March: Question on **Brexit: Negotiations after 29 March 2019.**

20 March: Question on **Brexit: Bilateral Relations with European Union Member States.**

20 March: Statement on **Brexit: Powers of EU-UK Joint Committee.**

20 March: Third Reading of the **Trade Bill.** Bill passed.

20 March: Statement on **Brexit: No-deal Preparations.**

20 March: Debate on the **Spring Statement.**

## Committees

### Constitution:

28 February: **Letter from Minister of State for Exiting the European Union on Post-EU exit validity challenges consultation paper.**

4 March: **Letter from Chairman of the Joint Committee on Human Rights on parliamentary scrutiny of treaties.**

8 March: **Government response to the Committee's report on the Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill.**

### Economic Affairs:

5 March: **Mark Carney on Brexit, inflation and the economy. Transcript.**

### EU Select:

27 February: **Committee draws special attention to three Brexit-related trade agreements** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements; Treaties considered on 26 February 2019.** Letter from Ivan McKee MSP, Minister for Trade, Investment and Innovation, Scottish Parliament ref **scrutiny of Brexit-related international agreements.**

28 February: **Letter from Stephen Barclay about International Agreements.**

5 March: **European Union Committee draws special attention to UK/Ireland social security agreement** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements: Treaties considered on 5 March 2019**.

7 March: **Letter from Stephen Barclay ref EU Exit negotiations**.

12 March: **UK/Switzerland trade agreement drawn to special attention of the House by Committee** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements; Treaties considered on 12 March 2019**.

18 March: **Letter from Baroness Fairhead ref Scrutiny of Brexit-related treaties**.

19 March: **European Union Committee draws special attention to trade agreements with Israel and Switzerland** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements; Treaties considered on 19 March 2019**.

#### EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee:

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27 February: **Ministers' plans for carbon pricing and Brexit**. **Transcript**. Written evidence from the **Chemical Industries Association; Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment**.

28 February: **Letter to Michael Gove about the Draft Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill**.

6 March: **Who will make decisions about food safety after Brexit?**

6 March: **Government challenged on preparation for post-Brexit chemical regulation – Letter to Thérèse Coffey**. “We are a mere three weeks away from potentially having to regulate chemicals for ourselves, and as far as we can tell from the Minister’s updates we find ourselves with neither a functioning database nor a functioning regulator. The Government is risking people’s safety, not to mention the viability of the UK’s chemicals sector, by not being adequately prepared.”

7 March: **Committee finds significant uncertainty remains over post-Brexit food safety systems**.

13 March: **Minister challenged on unsustainable fishing – Letter to Robert Goodwill**.

13 March: **Letter to Claire Perry on post Brexit carbon pricing**.

#### EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee:

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27 February: **FCA questioned on Brexit risks**. **Transcript**.

13 March: **Financial services rules in the WTO explored**. **Transcript**.

#### EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee:

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27 February: **Security arrangements in the event of no deal examined**. **Transcript**.

13 March: **Immigration Minister Caroline Nokes speaks to Committee**. **Transcript**.

13 March: **Letter to Nick Hurd on security cooperation in the event of no deal**.

3 April: Evidence Session on Brexit: Future EU migration to the UK for work.

#### EU Internal Market Sub-Committee:

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13 March: **Brexit and transport: where do we stand?** **Transcript**.

#### EU Justice Sub-Committee:

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27 February: **Committee expresses concerns to Home Secretary about EU Settlement Scheme – Letter to Home Secretary**.

12 March: **Committee launches new inquiry into rights after Brexit**. **Transcript**.

26 March: Evidence Session on Rights after Brexit.

#### Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee (Sub-Committee A):

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26 February: **Committee criticise Home Office for lack of transparency over the effects of Brexit on justice and security**.

27 February: **18th Report of Session 2017-19**.

6 March: **19th Report of Session 2017-19**.

13 March: **20th Report of Session 2017-19**.

20 March: **21st Report of Session 2017-19**.

Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee (Sub-Committee B):

28 February: **18th Report of Session 2017-19.**

7 March: **19th Report of Session 2017-19.**

14 March: **20th Report of Session 2017-19.**

21 March: **21st Report of Session 2017-19.**

**News**

26 February: **BCC: Government must act now to prevent ‘no deal’ by default on 29th March; BCC comments on Prime Minister’s statement.**

26 February: **Britain’s Other Irish Border Is Also a Big Brexit Problem** – Holyhead (Bloomberg)

26 February: **No-deal Brexit panic after ministers realize the UK doesn’t have the right pallets for exporting to the EU** (Business Insider)

28 February: **United States-United Kingdom Negotiations - Summary of Specific Negotiating Objectives** (US Trade Representative)

1 March: **How will Brexit affect UK supermarkets?** - From a supplier’s perspective, there is little doubt amongst retailers, producers and farmers that Brexit will result in a significant disruption to the UK’s food supply, including unharvested produce and empty supermarket shelves (Kantar)

4 March: **No dealers must dream on: A conversation with Ivan Rogers** (edited transcript of Sir Ivan Rogers at the Institute for Government, in the Spectator)

5 March: **Theresa May and her circle of advisers did not understand how the European Union works**, and consequently followed a negotiating strategy in 2016 that was doomed to fail, the former UK ambassador to the EU Sir Ivan Rogers has said (Guardian)

5 March: **Brexit ‘likely to cause cancer test delays’** (BBC)

5 March: **Panic grows among carmakers at prospect of no-deal Brexit** (Guardian)

5 March: **Toyota and BMW warn no-deal Brexit could hit UK investment** (BBC)

5 March: **Hauliers - remember to register your trailers to travel post-Brexit.** Also: **Some relief for hauliers in EU contingency, says FTA.**

5 March: **Temporary market access plan met with caution by RHA.**

6 March: **TUC dismisses government’s “flimsy” workers’ rights proposals.**

6 March: **Brexit - we are not ready, says RHA.**

7 March: **Privatising the seas: how the UK turned fishing rights into a commodity** - The decline of British fishing drove coastal support for leaving the EU, but many of the industry’s problems have an origin closer to home (Greenpeace)

7 March: **‘Brexit stalemate means growing damage today and weaker economy tomorrow’** (CBI)

7 March: **Research shows damage No Deal Brexit would have on Northern Ireland’s transport services** (FTA)

8 March: **Markets for good, creating effective public-private partnerships post-Brexit** - CBI **published new report** which argues for access to European government markets post-Brexit for public services providers. Also: **CBI President urges pragmatism from politicians.**

8 March: **No-deal Brexit threat to ‘billions of pounds’ of chemicals** (BBC)

10 March: **Northern Ireland businesses voice fears of ‘no deal’ Brexit** (CBI)

11 March: **Up to 1,000 vehicle repair companies could collapse within 2 weeks of a no-deal Brexit** (Business Insider)

12 March: **‘Enough is enough. Time for Parliament to stop the circus’** (CBI)

12 March: **Logistics industry warns PM of No Deal threat to trade** (FTA)

12 March: **BCC: UK must avoid messy and disorderly exit on March 29th.**

13 March: **BCC comments on no-deal tariff proposals.**

13 March: **No Deal contingency plan threatens NI economy, says FTA.** Also: **Comment from FTA on import tariffs announcement.** And: **Reaction to the rejection of the Withdrawal Agreement.**

13 March: **CBI Northern Ireland's Response to Tariff Liberalisation Proposals.**

13 March: **Government's tariff plans would devastate manufacturing industries, say unions** (TUC)

13 March: **BRC responds to tariff schedule.**

14 March: **Twenty-two percent tariffs for 'no-deal' imported HGVs will cripple UK hauliers, says RHA.**

14 March: **CBI responds to vote on Article 50; Nearly 9 in 10 businesses want extension of Article 50.**

18 March: **Geoffrey Cox has no grounds to change his mind on the Northern Ireland backstop** – concerning Article 62 of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties (Guardian)

18 March: **BCC Forecast: UK economy to falter further as Brexit uncertainty bites.**

19 March: **Government mishandling of Brexit is casting shadow over UK economy, says TUC.**

## Scotland

### Scottish Parliament

Scottish Parliament Brexit Update: **28 February, 14 March.**

Scottish Parliament Information Centre: **Brexit - what now?**

5 March: Debate on **European Union Withdrawal Negotiations.**

7 March: Debate on the **European Union Settlement Scheme.**

7 March: Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee evidence session on **Article 50 (Economic Implications for Scotland of a No-deal Brexit).**

14 March: Statement on **Brexit (Impact on Further and Higher Education).**

14 March: Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee evidence session on **United Kingdom-European Union Interinstitutional Relations Post-Brexit.**

### Scottish Government

28 February: **Scotland to suffer under UK immigration proposals.**

28 February: **EU exit is impacting business and investment.**

5 March: **Joint EU Exit Debate** - Scotland and Wales unite to voice dismay at UK Government's approach. **Joint statement by the First Ministers of Scotland and Wales.**

10 March: **Brexit threatens Scotland's housing ambition.**

11 March: **Preparing for Brexit** - Additional resources to help businesses prepare.

11 March: **UK Government 'must rule out no deal Brexit'** - Call ahead of UK health minister meeting.

12 March: **Brexit deal must be defeated** - Mr Russell: MPs must respect the decision of the Scottish Parliament.

13 March: **Funding to Prepare for Brexit.**

13 March: **UK Government tariff schedule fraught with problems.**

14 March: **Students returning after Brexit** - Support for Scottish students in face of 'untenable' costs.

18 March: **Protecting cross-border healthcare** – Preparing for 'no deal' Brexit.

18 March: **First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has today written to the Prime Minister about the role of the devolved administrations in talks on the future trade relationship between the United Kingdom and the European Union.**

## News

18 March: **21st Century Clearances - what does Brexit mean for rural Scotland?**  
(Scottish Rural Action)

## Northern Ireland

The Assembly publishes a **'Brexit Brief' newsletter and Brexit information.**

**Brexit Brief Newsletter January 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

5 March: Dáil: Committee stage of the **Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2019**, on the **6 March continued**, and **concluded**.

13 March: Seanad: **Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (Consequential Provisions) Bill 2019: Committee and Remaining Stages**, and **Motion for Earlier Signature**.

27 February: **Government publishes information to further assist businesses and citizens to prepare for Brexit**.

5 March: **Government Advances No Deal Brexit Contingency Planning and Preparations**.

12 March: **Statement by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar on latest developments on Brexit**.

14 March: **Statement from An Taoiseach on the result of the vote in the House of Commons**.

19 March: **Statement following the meeting between An Taoiseach and President Tusk**.

## Reports published

[Houses of Commons and Lords Libraries](#)

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**Extending Article 50: could Brexit be delayed?**

**The UK's EU Withdrawal Agreement**

**Brexit timeline: events leading to the UK's exit from the European Union**

**The 'Strasbourg package'**

**Brexit debates 2019**

**Brexit statements**

**The Brexit timetable: One promise. Two weeks. Three key votes.**

**E-petition 239706 relating to leaving the European Union**

**Brexit: Impacts on holidays and travel**

[The Conversation](#)

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**Q&A: Why is the UK planning to cut tariffs on most imports in the event of a no-deal Brexit?**

**Brexit: why unilateral withdrawal from any future treaty would ruin the UK's reputation**

[UK in a Changing Europe](#)

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**New deal, no deal, second referendum - what do women want from Brexit?**

**How do Brits think the EU sees them? It depends how old they are**

**The UK will have very little control over trade tariffs in the event of a no deal Brexit**

[LSE Brexit](#)

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**Manufacturing workers were especially likely to support Brexit**

**UK economy since the Brexit vote: slower GDP growth, lower productivity, and a weaker pound**

**What are the prospects for UK trade with Australia and New Zealand?**

**Long read | Beyond tariffs: what 'No Deal' would mean for the Irish border**

**Article 50 extension: Why time for the UK to live through its crisis is also good for Europe**

**It could all have been so different: how Britain might have negotiated with Brussels**

Other

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**A Budget for No Deal - How to stabilise and stimulate the economy in the wake of a no-deal Brexit** (Centre for Policy Studies)

**The Irish Backstop: Nothing has changed? It has actually** (Policy Exchange)

**Contingency preparations for exiting the EU with no deal** (National Audit Office)

**Brexit: Understanding the withdrawal agreement and political declaration** (European Parliament Research Service)

**Updated: Under which conditions would the EU27 agree to an Article 50 extension?** (Open Europe)