

Brexit Update

Research Briefing

29 April 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

29 April 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](#)

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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 19 March – 24 April 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:

- 25 March: The Committee held a scrutiny session with the First Minister of Wales, Mark Drakeford. [Transcript](#).
- 1 April: After noting papers the Committee met in private. [Transcript](#).

On 25 March EAAL noted letters:

- from the [Secretary of State for Wales to the Chair regarding the future of regional funding after Brexit](#) - 12 March 2019.
- from the [Constitutional and Legislative Affairs Committee Chair to Committee Chairs regarding inter-institutional relations agreement between the Assembly and Government](#) - 15 March 2019.
- from the [Brexit Minister to the Chair regarding 11 March meeting follow up](#) - 18 March 2019.
- from [Robin Walker MP to the Chair regarding invitation to appear before the Committee](#) - 18 March 2019.
- from the [First Minister to the Chair in response to the Committee's letter regarding the Assembly's role in legislating for Brexit](#) - 20 March 2019.

On 1 April EAAL noted:

- [Supplementary Legislative Consent Memorandum \(Memorandum No 2\) Agriculture Bill](#).

- [Report by the House of Lords European Committee on Beyond Brexit: how to win friends and influence people](#) - 25 March 2019

On 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](#). The second such report was published on 22 March: [Agreements considered on 18 March 2019](#).

Plenary

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](#).

27 March: [United Kingdom Independence Party Debate: The European Union](#).

2 April: [Statement by the Counsel General and Brexit Minister: Update on EU Negotiations](#).

The Research Service's own blogs are published on [In Brief](#). The latest Brexit blogs are:

- [Brexit Negotiations Monitoring Report](#)
- [New Publication: Brexit Monitoring Report – Environment April 2019](#)
- [Flexending Brexit? Scrutinising the First Minister on the latest Brexit developments](#)
- [Brexit means Brexit... but not quite yet](#)
- [Brexit Negotiations Monitoring Report](#)
- [Degrees of Separation: Debating the CYPE Committee's report on the impact of Brexit on further and higher education](#)

The Climate Change, Environment and Rural Affairs Committee is currently considering the Welsh provisions in the [UK Government's Agriculture Bill](#). On 27 March [the Welsh Government responded to](#) the Committee's report on the Legislative Consent Memorandum for the UK's Fisheries 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 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.**, and the report on the **Legislation (Wales) 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

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**.

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

21 March: **Bangor University secures £9 million EU funds to expand research scheme**.

21 March: **Written Statement: Updated analysis of the economic implications of the UK's exit from the European Union**.

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

26 March: **Brexit must not jeopardise Wales' research success story**.

27 March: **The impact of Brexit on Welsh social care and childcare workforce**.

27 March: **Businesses of all sizes in Wales to benefit from extra £121m of Welsh Government funding to help manage Brexit**.

27 March: **Wales in the world post-Brexit: "UK government needs to do more to promote Wales abroad"** - Eluned Morgan.

27 March: **Written Statement: Brexit contingency planning and warehouse acquisition**.

2 April: **Oral Statement: Update on EU Negotiations**.

4 April: **Welsh Government preparing for 'economic shock' of No-Deal** - Ken Skates.

9 April: **Written Statement: No Deal Brexit Contingency Plans - Holyhead; Plans to minimise Holyhead Port no deal disruption announced**.

11 April: **Written Statements laid under Standing Order 30C**.

11 April: **Written Statement: European Council, 10 April 2019**.

15 April: **'A More Refined Pallet' - EU transition fund allows Welsh companies to produce international standard wood packaging**.

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

17 April: **New EU funding to tackle in-work poverty**.

News

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

20 March: **Preparations must be made for EU elections to avoid next cliff edge FUW tells PM**.

20 March: **Chancellor urged to act now to revise no-deal applied tariffs**, (NFU Cymru)

22 March: [NFU Cymru responds to extension of Article 50.](#)

25 March: [Additional Time Granted for Brexit Negotiations Must be Used Wisely](#) (TFA)

27 March: [Wales in a Post-Brexit world](#), Temple of Peace, Cardiff (Welsh Centre for International Affairs)

27 March: [“I assure you the NFU will do everything that it can to make sure that a ‘No deal’ Brexit doesn’t happen.”](#) This was the message from NFU President Minette Batters at the recent Pembrokeshire NFU Cymru County Conference.

28 March: [UK Farming Roundtable urges MPs to deliver Brexit certainty](#) (NFU Cymru)

29 March: [NFU Cymru Comment: Parliament rejects the Prime Minister’s Withdrawal Agreement.](#)

1 April: [NFU Cymru has sought to clarify its position on the branding of Welsh food and drink exports.](#)

1 April: [Article 50 revocation still the best option following third defeat of withdrawal deal – FUW.](#)

2 April: [Article 50 revocation ‘only safe way’ to stop ticking Brexit time bomb and respect parliament’s opposition to no-deal](#) (FUW)

3 April: [Welsh farmers continue backing extra time to seal Brexit deal](#) (FUW)

4 April: [Farming leaders welcome latest Brexit Bill](#) (FUW)

11 April: [NFU Cymru responds to Brexit developments.](#)

11 April: [CLA supports ‘breathing space’ offered by Brexit extension.](#)

13 April: [Mark Drakeford’s Speech to Welsh Labour Conference 2019. Jeremy Corbyn’s speech at Welsh Labour Conference 2019.](#)

8 May: [European Election Briefing 2019](#), Pierhead Building, 10:00 - 12:00 (Cardiff University’s Wales Governance Centre)

EU Developments

European Council

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.

20 March: [EU to accede to international agreement on appellations of origin and geographical indications.](#)

20 March: [Invitation letter by President Donald Tusk to the members of the European Council ahead of their meetings on 21 and 22 March 2019.](#)

21 March: [European Council \(Art. 50\) conclusions, 21 March 2019.](#)

21 March: [Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the European Council meeting \(Art. 50\).](#)

22 March: [Speech by President Donald Tusk on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the EEA Agreement.](#)

22 March: [Brexit: European Council adopts decision extending the period under Article 50.](#)

22 March: [European Council conclusions, 22 March 2019.](#)

22 March: [Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the European Council meetings on 21 and 22 March 2019.](#)

22 March: [Railway safety and connectivity with the UK – Council adopts Brexit contingency measures.](#)

27 March: [Report by President Donald Tusk to the European Parliament on March European Council meetings.](#)

3 April: **Visa free travel after Brexit: Council and European Parliament reach agreement.**

9 April: **Visa free travel after Brexit: Council adopts regulation.**

9 April: **Joint statement of the 21st EU-China summit.**

9 April: **Invitation letter by President Donald Tusk to the members of the European Council (Art. 50) ahead of their special meeting on 10 April 2019.**

10 April: **European Council (Art. 50) conclusions, 10 April 2019. European Council decision taken in agreement with the United Kingdom, extending the period under Article 50 TEU. Remarks by President Donald Tusk after the special meeting of the European Council (Art. 50) on 10 April 2019.**

15 April: **Trade with the United States: Council authorises negotiations on elimination of tariffs for industrial goods and on conformity assessment.**

16 April: **Report and concluding remark by President Donald Tusk to the European Parliament on the Special European Council (Art. 50) meeting on 10 April.**

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.

19 March: **Press statement by Michel Barnier following the General Affairs Council (Article 50).**

20 March: **Main messages from the Tripartite Social Summit.**

20 March: **International trade in goods in 2018** - A third of EU trade is with the United States and China - At Member State level, trade within the EU largely prevails.

20 March: **EU budget for 2021-2027: Commission welcomes provisional agreement on Horizon Europe, the future EU research and innovation programme.**

25 March: **Brexit preparedness: EU completes preparations for possible “no-deal” scenario on 12 April.**

26 March: **European Parliament confirms that the 2017 EU budget was well-managed.**

28 March: **EU scores final victory in the WTO Boeing dispute.**

29 March: **Speech by Michel Barnier at the College of Europe in Natolin, “Europe after Brexit”.**

29 March: **Statement by the European Commission on the vote on the Withdrawal Agreement in the House of Commons.**

2 April: **Speech by Michel Barnier at the EPC Breakfast, Brussels.**

2 April: **State aid: Commission concludes part of UK tax scheme gave illegal tax advantages to certain multinational companies; remaining part does not constitute aid.**

3 April: **Statement by President Juncker on the United Kingdom’s withdrawal from the European Union at the European Parliament’s plenary session.**

4 April: **Brexit preparedness in the area of Health and Food Safety - Speech by Vice-President Jyrki Katainen.**

8 April: **Remarks of Commissioner Phil Hogan at Press Conference on Brexit Preparedness.**

9 April: **Speaking points by Commissioner Thyssen on Brexit Preparedness in the area of Social Security Entitlements.**

9 April: **Remarks of President Juncker at the joint press conference with Mr Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People’s Republic of China, and Mr Donald Tusk, President of the European Council, following the EU-China Summit.**

10 April: **‘No-deal’ Brexit preparedness: European Commission takes stock of preparations and provides practical guidance to ensure coordinated EU approach.**

11 April: **Exchange of letters between the EU and the UK setting out the limited technical changes to the Withdrawal Agreement to reflect the extension of the Article 50 period.**

15 April: **EU-U.S. Trade: Commission welcomes Council's green light to start negotiations with the United States.**

16 April: **Commission Declaration for the European Parliament plenary.**

17 April: **WTO Boeing dispute: EU issues preliminary list of U.S. products considered for countermeasures.**

European Parliament

29 March: **New seat projections for the next European Parliament EU28.**

3 April: **Brexit: political groups discuss options for an orderly withdrawal.**

4 April: **Brexit: reciprocal visa-free access for EU and UK nationals.**

10 April: **Statement by the European Parliament ahead of the 10 April Brexit Summit.**

15 April: **European Parliament will hold 'extraordinary session' if UK approves Brexit deal** (Politico)

16 April: **MEPs discuss Brexit extension and European elections.**

News

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)

27 March: **How the UK lost Brexit battle** - The course of Brexit was set in the hours and days after the 2016 referendum (Politico 'long read')

UK Developments

UK Government

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.**

22 March: **Changes to design and trade mark law if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.**

22 March: **Confirmation of UK Government agreement to Article 50 extension.**

25 March update: **EU Exit: Parameters of extending Article 50.**

26 March: **EU exit: eligibility arrangements to access public funds after free movement ends if there is no deal.**

28 March update: **Costa Amendment: Correspondence with the EU Institutions.**

28 March update: **Policy paper on citizens' rights in the event of a no deal Brexit.**

29 March: **Preparing for EU Exit: Switzerland.**

29 March: **Preparing for EU Exit: Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.**

2 April: **UK and EEA EFTA states sign agreement to protect citizens' rights.**

2 April: **PM statement on Brexit.**

3 April: **PM meeting with the First Minister of Wales.**

4 April: **Policy paper on the rights of UK nationals in the EU.**

4 April update: **International Agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.**

5 April: **Prime Minister's letter to President Tusk.**

6 April: **PM's words on Brexit negotiations.**

8 April: **The European Parliamentary Elections (Appointed Day of Poll) Order 2019.**

9 April: PM meeting with **Chancellor Angela Merkel** and **President Macron.**

11 April: **Prime Minister Theresa May's statement to the House of Commons on the European Council meeting in Brussels.**

11 April: **PM statement at the European Council.**

11 April: **Confirmation of UK Government agreement to extend Article 50.**

12 April update: **Changes to Supplementary Protection Certificates and patent law in the event of no deal from the European Union.**

12 April: **Technical update to the Withdrawal Agreement** reflecting the extension of Article 50.

House of Commons

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).**

21 March: Transport Questions: Leaving the EU: **Aviation Sector; Transport-Related Industry.**

21 March: Urgent Question on **Northern Ireland Assembly Election.**

22 March: Urgent Question on **European Council: Article 50 Extension.**

25 March: Defence Questions: **Leaving the EU: Defence Industry.**

25 March: Prime Minister's Statement on the **European Council.**

25 March: Debate on the **European Union (Withdrawal) Act.**

26 March: Consideration of Lords amendments: **Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill (Changed to Healthcare (European Economic Area and Switzerland Arrangements) Bill).**

27 March: Scotland Questions: Leaving the EU: **Public Services; Discussions with Scottish Government.**

27 March: **Prime Ministers questions.**

27 March: **EU: Withdrawal and Future Relationship (Motions).**

27 March: Motion on **EU Exit Day Amendment.**

27 March: **EU: Withdrawal and Future Relationship (Votes). Motions and votes.**

28 March: Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Questions: Leaving the EU: **Fisheries Policy; Farming Policy; Seasonal Agricultural Workers Scheme.**

28 March: Electoral Commission Committee Questions: **Vote Leave.**

29 March: Debate on the **United Kingdom's Withdrawal from the European Union.**

1 April: Home Department Questions: **Leaving the EU: Recruitment; EU Settlement Scheme; Leaving the EU: NHS and Careworkers; Local Authorities: Children of EU Nationals.**

1 April: **EU: Withdrawal and Future Relationship (Motions).**

1 April: **EU: Withdrawal and Future Relationship (Votes).**

1 April: Westminster Hall debate: Petitions on **Leaving the European Union.**

2 April: **Presentation and First Reading of the European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill.**

2 April: Motion on **Exiting the European Union (Consumer Protection).**

3 April: Wales Questions: **Leaving the EU: Discussions with First Minister of Wales; UK Shared Prosperity Fund.**

3 April: **Prime Ministers questions.**

3 April: Debate on the **European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill. Committee Stage and Votes.**

4 April: 16 Exiting the European Union Questions, starting with **European Parliamentary Elections.**

8 April: Housing, Communities and Local Government Questions: **Leaving the EU: Local Authority Funding.**

8 April: Motion on **Exiting the European Union (Customs).**

8 April: **European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill** – Consideration of Lords amendments.

8 April: Adjournment debate: **UK Fishing Industry: Non-EEA Visas.**

9 April: Debate on **Exiting the European Union (Sanctions).**

9 April: Debate on **Section 1 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2019.**

10 April: Northern Ireland Questions: **Leaving the EU: No Deal.**

10 April: **Prime Ministers Questions.**

11 April: Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Questions: **Leaving the EU: Creative Industries.**

11 April: Attorney General Questions: **EU Withdrawal: Protection of Human Rights; Leaving the EU.**

11 April: Prime Ministers Statement on the **European Council.**

Committees

Environment, Food and Rural Affairs:

27 March: **Secretary of State and Ministers questioned on preparations for Brexit.** With Thérèse Coffey, Lord Gardiner, Robert Goodwill, David Rutley, Michael Gove. **Transcript.**

Environmental Audit:

28 February: **Letter from Lesley Griffiths AM on the UK Government's draft Environment (Principles and Governance) Bill.**

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

European Scrutiny:

20 March: 60th Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 20 March 2019.**

27 March: 61st Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 27 March 2019.**

3 April: 62nd Report: **Documents considered by the Committee on 3 April 2019,** including the following recommendation for debate: **Brexit: UK contributions to the EU budget in 2019 in a 'no deal' scenario.**

European Statutory Instruments:

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

9 April: **Instruments to be considered by the Committee on 9 April.**

23 April: **Instruments to be considered by the Committee on 23 April.**

Exiting the EU:

20 March: The progress of the UK's negotiations on EU withdrawal: role of Parliament inquiry – written evidence from: **Legal Education Foundation; Trade Justice Movement; Institute for Government**.

27 March: **Committee to consider next steps following European Council and votes in Parliament. Transcript.**

3 April: **Committee to question Secretary of State on Brexit next steps. Transcript.**

International Trade:

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

21 March: **Letter from the Secretary of State regarding continuing application of EU FTAs.**

25 March: **Letter to the Secretary of State regarding parliamentary scrutiny of FTAs.**

26 March: **Letter from Minister for Trade Policy regarding CARIFORUM agreement.**

28 March: **Letter from the Chair regarding continuing application of EU FTAs.**

31 March: **Letter from the Secretary of State relating to the Trade Remedies Authority.**

1 April: **Letter from the Secretary of State relating to parliamentary scrutiny of free trade agreements.**

2 April: **Letter from the Secretary of State relating to a Free Trade Agreement between the UK, Iceland, and Norway.**

3 April: Evidence session on trade with Australia and New Zealand. **Transcript.**

3 April: Evidence session on UK trade policy transparency and scrutiny with George Hollingbery. **Transcript.**

3 April: UK trade in services inquiry written evidence: **ActionAid UK; UK Trade Policy Observatory.**

24 April: **Committee examines barriers to exporting services.**

Northern Ireland Affairs:

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

27 March: **Karen Bradley questioned on Brexit and the collapse of devolution. Transcript.**

Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs:

19 March: **Government Response to the Committee's Fourteenth report: The Role of Parliament in the UK Constitution Interim Report The Status and Effect of Confidence Motions and the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011.**

28 March: Letter from Sir Mark Sedwill and John Manzoni to the Chair, regarding evidence session clarifications – **Common Transit Convention, assessment of the financial services sector.**

Scottish Affairs:

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

21 March: **Letter from the Minister for the Constitution regarding devolution capability, interchange and the UK Government hub in Edinburgh.**

25 March: **Summary notes from informal roundtable discussion on agricultural innovation with academics, scientists, technology companies and research institutes.**

2 April: The relationship between the UK and Scottish Governments inquiry written evidence: **Jack Sheldon, Bennett Institute for Public Policy, University of Cambridge; Dr Coree Brown Swan, Centre on Constitutional Change, University of Edinburgh.**

23 April: **Committee examines impact of Brexit on agricultural workforce in Scotland.**

Transport:

25 April: **Reply from the Secretary of State for Transport, regarding the Eurotunnel Settlement.**

Treasury:

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

Welsh Affairs:

1 April: **Committee questions Secretary of State for Wales. Transcript.**

House of Lords

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.**

21 March: Statement: **Northern Ireland (Executive Formation and Exercise of Functions) Act 2018.**

25 March: Question on **Devolved Administrations.**

25 March: Statement on the **European Council.**

25 March: Debate on **Brexit.**

26 March: Question on **Brexit: Petition to Revoke Article 50 Notification.**

27 March: Motion on **European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 (Exit Day) (Amendment) Regulations 2019.**

1 April: Debate on the European Union Committee Report **Brexit: The Customs Challenge.**

1 April: Debate on the European Union Committee Report **Brexit: The Erasmus and Horizon Programmes.**

4 April: **First Reading** of the European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill, followed by the **Second Reading.**

8 April: Question on **Brexit: Date of Exit.**

8 April: European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill: **Report; Third Reading; Royal Assent.**

11 April: Statement on the **European Council.**

Committees

Constitution:

21 March: **Letter from Chris Heaton-Harris on International Agreements.**

2 April: **Letter from Liam Fox on Free Trade Agreements.**

4 April: Report: **European Union (Withdrawal) (No.5) Bill.**

Delegated Powers and Regulatory Reform:

4 April: **50th Report of Session 2017-19** - Healthcare (International Arrangements) Bill (changed to Healthcare (European Economic Area and Switzerland Arrangements) Bill): Government Response.

4 April: **51st Report of Session 2017-19** - European Union (Withdrawal) (No. 5) Bill.

EU Select:

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

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

25 March: **The Brexit paradox: UK will need to increase its presence in Brussels significantly** – Report: **Beyond Brexit: how to win friends and influence people.**

27 March: **Letter from Stephen Barclay ref Costa Amendment, attaching a letter from Michel Barnier.**

3 April: **Scrutiny of international agreements; Treaties considered on 3 April 2019.**

9 April: **Committee draws special attention to Gibraltar/Spain tax and finance agreement** – Report: **Scrutiny of international agreements; treaties considered on 9 April 2019.**

EU Energy and Environment Sub-Committee:

19 March: **Letter from Steve Brine about UK access to the EU Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed (RASFF).**

19 March: **Letter from Thérèse Coffey about chemical regulation after Brexit.**

3 April: **Is Defra ready for Brexit?** With Michael Gove. **Transcript.**

EU Financial Affairs Sub-Committee:

30 March: **Government response to Brexit: the European Investment Bank.**

3 April: **Brexit and the movement of financial services explored by Committee. Transcript.**

EU Home Affairs Sub-Committee:

27 March: **Letter to Caroline Nokes on future EU work migration and asylum cooperation.**

3 April: **Sector representatives discuss post-Brexit EU work migration. Transcript.**

EU Justice Sub-Committee:

20 March: **Letter from Sajid Javid on EU Settlement Scheme.**

26 March: **Equality and Human Rights experts give evidence to Committee. Transcript.**

3 April: **Committee seeks reassurances from Home Secretary about EU Settlement Scheme – Letter to the Home Secretary.**

Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee (Sub-Committee A):

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

27 March: **22nd Report of Session 2017-19.**

3 April: **23rd Report of Session 2017-19** - Drawn to the special attention of the House: Transport Act 1985 (Amendment) Regulations 2019.

10 April: **24th Report of Session 2017-19.**

Secondary Legislation Scrutiny Committee (Sub-Committee B):

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

28 March: **22nd Report of Session 2017-19** - Drawn to the special attention of the House: Relationships Education, Relationships and Sex Education and Health Education (England) Regulations 2019.

4 April: **23rd Report of Session 2017-19** – Drawn to the special attention of the House: Counter Terrorism (International Sanctions) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 and one related instrument.

News

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.**

21 March: **Poor government engagement hampers business Brexit planning.**

21 March: **CBI and TUC call on prime minister to change Brexit approach.**

22 March: **CBI calls for parliament to stop the circus and prioritise jobs and livelihoods.**

28 March: **Westminster “cannot keep chasing rainbows”** (BCC)

29 March: **Comments from Pauline Bastidon, Head of European Policy, FTA on the rejection of EU withdrawal agreement by Parliament.**

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11 April: **BCC comments on Article 50 extension.**

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12 April: **Staying in a customs union after Brexit won’t resolve the Irish border issue** (Pascal Lamy in the Guardian)

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16 April: **US House of Representatives speaker Nancy Pelosi said there would**

be “no chance whatsoever” of a US-UK trade deal if the Northern Ireland peace agreement was weakened by Brexit (Irish Times)

17 April: **Technological solution to Irish border issue could be a decade away, says Home Office document** (Sky)

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Scotland

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21 March: Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee: Evidence session on **[Article 50 \(International Agreements\)](#)**.

27 March: Debate on **[Revoking Article 50](#)**.

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3 April: Finance and Constitution Committee: Evidence session on **[Brexit](#)**, with Michael Russell.

4 April: Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee: Evidence session on **[Immigration](#)**.

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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.](#)**

28 March: **[Update on medicine supplies](#)** - Preparing for no deal Brexit.

5 April: **[Support for students after EU exit](#)** - Funding available to ‘UK Returners’ for seven years.

5 April: **[Stay in Scotland](#)** - Support pledged for EU citizens.

5 April: **[Continuity Bill update](#)** - Constitutional Relations Secretary writes to Presiding Officer.

11 April: **[First Minister Nicola Sturgeon has written to the Prime Minister following the extension of Article 50 until the end of October.](#)**

14 April: **[Response to Article 50 Extension](#)** - Brexit talks must include Scotland.

15 April: **[Rural Scotland and EU citizens](#)** - EU workforce is ‘essential’.

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

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[What is “exit day”? Dispelling misconceptions about the extension of Article 50](#)

[Extending the Article 50 Period: FAQs](#)

[Brexit: contingency planning and powers](#)

[Brexit: Further Recent Developments](#)

[Brexit delayed: the European Council Conclusions on extending Article 50](#)

[Brexit: parliamentary scrutiny of UK replacement treaties](#)

[Immigration and Social Security Co-ordination \(EU Withdrawal\) Bill 2017-19: Progress of the Bill](#)

[Brexit: Debate under Section 13\(6\)\(b\) of the European Union \(Withdrawal\) Act 2018](#)

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[Tariffs: Theory and Practice](#)

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[UK in a Changing Europe](#)

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[What do voters think about ‘Common Market 2.0’?](#)

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The EU's "ever tighter union" needs informed debate, not blowing things up

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