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Business Readiness Bulletin – The UK transition

Issue 59: 30 November 2020

The UK has left the EU, and the transition period after Brexit comes to an end this year. Take action now to get ready for new rules from January 2021. This bulletin is issued by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and provides the latest information for businesses. All information on the UK Transition can be found at www.gov.uk/transition

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Transition Period: Business Secretary writes to businesses sectors

The Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, has written to specific business sectors. The letters provide tailored advice about key actions that businesses must take after the Transition period ends on **31 December 2020, which is 32 days away**.

Click to view the sector-specific guidance for:

- [The Construction sector](#)
- [The Professional services sector](#)

New Guidance

UK - JAPAN Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA):

- Guidance has been issued listing the provisions in the CEPA for SMEs. For more information, click [here](#).
- Guidance has been issued in the form of a technical note to set out how the tariff rate quota (TRQ) scheme in the CEPA will operate. For more information, click [here](#).
- Guidance has been issued detailing the changes in the PSR (Product Specific Rules of Origin) that will apply to UK businesses trading with Japan when the EU-Japan EPA no longer applies to the UK. For more information, click [here](#).

New UK-Wide advice on ear tags for livestock exporters: Guidance has been issued for livestock exporters pertaining to the changes to ear tags for livestock exports and movements from Great Britain to the EU and Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

Placing an e-cigarette on the UK and the Northern Ireland market from 1 January

2021: Guidance has been issued about new notification rules:

From 1 January 2021 producers of nicotine-containing electronic cigarettes and refill containers will be required to:

- submit notifications for Great Britain using the MHRA Submission Portal
- submit notifications for Northern Ireland using the European Common Entry Gate (EUCEG)

For more information, click [here](#).

Updated Guidance

Trading

Trading under World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules – how to trade with other countries from 1 January if there is no UK trade agreement: Guidance has been updated to reflect the latest information about trading under WTO rules from 1 January 2021 if no trade agreement exists between the UK and another country. For more information, click [here](#).

Trading with Japan: Guidance on trading with Japan has been updated with details of how trading with Japan will change from 1 January 2021. To view this, click [here](#).

Workforce

Employer information about the UK points-based immigration system: Information for employers to help them prepare for the UK's new point-based immigration system from 1 January 2021 has been updated. The page includes links to a new podcast on the future of immigration. For more information, click [here](#). For links to listen to the podcast, see the Webinars and Podcast section of this bulletin.

Data

Using personal data in your businesses or other organisations from 1 January 2021: Guidance on what action you need to take regarding data protection and data flows with the EU/EEA after the end of the transition period has been updated. For more information, click [here](#).

Intellectual Property

Intellectual Property after 1 January 2021: Guidance for customers and users of Intellectual Property, about how the Intellectual Property system and the Intellectual Property Office will operate after the end of the transition period, has been updated. From 1 January 2021, subject to legislative implementation, only an address for service in the UK (which for these purposes includes the Isle of Man), Gibraltar or the Channel Islands will be accepted for new applications and new requests to start contentious proceedings before the IPO. The change will apply across all the registered IP rights (patents, trademarks and designs). For more information, click [here](#).

Exporting

Exporting active substances manufactured in Great Britain from 1 January 2021:

Guidance has been updated to reflect how the 'Written Confirmation' process for active substances manufactured in Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland) will be handled from 1 January 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

Export licences and certificates from 1 January 2021: Guidance on licences, certificates and special rules for taking goods out of the UK from 1 January 2021, has been updated to provide further information about exporting cultural goods. For more information, click [here](#).

HMRC newsletter on Community, Common Transit and Transport International

Roturiers: HMRC have released another newsletter in their series. This edition explains the New Computerised Transit System (NCTS) specifically for Northern Ireland, its implications and the technical changes to the guarantee reference amounts. To view this, and previous editions, click [here](#).

Procurement

Public-sector procurement from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to reflect the latest information about the Find-a-Tender service that will be used from 1 January 2021, to post and view public sector procurement notices. For more information, click [here](#).

Product Safety

Product Safety and Metrology from 1 January 2021: Further guidance has been provided on Pyrotechnic Articles (Safety) Regulations 2015 for [Great Britain](#) and [Northern Ireland](#). Northern Ireland guidance also includes an update on Supply of Machinery (Safety) regulations (2008).

Automotive

Labelling of tyres: The Motor Vehicle Tyres (Labelling) (Enforcement) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, creates penalties for the non-compliance with new requirements in the UK for the labelling of tyres and for the labelling of tyres in Northern Ireland when the regulation comes into effect from 1 May 2021. To view this in full, click [here](#).

Food and Drink

Amendments to Food Information rules and wine: The Food and Drink (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 have been updated to retained EU legislation on food information rules and wine. For more information, click [here](#).

Transition Webinars and Podcasts

With just **32 days to go** until the end of the transition period, you can keep up to date by attending live webinars to help prepare your business. You can also access sector-specific webinars about how to prepare your business [here](#).

- **HMRC customs declarations webinars:** HMRC have launched multiple editions of this live webinar covering how to complete customs import declarations and explaining how to make import declarations when importing goods between the EU and Great Britain. Find a date and to register, click [here](#).

- **Department for International Trade webinars:** DIT are hosting a series of webinars primarily aimed at businesses which are UK based who importing and exporting goods. To register for the next webinar on 3 December at 10:30 am, click [here](#). Further sessions are scheduled to be held on 10 December and 17 December.
- **Smart border webinar:** The Direction Générale des Douanes et Droits Indirects are hosting a webinar in English on 3 December 2020 at 2:30pm on the smart border, the French Customs IT solution to keep trade flowing between the UK and France despite the establishment of customs clearance at the border. To register, click

Visit the GOV.UK transition webinar page to find out more and register - [here](#).

Trading with the EU: A video series has been released that explains what businesses need to do to be ready for 1 January 2021. These videos cover what businesses need to know about exports and imports, customs, commodity codes and controlled goods. To view the videos, click [here](#).

Podcast: Business and the Future of Immigration in 2021

The Home Office has created a podcast episode in partnership with Intelligence Squared to help you prepare for the points-based immigration system.

[Listen](#) now to Business and the Future of Immigration in 2021. Also available on [Spotify](#) and [Apple](#)

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