



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Preparing businesses for EU Exit

Buckinghamshire EU Exit Summit

Tom Rolls

6th March 2019



Forestry Commission
England



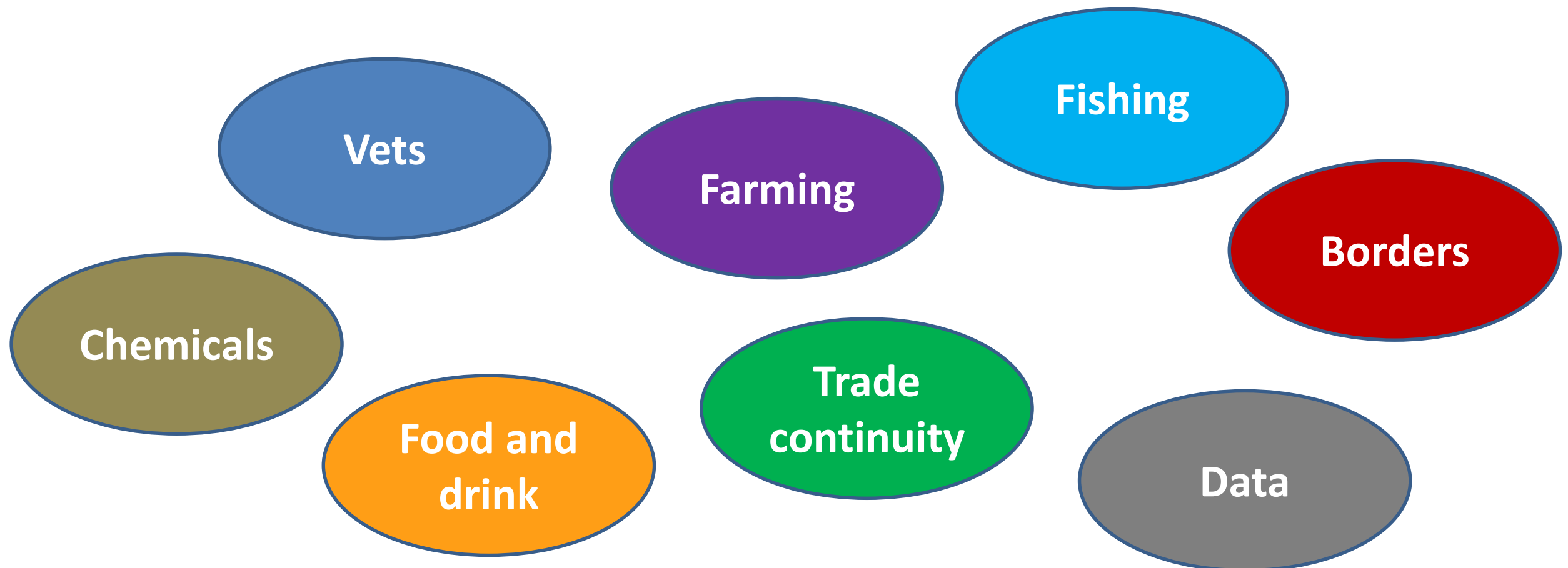
Environment
Agency

Preparing businesses for EU Exit

- The UK will leave the EU on 29 March 2019. Leaving the EU means businesses may need to prepare for change.
- Leaving with a deal is the government's top priority however 'no deal' is still a possibility.
- Businesses may need to take action before 29 March 2019, and we recommend that businesses ensure they are prepared.
- New user friendly online tool for businesses to find the latest information on EU Exit, how they will be affected, and the actions they can take: www.gov.uk/euexitbusiness
- Several government departments including BEIS, FSA and BDG have recently published information on the steps that businesses may need to take to prepare for EU Exit.
- This presentation focuses on Defra guidance for businesses.

Preparing businesses for EU Exit

- Government recently published information for businesses on several key themes affecting businesses, and we will continue to provide information and guidance on other topics that may affect businesses should we leave the EU without a deal.
- Up to date guidance and tools have recently been launched on the following topics:



Guidance

The food and drink sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU without a Brexit deal on 29 March, there will be changes that affect your food and drink business. Find out how you can prepare.

Published 18 February 2019

Last updated 21 February 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Food labelling](#)
- [Your employees](#)
- [Chemical regulations](#)
- [Trade agreements](#)

Food and drink sector

landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the food and drink landing page include:

- *Importing and exporting*
- *Food labelling*
- *Your employees*
- *Chemical regulations*
- *Trade agreements*
- *Tariffs*
- *Data protection*
- *More information*

Importing and exporting

There are some actions you'll need to take if you import or export products between the UK and EU.

Preparing for changes to trade at the UK-EU border

To minimise disruption to your business at border points you should take the following steps:

- 1 [Get a UK Economic Operator Registration and Identification \(EORI\) number](#) so you can continue to import or export goods and apply for authorisations.
- 2 Decide if you want to hire an import-export agent, or [make the declarations yourself](#).
- 3 Contact the organisation that moves your goods (for example, a haulage firm) to find out what information they need to make the declarations for your goods, or if you will need to make them yourself.

If you don't import and export products directly check that any agent or business you use is prepared.

Read the guidance on [simplified customs procedures for trading with the EU if we leave without a deal](#).

Further information is provided in [HMRC's advice for businesses trading with the EU](#).

[↑ Contents](#)

Importing and exporting sub-page

Advice includes getting a UK Economic Operator Registration and Identification (EORI) number, deciding whether to hire an import-export agent, and suggests contacting organisations that move goods to identify information needs.

It contains guidance on simplified customs procedures for trading with the EU if we leave without a deal, and links to HMRC's advice for businesses trading with the EU.

[Home](#) > [Environment](#) > [Food and farming](#) > [Farming and food grants and payments](#) > [Basic Payment Scheme \(BPS\)](#)

Guidance

The farming sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU on 29 March without a Brexit deal, there may be changes that affect your arable, livestock or horticulture farming business.

Published 18 February 2019

Last updated 21 February 2019 — [see all updates](#)

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

- [Farm and rural payments: EU funding](#)
- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Your employees](#)
- [Food and drink labelling including organic produce](#)

Farming sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the farming landing page include:

- *Farm and rural payments: EU funding*
- *Importing and exporting*
- *Your employees*
- *Food and drink labelling including organic produce*
- *Pesticides regulations*
- *Chemical regulations*
- *Trade agreements*
- *Data protection*

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy | The veterinary sector | The food and drink sector | The farming sector

www.gov.uk/guidance/the-farming-sector-and-preparing-for-eu-exit#farm-and-rural-payments

BEIS Apps | The food and drink sector

Farm and rural payments: EU funding

In 2019, EU funding for [rural payment schemes including the Basic Payment Scheme](#) will continue, regardless of whether the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal deal.

To get payments, you'll need to follow the same standards as you do now. Where relevant, this will include on-site inspections to UK farms. The Rural Payments Agency (RPA) will continue to administer the schemes.

Importing and exporting

There are some actions you'll need to take if you import or export products between the UK and EU.

Preparing for disruption to trade at the UK-EU border

To minimise disruption to your business at border points you should take the following steps:

- 1 [Get a UK Economic Operator Registration and Identification \(EORI\) number](#) so you can continue to import or export goods and apply for authorisations.
- 2 Decide if you want to hire an import-export agent, or [make the declarations yourself](#).
- 3 Contact the organisation that moves your goods (for example, a haulage firm) to find out what information they need to make the declarations for your goods, or if you will need to make them yourself.

Farm and rural payments: EU funding sub-page

Advice includes that in 2019 EU funding for rural payment schemes including the Basic Payment Scheme will continue, and provides details of the relevant agency administering the scheme.

It also advises that to get payments, farmers will need to follow the same standards as they do now.

[Home](#) > [Government](#) > [Brexit](#)

Guidance

The chemicals sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, and you are a company that makes, supplies or uses chemicals, there may be changes that affect your business.

Published 13 February 2019

From: [Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy](#)

Contents

- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [Regulation and standards](#)
- [Energy and climate](#)

Chemicals sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the chemicals landing page include:

- *Importing and exporting*
- *Regulation and standards*
- *Energy and climate*
- *Your employees*
- *Trade associations*

Regulation and standards

Chemical regulations

After the UK leaves the EU there will be changes to all chemical regulations, including EU REACH (the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation).

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, the EU REACH regulations will be brought into UK law to create 'UK REACH.'

Maintain your access to EU/EEA market

If the UK leaves the EU without a deal, you will need to transfer your registrations to an EU/EEA-based organisation or support your EU/EEA-based importers to become registrants. Read the [guidance from the European Chemicals Agency \(ECHA\)](#).

Maintain access to UK markets

If you are a business based in the UK with an EU REACH registration, your registration will be legally recognised in UK REACH. However, you will need to take action to validate your grandfathered registration.

You will need to:

- open an account on [REACH IT](#) and provide initial information on your registration within 120 days of the UK leaving the EU
- provide full technical information on your registration within 2 years of the UK leaving the EU

Regulation and standards sub-page

Advice includes that after EU Exit there will be changes to all chemical regulations, including the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals Regulation (REACH).

It also advises that businesses will need to transfer their registrations to an EU/EEA-based organisation or support their EU/EEA-based importers to become registrants.

Guidance

The fisheries sector and preparing for EU Exit

If the UK leaves the EU on 29 March without a deal, there may be changes that affect your fisheries business.

Published 1 March 2019

From: [Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs](#)

Contents

- [Access to waters](#)
- [Quota allocations and fishing opportunities](#)
- [Control and Enforcement regime](#)
- [Regional fisheries management organisations](#)
- [Access to ports](#)
- [Importing and exporting](#)
- [European Maritime and Fisheries Fund](#)
- [Labelling and marketing of fishery and aquaculture](#)
- [Your employees](#)

Fisheries sector landing page

Find [here](#)

Topics on the fisheries landing page include:

- *Access to waters*
- *EU and third country waters*
- *Western waters*
- *Quota allocations and fishing opportunities*
- *Control and enforcement regime*
- *Access to ports*
- *Fishing in UK waters*
- *Foreign vessel licensing*

Access to waters

Access to waters will change if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Rules for access to UK waters from 29 March 2019

The UK will control and manage access to fish in UK waters, and be responsible for managing our:

- territorial waters (out to 12 nautical miles)
- Exclusive Economic Zone (out to 200 nautical miles or the median line with other states)

Non-UK vessels will no longer have the automatic right to fish in UK waters.

Non-UK vessels will still be able to sail through UK waters under their right of safe passage set out in The United Nations Convention of the Sea (UNCLOS).

EU and third country waters

There will be no automatic access for UK-registered vessels to fish in EU or third country waters (subject to any existing agreements covering territorial waters).

Western Waters

The current Western Waters effort regime and days at sea effort baselines will continue to apply in UK waters from 29 March 2019.

Fishing in UK waters

Access to waters sub-page

Advice includes that access to waters will change if the UK leaves the EU without a deal and provides guidance on rules for access to UK waters from 29 March 2019.

It also advises that the UK will control and manage access to fish in UK waters, and be responsible for managing our:

- *territorial waters (out to 12 nautical miles)*
 - *Exclusive Economic Zone*
- Non-UK vessels will no longer have the automatic right to fish in UK waters.*

A new Veterinary sector landing page is currently being developed and will go live this week. The page will contain information and links to guidance including:

- Importing and exporting***
- Changes to pet travel***
- Veterinary medicines***
- Your employees***
- Veterinary qualifications***
- Data protection***
- More information***

Existing trade agreements information

Find [here](#)

This guidance contains information about:

- *The status of agreements with countries we have agreements with as a member of the EU*
- *How you would trade without a trade agreement in force*
- *Other trade preferences for imports to the UK*

The screenshot shows the GOV.UK website. At the top is the GOV.UK logo and a search bar. Below the logo are navigation links: Departments, Worldwide, How government works, Publications, Consultations, Statistics, and Announcements. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Business and industry > Trade and investment > Free trade. The main heading is 'Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal' under the 'Guidance' section. The text states: 'The UK is in the process of transitioning existing trade agreements of which the UK participates as a member of the European Union. This note sets out the status of those agreements that may not be in place by exit day.' Below this, it says 'Published 21 February 2019', 'Last updated 21 February 2019 — [see all updates](#)', and 'From: [Department for International Trade](#)'. Under the 'Documents' section, there is a link to 'Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal' with a document icon and the file type 'HTML'. The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom with icons for Edge, Outlook, Teams, Word, and a file explorer.

 **GOV.UK**

Search 

[Home](#) > [Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal](#)


Department for
International Trade

Guidance

Existing trade agreements if the UK leaves the EU without a deal

Updated 21 February 2019

Contents

[Signed UK trade agreements](#)

[What's changing if the UK leaves the EU without a deal](#)

[Steps businesses need to take to prepare](#)

[Other trade preferences for imports to the UK](#)

[Further information](#)

The UK is in the process of transitioning existing trade agreements of which the UK participates as a member of the European Union. This note sets out the status of those agreements that may not be in place by exit day.

This concerns guidance for a no deal scenario. Leaving the EU with a deal remains the government's top priority. This has not changed. While a number of these continuity agreements are likely to be concluded by exit day, it is the duty of government to produce a highly cautious list of those that may not be in place in order that businesses and individuals ensure that they are prepared for every eventuality.

It remains our priority to conclude trade continuity agreements with these countries by exit day or as soon as possible thereafter. We are exploring a range of options to ensure continuity of effect for trade agreements if an agreement has not been ratified and brought into force in time for exit day.

The guidance outlines that we are in the process of transitioning existing trade agreements of which the UK participates as a member of the European Union, and sets out the status of those agreements that may not be in place by exit day.

It also advises that without arrangements to maintain preferences, trade will take place on World Trade Organisation (WTO) terms which may affect businesses' ability to trade, and outlines measures businesses can take to prepare.

A ‘Border’ Business Readiness Communications Toolkit will also be available this week to help businesses prepare for EU Exit.

The communications products (videos, leaflets, social media graphics) have been created to help businesses understand how they can prepare for changes at the border in a no deal EU Exit and avoid disruption to trade. They encourage businesses to take action, and direct them towards GOV.UK for more information.

The toolkit and accompanying materials will be available online soon, on the Partnership Pack page on GOV.UK.

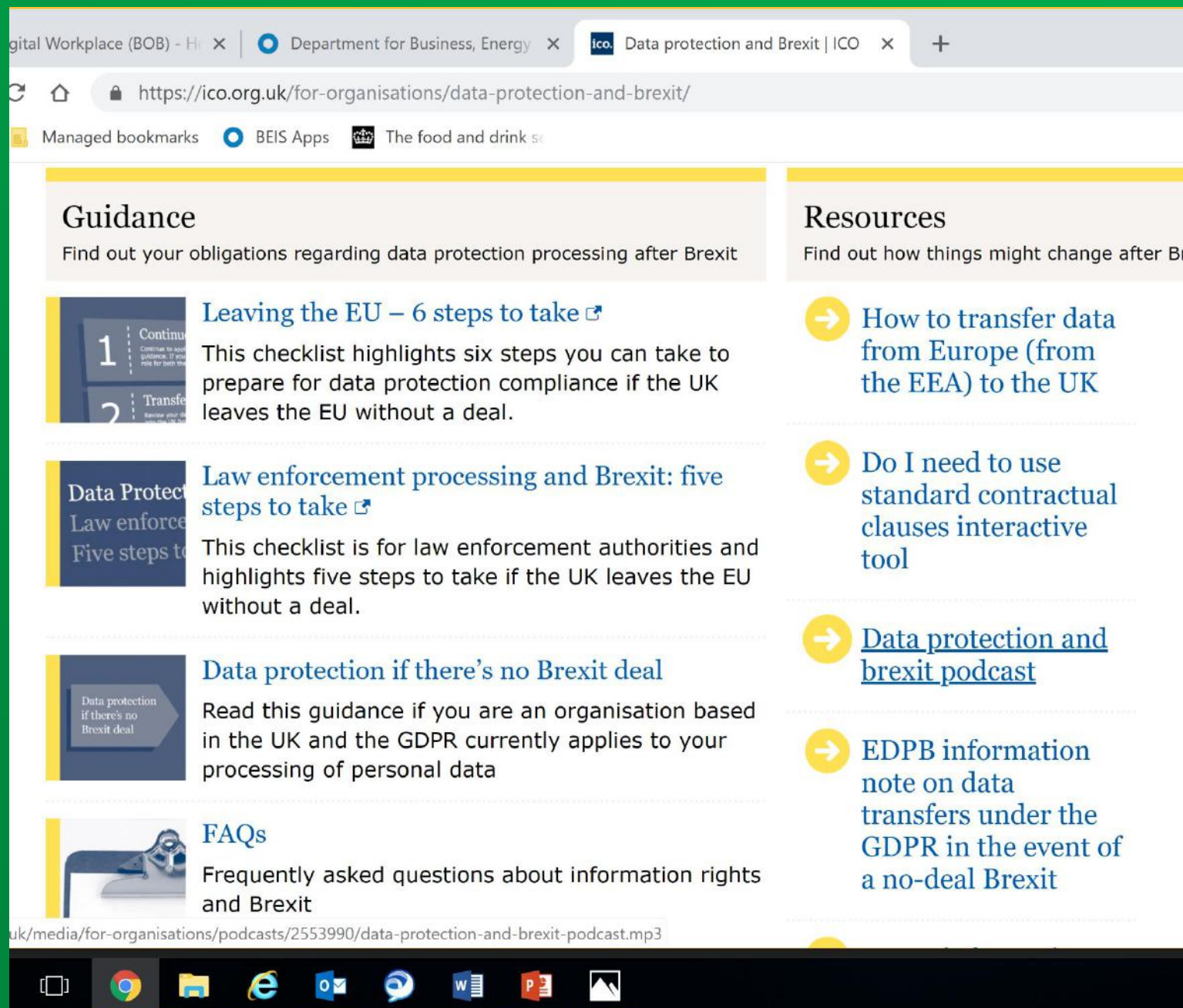


Information Commissioner's Office website

Find [here](https://ico.org.uk/for-organisations/data-protection-and-brexit/)

This guidance contains information about:

- The flow of personal data to and from the UK and EEA countries*
- Assessing whether a business involves transfer of personal data to and from the EEA and how this might be affected in the case of 'no deal'*



The website contains information on data protection compliance, and six steps to take to prepare for compliance if the UK leaves without a deal. It also advises on GDPR and the processing of personal data, and provides answers to frequently asked questions about a wide range of information and data protection issues.

The resources section provides a number of information notes, podcasts and other user friendly tools to support businesses to prepare for EU Exit.

Summary

- Businesses may need to take action before 29 March 2019, and we recommend that businesses ensure they are prepared
- Defra is working closely with other government departments and has published information on the steps that businesses may need to take to prepare for EU Exit.
- The Gov.UK sector landing pages, and other webpages, outlined today can be accessed through the links in this presentation.
- Businesses can find the latest information on EU Exit, how they will be affected, and the actions they can take here:

www.gov.uk/euexitbusiness

Thank you for listening.