

From: [The Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy](#)
To: [Thomas Heather \(Infrastructure & Materials\)](#)
Subject: Business Readiness Bulletin - The UK Transition - 29 December 2020
Date: 29 December 2020 17:48:27



Business Readiness Bulletin – The UK Transition

Issue 65: 29 December 2020

The UK has left the EU, and the Brexit transition period comes to an end this year, in 3 days time. Take action now to get ready for new rules from 1 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

- [United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – European Union Trade and Cooperation agreement](#)
- [Goods movement spanning the end of the Transition Period](#)
- [New and Updated Guidance](#)
- [Importing and Exporting](#)
- [Moving Goods](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)
- [Marketing Goods](#)
- [Personal Data](#)
- [Business Services](#)
- [Professional Qualifications](#)
- [Designated Standards](#)
- [Trade with non-EU Countries](#)
- [Sector Specific Guidance](#)
- [Webinars and Podcasts](#)

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland – European Union Trade and Cooperation agreement

The United Kingdom and the European Union have agreed a Trade and Cooperation Agreement governing future trade relations from 1 January 2021, that will see no tariffs or quotas on the movement of goods produced between the UK and the EU.

Further details and a summary explainer document are available [here](#).

The best place for businesses to get support and information about the changes is at GOV.UK/transition which includes a transition checker tool, so businesses can get a personalised list of actions. To access this, click [here](#).

Goods movement spanning the end of the Transition Period

Guidance has been issued about the movement of goods which span the end of the Transition Period:

Value Added Tax EU Exit Transitional Provisions: Find out about the VAT treatment of transactions or movements of goods which span the end of the Transition Period. For more information, click [here](#).

Ongoing customs movements and procedures at the end of the Transition Period:

Guidance on what to do if you are moving goods or have goods in customs procedures at the end of the Transition Period has been updated in respect of moving goods from GB to NI. This explains that if your goods have Union status and the goods movement started ahead of 11pm (GMT) 31st December 2020, you will not need to create or provide a Goods Movement Reference (GMR) for a period of 7 days after the 31st December. For more information, click [here](#).

New and Updated Guidance

Importing and Exporting

NEW: Rules of Origin: Check your goods comply to trade tariff-free with the EU: With a trade deal in place, UK businesses can trade tariff-free with the EU from 1 January if their products meet agreed Rules of Origin. UK traders need to check if their products comply and how to prove they originate. For more information, click [here](#).

NEW: Changes to approved exporter authorisations from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been issued about approved exporter authorisations which are issued in the UK no longer being valid in EU countries from 1 January 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

NEW: Declaring reusable packaging for Great Britain imports and exports from 1 January 2021: From 1 January 2021, reusable packaging will require an import or export declaration. You may be able to make a declaration at the border (known as a 'declaration by conduct') instead and provide information to HMRC on a quarterly basis. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: VAT and overseas goods sold directly and online to customers in the UK from 1 January 2021: Guidance on how sellers will deal with VAT for goods from overseas that they sell to customers in the UK from 1 January 2021 has been updated to include information about selling goods to Northern Ireland. For more information about selling goods directly to customers click [here](#). For more information about selling goods in the UK using online market places, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Check what declarations need to be made for goods you send from the UK or bring or receive into the UK from 1 January 2021: From 1 January 2021, if you are a UK-based business sending goods from Great Britain or Northern Ireland or if you're a UK-based business bringing or receiving goods into Great Britain or Northern Ireland check what declarations may need to be made. For more information about goods you send, click [here](#). For more information about goods you bring or receive into GB or NI, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Check when you can account for import VAT on your VAT return from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated with information added about accounting for VAT if you do not know the full customs value of goods and using someone to import goods on your behalf. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Carry out international road haulage from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to include information about the journeys you can make in the EU, including cross-trade and cabotage jobs, what you'll need ECMT permits for, and vehicle insurance green cards. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: EU business: Taxes, tariffs and importing from the UK: Guidance has been updated to show that from January 1 2021, the EU and UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement establishes zero tariffs or quotas on trade between the UK and the EU, where goods meet the relevant rules of origin. For more information on taxes and tariffs click [here](#). For more information for EU businesses importing from the UK, click [here](#).

UPDATED: List of customs agents and fast parcel operators: For more information, click [here](#).

Moving Goods

NEW: Claiming preferential rates of duty between the UK and EU from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been added explaining how to claim preferential rates of duty on goods covered in the UK's deal with the EU and how to declare goods imported into the UK on your import declaration. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Goods Vehicle Movement service: If you are a haulier that moves goods through one or more ports that uses the Goods Vehicle Movement Service, you should apply to use Goods Vehicle Movement Service. To register for the Goods Vehicle Movement Service click [here](#). To get a goods movement reference using the service, click [here](#). To check that a goods movement reference is valid and if goods can be moved, click [here](#).

UPDATED: How to use your ATA Carnet: Guidance about how the ATA Carnet works, what to do at customs, and what happens if your goods are lost, destroyed, or stolen, has been updated in respect of UK Transition. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: ECMT international road haulage permits: Guidance has been updated to explain why you need ECMT permits in 2021, and how to buy short-term (30-day) permits to use in January and February 2021 if you want to make a third cross-trade movement. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Export or move horses and ponies to the EU and Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021: Updated guidance on the documents required to move equines from GB to NI and the journey logs needed to transport unregistered equines from or through GB to the EU. For more information, click [here](#).

Northern Ireland

NEW: Claiming a waiver for duty on goods that you bring to Northern Ireland from Great Britain: Guidance has been issued so that you can find out how to claim a waiver if you are bringing goods into Northern Ireland from Great Britain which might otherwise incur 'at risk' tariffs. For more information, click [here](#).

NEW: Starting and ending transit movements in Northern Ireland using common and Union transit: Guidance to assist you in finding out what you need to do if you start and end transit movements in Northern Ireland using common and Union transit has been published. For more information, click [here](#).

NEW: DEFRA update on GB-NI authorised trader self-identification: DEFRA are working to compile a list of businesses that can take advantage of the authorised GB-NI trader 3 month grace period. The grace period will only cover certain goods: products of animal origin (POAO), composite products, food and feed not of animal origin, and plants

and plant products. For more information, including how to assess if your business can be added to the list, click [here](#).

NEW: Using CHIEF for declaring goods into or out of Northern Ireland: From 1 January 2021, find out when you will still be able to use CHIEF (for a limited period of time) for declaring goods into or out of Northern Ireland. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Moving qualifying goods from Northern Ireland to the rest of the UK from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated with information added about goods for which specific conditions apply when moved from NI to GB, and placing qualifying goods on the market in GB. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Apply for authorisation for the UK Trader Scheme if you bring goods into Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated with Information about if you supply goods to a business in Northern Ireland but do not have a fixed address in Northern Ireland. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Supplying authorised medicines to Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated with information which provides assurance that licensing requirements for medicines containing controlled drugs from 1 January 2021 will not be changing. For more information, click [here](#).

Marketing Goods

UPDATED: Product safety and metrology: Guidance has been updated with new guides for Great Britain and Northern Ireland added on Regulation 765/2008 on Accreditation and Market Surveillance. For more information on Great Britain guidance, click [here](#). For more information on Northern Ireland guidance, click [here](#).

Guidance has also been updated to include a guide on 'UK product safety and metrology: What's changed from 2 January 2021 in relation to Great Britain?'. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Placing manufactured goods on the EU market from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to note that the UK conformity assessment bodies will no longer be able to carry out mandatory conformity assessment for products being placed on the EU market. For more information, click [here](#).

Personal Data

UPDATED: Using personal data in your business or other organisation from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been added to include information on the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement interim bridging mechanism for personal data. For more information, click [here](#).

Business Services

NEW: Complying with Provision of Services Regulations for businesses and Competent Authorities from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been published for service providers and Competent Authorities explaining how the Provision of Services Regulations will operate from 1 January 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Providing services and travelling for business from 1 January 2021:

Guidance has been updated to reflect the changes created by the UK and EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement for the following countries: [Norway](#), [Bulgaria](#), [Latvia](#), [Belgium](#), [Italy](#), [The Netherlands](#), [Ireland](#), [Malta](#), [Switzerland](#), [Iceland](#), [Austria](#), [Hungary](#), [Greece](#), [Germany](#), [Slovenia](#), [Romania](#), [Denmark](#), [Luxembourg](#), [France](#), [Finland](#), [Estonia](#), [Sweden](#), [Spain](#), [Slovakia](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Portugal](#) [Cyprus](#), [Poland](#), [Croatia](#), [Lithuania](#) and [Liechtenstein](#).

Professional Qualifications

NEW: Recognition of professional qualifications: Technical guidance for regulatory bodies from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been issued for regulatory bodies explaining how the recognition of professional qualifications operates. For more information, click [here](#)

Designated Standards

UPDATED: Information for businesses about designated standards from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to include links for air conditioners and comfort fans, circulators, dishwashers, domestic ovens and range hoods, electric motors, power supplies, radio equipment, standby and off mode, transformers, tumble dryers and vacuum cleaners. For more information, click [here](#).

Trade with non-EU Countries

After 31 December 2020, EU trade agreements will not apply to the UK. This is the case regardless of the agreement with the EU. The UK has signed trade agreements with various countries and trading blocs.

For more information on signed trade agreements and trade agreements still in discussion, click [here](#).

Sector Specific Guidance

Life Sciences

NEW: Exceptions and modifications to the EU guidance on good pharmacovigilance practices that will apply to UK MAHs and the MHRA from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been published clarifying the expectations on the application of the EU guidance on good pharmacovigilance practices (GVP) from 1 January 2021. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Registering to make submissions to the MHRA from 1 January 2021: Guidance on submissions related to human medicines needing to be submitted directly to the HMRA from 1 January 2021 has been updated with more information. For more information, click [here](#).

Legal Services

Guidance has been updated following the UK-EU trade and cooperation agreement.

NEW: Guidance for Legal Services Business owners: For more information applicable to legal services business owners from 1 January 2021, click [here](#).

NEW: UK lawyers practising in the EU, EEA-EFTA and Switzerland from 1 January 2021: For more information, click [here](#).

Audit and Accounting

UPDATED: Accounting for UK companies from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated following the Free Trade Agreement with the EU. If you list on an EEA regulated market, you will need to check the reporting requirements in the relevant jurisdiction. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Auditing for UK auditors and audit firms operating in the EEA from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to include the Free Trade Agreement with the EU. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Auditing for EEA auditors and audit firms operating in the UK from 1 January 2021: Guidance for what EEA audit firms, EEA auditors, and those with EEA qualifications need to do from 1 January 2021 has been issued. For more information, click [here](#).

Gas and Electricity

UPDATED: Trading gas with the EU from 1 January 2021: Guidance updated to reflect the Free Trade Agreement with the EU. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Trading electricity from 1 January 2021 The UK and the EU have agreed a framework for future electricity trading. The agreed model of trading will take time to develop and will not be in place for 1 January 2021. Previously developed and communicated alternative arrangements will need to be implemented in the interim. For more information, click [here](#).

Food and Drink

NEW: DEFRA updates in agri-food and environmental matters: A round up of the latest news from DEFRA related to agri-food and environmental matters has been produced. To view this, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Export or move live animals and animal products to the EU or Northern Ireland from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to amend the sections on other export requirements and trade agreements to remove references to tariffs for exports to the EU. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Export or move fish to the EU or NI from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated about moving fish from NI to the EU and NI to GB. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Importing and exporting wine from 1 January 2021 Guidance has been updated on how to comply with the rules from 1 January 2021 and information has been added on labelling wine imported from EU and non-EU countries. Details have also been updated on importing and exporting wine between the UK and EU and non-EU countries. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Trading and labelling organic food from 1 January 2021 Guidance has been updated to include the EU recognising the UK for the purpose of exporting organic products to the EU until 31 December 2023. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Protecting food and drink names from 1 January 2021 Guidance has been updated to include information about existing EU products registered under the EU GI schemes before 1 January 2021 being protected under the UK GI schemes. For more information, click [here](#).

Nuclear

UPDATED: Nuclear Cooperation Agreements: implementation guidelines for operators from 2021: The UK and Euratom have agreed a Nuclear Cooperation Agreement. This joint BEIS / ONR guidance covers future reporting requirements for operators. For more information, click [here](#).

UPDATED: Participating in EU nuclear research from 1 January 2021: Guidance has been updated to reflect that the UK has reached an agreement with the EU and Euratom to participate in the Euratom Research and Training programme, Fusion for Energy and the ITER project. For more information, click [here](#).

Space

UPDATED: UK involvement in the EU Space Programme from 2021: Guidance has been updated to reflect that UK users now have until 25 June 2021 to participate in the EGNOS Safety of Life service. For more information, click [here](#).

Webinars and Podcasts

- **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. To register and find a date, click [here](#).
- **HMRC webinars:** Get help on UK transition with online webinars from HMRC by registering for webinars on:
 - Importing: staged controls and how to prepare to use them
 - Exporting: actions you need to take to prepare for 1 January 2021

To register, and for more information, click [here](#).

- **The Health and Safety Executive (HSE)** is hosting a series of free podcasts to help **businesses that make, use or supply chemicals**, understand what actions they need to take to ensure they are prepared for the end of the transition period, when an independent GB chemical regimes will be in place from 1 January 2021. To listen to the podcast, just search 'The HSE Podcast' on your chosen platform. Audiences can also register to receive notifications for each episode released using [this link](#).
- **UK Transition Period:** HSE and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) will be hosting a webinar on Wednesday 20 January at 10am. The event will cover actions businesses need to take in preparation for the end of the transition period on 1 January 2021 when independent GB chemical regimes will be in place. To register, and for more information, click [here](#).

[Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy](#)

[Update your subscription preferences](#). If you have been forwarded this bulletin, you can [subscribe to receive them directly](#). After adding your email address click add subscriptions, tick the Transition bulletin box and then click next.

Update your subscriptions, modify your password or email address, or stop subscriptions at any time on your [Subscriber Preferences Page](#). You will need to use your email address to log in. If you have questions or problems with the subscription service, please visit subscriberhelp.govdelivery.com.

This service is provided to you at no charge by [Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy](#).

This email was sent to heather.thomas@beis.gov.uk using GovDelivery Communications Cloud on behalf of Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy - 1 Victoria Street, London UK SW1H 0ET - 020 7215 5000