



Ein cyf/Our ref KS/460/21

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

21 January 2021

Dear Colleague

I would very much like to wish you a Happy New Year and hope that this letter finds you safe and well as we continue to struggle with the battle against the Covid-19 pandemic.

As you know, the EU transition period has now ended and the UK has left the EU customs union and single market. Following negotiations and the signing of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement on 24 December 2020, the UK now has a different trading relationship with the EU.

The [Business Wales EU Transition Portal](#) provides a central source of advice and guidance for businesses preparing for the new trading relationship, including information on latest developments.

There are new rules for businesses which came into force on 1 January 2021. The UK Government has developed documents (attached) which cover actions that businesses should take to ensure they are compliant with the new rules. Part A provides an overview of key actions for businesses as well as supporting guidance, helpline numbers and FAQs. Part B lists the top five actions for businesses in each of the following sectors: aerospace, automotive, chemicals, construction, consumer goods, electronics and machinery, life sciences, metals and materials, professional business services and retail. I urge you to study these documents in detail.

The UK Government has developed a [tracker](#) which businesses can use to obtain a personalised list of actions. The checker tool will ask questions about your business and provides all the information you need to be aware of such as new rules on:

- [Importing and Exporting](#)
- [Moving goods to and from Northern Ireland](#) including the [Trader Support Service](#)
- [Travelling abroad for work](#)
- [Hiring staff from the EU](#)

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1SN

Gohebiaeth.Ken.Skates@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Ken.Skates@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

There are a number of ways in which you can keep up to date with the latest information provided by the UK Government including:

- Signing up to receive updates on specific actions you need to take once you've used the checker tool at gov.uk/transition.
- Signing up to receive the regular [Business Readiness Transition Bulletin](#) – an email newsletter providing information on major announcements and recently published guidance.
- BEIS Webinars across a range of topics will be available on gov.uk in January 2021. They will provide specific advice on how businesses can ensure they comply with the new rules.

In addition, in relation to trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on 16 December the Welsh Government ran a [webinar](#) with the Trader Support Service on the processes which covers the notifications required for entry into the Republic of Ireland and onward transportation to Northern Ireland. The Trader Support Service has been set up to prepare declarations for moving goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

I understand that this is a challenging time for everyone and would like to encourage you to take action to avoid potential disruption to your business operations. For further support or business advice please use our Business Wales Helpline on 03000 6 03000. If needed, our specialist International Trade Advisers can provide expert tailored advice on any more complex trading issues you are facing.

Yours sincerely



Ken Skates AS/MS

Gweinidog yr Economi, Thrafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru
Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales