



A festive flurry of Brexit activity - Update of 21st December

A quick update on two newsworthy items relating to Brexit.

First the European Commission has published its latest No deal Contingency plan. [The European Commission's measures are designed to limit disruption](#) in certain key areas, such as finance and transport, if Brexit goes ahead in March without a deal.

The [package](#) includes 14 measures in a limited number of areas where a "no-deal" scenario would create major disruption for citizens and businesses in the EU27. These areas include financial services, air transport, customs, and climate policy, amongst others.

The Commission considers it essential and urgent to adopt these measures today to ensure that the necessary contingency measures can enter into application on 30 March 2019 in order to limit the most significant damage caused by a "no-deal" scenario in these areas.

It should be noted that these are not designed for a long term future in the event of No Deal but are just risk mitigation measures, for example it will allow British Road Transporters to operate for 9 months post Brexit.

Secondly, as part of the Government's preparations for the eventuality that the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal agreement in place, a draft legal framework for accreditation has been laid before Parliament. The [draft Statutory Instrument](#) (SI) confirms the appointment of UKAS as the national accreditation body and retains most of the requirements of EU Regulation 765/2008 which sets the legal framework for accreditation in the EU.

The draft SI also contains provisions to bring the 'New Approach' product Directives and Regulations into UK law. This includes provisions for the introduction of a new UK mark and the appointment of UK approved bodies to replace the existing Notified Bodies. The law it covers includes: EMC, Environmental Protection, , Hallmarking, Health and Safety, Market Standards, Accreditation, Offshore Installations, Telecommunications, Weights and Measures, The Product Safety and Metrology Regulations etc

The draft SI will now be debated by Parliament but will only be brought into law if the UK leaves the EU without a Withdrawal Agreement in place.

We will review these further before commenting but if you have any questions please email us on UK.brexit@kiwa.com