



## BREXIT AT A GLANCE...

Weekly news, views and insights from the Welsh NHS Confederation  
Thursday, 18 April



### What Happened This Week...

With both the National Assembly and UK Parliament in recess for the Easter period, it has been a quieter week, politically on the Brexit front. However, for us at the Welsh NHS Confederation we are still doing everything we can to support our members while we await further developments, such as the EU Election process, the publication of additional guidance and legislation. With this in mind this newsletter, maybe released fortnightly until further developments and updates are provided.

This week our priority has been to update the [FAQs document](#) to make sure its up to date with relevant UK and Welsh Government guidance and information. If you have any questions about Brexit and how it could impact on the health and care service please see this document for more details or email any questions to [brexitfaqs@welshconfed.org](mailto:brexitfaqs@welshconfed.org).

We have also been supporting our members, and wider stakeholders, around how EU nationals can continue to live and work in the UK, beyond 30 June 2021, through applying to the EU Settlement Scheme. We are aware that a number of our members have been raising awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme on their websites and through social media and asking EU nationals already working in the NHS to share their stories about working within the NHS and living in Wales. Our priority over the next couple of months will be to continue to raise awareness of the EU Settlement Scheme and also, through the Cavendish Coalition, respond to the UK Government's future skills-based immigration system white paper.

In the last month our Policy Forum has [published its key issues for health and social care as the UK heads towards leaving the EU](#), including the need for reciprocal healthcare arrangements and equal or higher standards for public health. Publications currently in development include Preparing for Brexit – Manager toolkit and an overall Toolkit for what Brexit (with a deal or no deal) means for the NHS in Wales.

Please visit [our website](#) for more information and resources on current developments.

I hope everyone has a well-deserved Easter holiday.

Nesta Lloyd-Jones,  
Interim Director, Welsh NHS Confederation



**Cardiff & Vale UHB** ✓

@CV\_UHB

Following

We're proud to be a diverse organisation; EU Nationals make a huge contribution to our UHB. We want them to feel supported and that they have a secure future in Cardiff and Vale.

For more info on the EU settlement scheme, which is now FREE, visit: [bit.ly/2Pgg2F9](https://bit.ly/2Pgg2F9)



10:58 AM - 16 Apr 2019

## Welsh Government News and Guidance

This week Dr Andrew Goodall, Director General and Chief Executive of the NHS in Wales, released a letter to Chief Executives and Directors of Social Services. The letter acknowledges the extension of Article 50 and asking them to remain ready. The letter will be available in due course [here](#).

A written statement was released by Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Finance and Trefnydd, this week. [Written Statement: Written Statement laid under Standing Order 30C](#) provides amendments to previous Standing Orders. The purpose of the amendments, is to correct deficiencies arising from the UK leaving the European Union in legislation relating to general food and feed safety and hygiene. [Food and Feed Hygiene and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2019](#).

Correspondence: [Letter from Minister for Finance and Trefnydd \(Rebecca Evans\) regarding funding for Brexit preparations](#)

For further information, please see the [Preparing Wales for a no-deal Brexit](#) website and [click here](#) for more information on Health and Social Care sector planning for a no-deal Brexit.

## National Assembly News

**The National Assembly is currently in recess until the 29th of April.**

Plaid Cymru [announced](#) its candidates for the European elections, which include Jill Evans MEP, Carmen Smith, Patrick McGuinness and Ioan Bellin.

[Read](#) the latest Brexit Monitoring Report for the key developments since 25 March, such as the extension of Article 50 until 31 October 2019. Senedd Research publishes regular negotiation monitoring reports for the Assembly's External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee, on the latest position papers, announcements and developments in Brexit negotiations of importance to Wales.

## Round Up: Welsh Labour Spring Conference

During the Welsh Labour leaders speech Mark Drakeford discussed Brexit. He pledged that the Welsh Government would resist any attempt by the UK Government to use the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to bypass the National Assembly, summing up his intention to secure “*not a penny less, not a power lost*”. The First Minister urged participation in EU elections, calling on them to be symbolic of co-operation and not to serve a UKIP agenda. This week, Labour’s Derek Vaughan confirmed he will not stand if elections are held in May. We are expecting an announcement on Labour's selection over the next week.

Jeremy Corbyn focused on Brexit during his speech, reiterating many of his previous sentiments around Conservative mismanagement. Mr Corbyn said Labour will continue talks with the Prime Minister to abide by the result of the referendum without damaging the economy, but that if this is not possible all options should remain on the table, including a public vote. He revealed that he had no forward notice of Theresa May’s intention of engaging Labour in talks and said that the call had come too late in the Brexit process. Mr Corbyn noted that talks had been constructive but said there has been no sign of compromise from the UK Government, urging the Prime Minister not to continue to “*flog her dead deal*”. He was heavily critical of the implication of a potential trade deal with the US and called for a close economic relationship with the EU.

## News and Reports

### [Alun Cairns reassures Holyhead Port staff that leaving the EU with a deal remains the UK Government’s top priority](#)

On a visit to Holyhead Port, Welsh Secretary Alun Cairns reiterated the UK Government’s commitment to honouring the result of the referendum and delivering a smooth and orderly Brexit following the extension of Article 50,

granted by the European Union last week.

The Brexit Health Alliance - an NHS Confederation-led coalition of healthcare organisations, charities and industry - has warned the Brexit extension creates a 'phoney war' leaving everyone continuing to prepare for all possibilities. Alliance co-chair and NHS Confederation chief executive Niall Dickson [called for an end to the 'circus of uncertainty'](#).

#### European Parliament elections: Two Welsh MEPs will not stand

After 10 years as MEPs, Labour's Derek Vaughan and Conservative Kay Swinburne said they would not be candidates.

#### Brexit minister: 'Don't misunderstand leave voters'

A Welsh Government minister has called for Labour to campaign "unashamedly" to use its income tax varying powers in the next assembly elections. Jeremy Miles, Counsel General and Brexit minister, told party members voters would be making a choice on both spending and taxation plans. Powers to vary income tax by 10p in every band were devolved this year.

#### Real divide is wealth not Brexit, says Jeremy Corbyn

The real divide in society is between rich and poor and not Brexit, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has told party members in Llandudno. In his conference speech, Mr Drakeford told delegates that Theresa May was the "first Prime Minister in history to fall on her own sword - and then to miss it". The Welsh Labour leader accused the Conservative party of being "wrapped and trapped by a mythical nostalgia for a past remembered only by its ever diminishing membership".

#### Brexit Health Alliance calls political events 'circus of uncertainty'

With one hand Theresa May gaveth, and with the other she taketh away. That seems to be the Brexit Health Alliance's verdict of the announcement of the 31

October Brexit extension the Health Service Journal wrote. “No deal tomorrow would have been bad for patients so it is a relief that threat has gone away, for now,” it quoted alliance co-chair and NHS Confederation chief executive Niall Dickson as saying. But of course the extension leaves that as one potential outcome which means everyone involved in healthcare must continue to prepare for this possibility and keep contingency plans in place,” Niall added.

### [European Parliament will hold ‘extraordinary session’ if UK approves Brexit deal](#)

MEPs who have failed to get re-elected or who have retired would have to come back for one last time if Theresa May can get the deal passed by British MPs.

### [Factbox - Brexit delayed: What happens next?](#)

### [Welsh Labour Conference: Push to combat anti-semitism amid Brexit splits and pleas for tolerance](#)

### [Negotiating Brexit: Preparing for talks on the UK's future relationship with the EU](#)

This report looks at what went right – and wrong – in the first phase of EU negotiations. It makes a series of recommendations about how the Government should approach the much tougher issues surrounding the UK's long-term future relationship with the EU. The extension of Article 50 provides an opportunity for the UK to prepare properly for the next phase of talks, which will inevitably happen whether or not the UK leaves with a withdrawal agreement.

### [British citizens in Europe after Brexit](#)

The UK Government has three separate agreements with the 31 European countries that accept freedom of movement. Each agreement provides a strong level of protection for British citizens.

[Brexit and the social care staffing crisis](#) (England)

Charles Armitage, CEO of [Florence](#), highlights what nursing and care home managers need to be mindful of during Brexit uncertainty and the social care staffing crisis

[Five options for Brexit trade explained](#)

The British prime minister's request for another Brexit delay results from the intensity of diverging positions in the British parliament over Brexit

## Brexit Frequently Asked Questions

We have updated our Brexit FAQs again this week to include information on latest guidance and developments. Visit the [FAQs page](#) to get the latest version as it's updated and send in any questions to [BrexitFAQs@welshconfed.org](mailto:BrexitFAQs@welshconfed.org)

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Leading Social Services in Wales



## Managing Brexit / EU withdrawal in health and social care in Wales: Frequently asked questions

### UK Government & NHS England Resources

[EU Preparations for a no-deal Brexit](#) The EU and the other 27 Member States have been preparing for a possible no-deal Brexit. The European Commission has had a no-deal preparedness plan which is now complete, and the EU27

have also been implementing their own preparations which will take effect if the UK leaves the EU without a withdrawal agreement. This paper looks at the EU programme and at some of the EU27 measures, particularly in the area of citizens' rights.

## **Guidance**

### [Continuing the UK's trade relationship with Iceland and Norway: parliamentary report](#)

This report explains the government's approach to delivering continuity in the trade relationship between the UK and Iceland and the UK and Norway.

### [Letters to Iceland and Norway on technical barriers to trade and sanitary provisions](#)

These letters include commitments made by the UK, in accordance with the published UK technical notices and related guidance.

### [Digital Service Providers \(EU Exit\) Consultation](#)

#### *Consultation*

A call for views on the UK's proposed approach to regulating non-UK based digital service providers operating in this country under the NIS Regulations.

## **House of Commons:**

### [EU preparations for a no-deal Brexit](#)

#### *Commons Library research briefing*

Looks at the EU's no-deal preparedness plan and some of the EU27 measures in case the UK leaves without a withdrawal agreement

### [Brexit delayed again: until 31 October 2019?](#)

#### *Commons Library research briefing*

Examines the implications of extending Article 50 and the potential impact on decisions taken within the EU over the next few months.

Brexit page on [UK Government](#) providing information about EU Exit including the article 50 process, negotiations, and announcements about policy changes as a result of EU Exit, such as the [Prepare for EU Exit Campaign](#).

[NHS England](#) Preparing for EU Exit page where you can find Guidance and correspondence, which includes [continuity of medicine supply frequently asked questions](#).

## Events

### [1.7 Brexit – What now?](#)

*19th June, 11:30-12:30pm, Confed19*

Chaired by Dr Layla McCay, Director of International Relations, NHS Confederation, this session will be speaking at the Confed19 Conference where she will address the most pertinent challenges, opportunities, and questions for the NHS associated with Brexit. It will provide key information, and include opportunities for interactivity with a diverse panel of experts from the Brexit Health Alliance, NHS and others. The detail of this session will be directed by the evolving political situation, ensuring that the session provides the most current view. To book please [click here](#).

## Looking Ahead

Easter Recess for the National Assembly: April 8 – April 28

### Monday 22 April

- Easter Monday

### Wednesday 24 April

- UK Parliament returns from recess

## Thursday 25 April

- The closing date for [European parliament elections nominations](#) and candidate lists.



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