

Notes of meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019

In attendance



The meeting opened with [redacted] outlining what was currently happening at UEA in response to Brexit:

1. The Communications team are reviewing the web presence and have created a micro site that holds much of the information we have published together with FAQs. Colleagues are asked to review this site and identify areas where content could be improved or where content is missing. Site address is: <https://portal.uea.ac.uk/brexit>
2. Mills & Reeve have delivered several presentations to staff and students. The slides (and video) of these sessions are hosted on the HR website and need to be linked to from the Brexit site: <https://www.uea.ac.uk/hr/employee-information/ukvi>
3. A list of key suppliers has been circulated to Services and Faculties. If there are concerns about any specific suppliers please contact the Procurement Team who will do a risk assessment. Please be aware that some suppliers are unable to provide information. It was also noted that in the case of research consumables there may be requirements in grant to use the same equipment/consumables throughout the project to maintain the integrity of the research.
4. A key issue of the country could be shortages of diesel.
5. The position on access to the UK in the event of a “no-deal” outcome was confirmed for EU Nationals:
  - a. Initial entry for a period of up to three months will be allowed to all non-UK EU Nationals;
  - b. Thereafter, a three year EU leave to remain visa may be requested. This is time limited to 36 months (with no extensions) but permits work and study. Yet to be confirmed what will happen at the end of this 36 month period but this will be in the new Immigration Rules. Fee for the 36 month permission yet to be confirmed but anticipated to be <£100;
  - c. Students commencing courses (PGR in the main) on 1 April have been advised to enter the UK before 29 March (if they are non-UK EU Nationals).
  - d. For those who are already in the UK on 29 March there will be some slight changes to the EU Settlement Scheme dates but fundamentally this will continue as current (see M&R slides for more detail).

6. Need to remember we do not only have students and staff coming to the UK from the EU. However, most visitors should be able to take advantage of the Scheme at 4(b)
7. The landscape for EU research funding is unclear and there is lots we don't know.
  - a. Likely to be less wriggle room;
  - b. Probability of having to reconcile projects to 1 April 2019 and potential cashflow issues during this process;
  - c. Intellectual property issues may affect impact case studies.
8. In reality there could be deal, no-deal or anything in between
9. Recommendation to re-read the withdrawal agreement which has lots more detail of what actually is and is not covered. What is happening with ERASMUS is a good indicator of the devil being in the detail;
10. Likely to be proliferation of bilateral agreements;
11. ERC Grants and Marie Curie will change but it is not clear how existing grants will continue;
12. ERASMUS – separate meetings taking place
13. Communications ready for students around EHIC and the fact that in the event of “no deal” these will stop working. Students abroad are already recommended to have health insurance but this is probably not uniform.
14. Not fully clear how EU students on NHS programmes will continue – potentially an issue for mentorship hours.

*Notes of meeting held on Thursday 28th February 2019*

In attendance



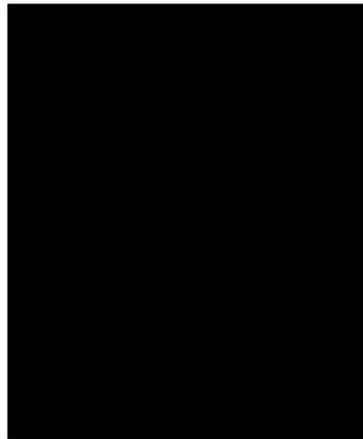
1. Reminded Group that it was agreed to promote UEA is United during March. EU flag would be flown from the flagpole during the month of March.
2. Portal section has been produced: [portal.uea.ac.uk/Brexit](http://portal.uea.ac.uk/Brexit). Please feel free to contact   with amends or additions.
3. European Temporary Leave to remain would be available after the initial three-month visa free period of entry to the UK. This is subject to a maximum stay of three years after which a process yet to be defined under the new Immigration Rules would be required.
4. There may be a challenge on library books and exchange rate fluctuations but some are already on order.
5. UEA is applying for an HMRC number to enable importation of goods. This will simplify the process on any items that are directly imported by the University. Once the number is

available it will be widely shared – and must be quoted on import paperwork. Please do not obtain separate numbers for specific projects;

6. We need to ensure we have people available on an “on-call” basis over the weekend of Brexit;
7. May be worth taking cash (in Euros) as well as cards for travel during Brexit weekend;
8. A specific communication will be issued in the week before Brexit Day giving practical suggestions (in case of no deal).
9. Separate discussion is taking place on Erasmus.

*Notes of meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2019*

In attendance



1. ■ provided a brief on the previous day’s meeting about Erasmus. We will be communicating to Erasmus students about the implications of a “no deal” Brexit especially around the EHIC and the potential need for travel insurance (if students do not already hold it). Noted that there is a probability that Erasmus may not be available for next year and, if that is the case, we would need to work hard at bilateral agreements with partner institutions. There are also implications for incoming students. Current Erasmus students at UEA are covered by the previous announcements that they would fall into the category of people who could, if they wished, apply for pre-settled status.
2. There is a need to look carefully at the following for CMA reasons:
  - a. Any publications by any area of the University to ensure that where Erasmus is mentioned we are aware of what is being said and we are confident that it is correct. Any content will need to be checked with ■ and ■ team;
  - b. Check any references to professional accreditation to ensure that these are correct. It will be important to ensure that any claims about validity of professional qualifications in the EU are thoroughly checked.
3. ■ and ■ are working with the visa compliance team to identify requirements in terms of checking the right to study in the UK and how this will be recorded.
4. There will be a need to do a check to ensure that students’ country codes, nationality and fees status are appropriately coded as Home or EU or International.
5. Colleagues were asked to review the new Portal pages ([www.portal.uea.ac.uk/brexit](http://www.portal.uea.ac.uk/brexit)) and advise of any errors, omissions or additions to ■

6. A note to all staff will need to be drafted and issued to all staff and students in the week leading up to 29 March.
7. Noted that if there were Brexit related extensions required for PGR students that these could be at no fee (provided it was directly related to Brexit).
8. There was a collapse of EU Research Partnerships and it is clear how little other EU countries know about what has been agreed and how the UK government guarantees will work.
9. It may be possible to claim Brexit related financial impacts from the Government Claims Scheme.

22 May extension as this removes the risk of Article 50 being revoked

Does UK want a longer extension?

What will happen if Parliament seizes control?

Lot of backbenchers with political will but not being listened to

Focus on the customer service aspect

Extension to May/June makes little difference

EU Elections decision has to be made by 2 April

Media angles: case of no deal there will be some interest from the press about what we might lose/gain?

BEIS on large European RDF bid for the second iteration of the LCIF to be approved and signed by 29 March. Passed all the tests for value for money.

Erasmus team – how many abroad; Impact on applications

Students who are abroad and/or going to events

Communication to students needs to reflect deal, no deal (also reflect all views)

Care re Irish Students – fall into a different category

Is there an issue about the promotion of the People's march? Freedom of speech

Department of Education has launched a portal to submit live projects on or before 29 March including formal awards

Level of trust of the government guarantee (and size of the hook)

Mental Health and Wellbeing – day after the referendum awareness/Friday 29<sup>th</sup>