

Construction

Example include:

Construction companies, builders, tradespeople, distributors of construction materials and chemicals

Key facts

- 1 Businesses operating in the construction sector may face new rules when the UK's relationship with the EU changes
- 2 For example, importing and exporting construction materials and chemicals may require compliance with two sets of rules

How you buy and sell construction materials from and to the EU may be different in the future. Hiring people from EU countries will also change. For a period of time we will not know the details of our new relationship with the EU. Therefore, businesses are advised to consider their route to market and look at what trading under a base-line scenario of World Trade Organization rules would potentially mean for their margins.

People

- EU nationals currently in the UK can apply for (pre-)Settled Status under the Settlement Scheme
- From 2021, future EU staff will need to apply under a points-based immigration system if they want to work here

- UK nationals **travelling** to the EU will require a passport that is valid for at least 6 months and can stay for a maximum of 90 consecutive days
- **UK construction workers** carrying out projects in Europe may be subject to local (employment) and immigration rules. Their professional qualifications may not be recognised

Trade

- **Import and export of goods** may attract tariffs and will be subject to customs controls
- Rules around **placing products on the EU and UK markets** will be different

Regulation

- **Construction Products Regulation:** CE marking will replace by a UK Conformity Assessment (UKCA) mark and conformity assessments and certificates for Europe-bound products will have to be issued by an EU-recognised notified body
- **Chemicals:** The EU's main chemicals regulation, REACH, will be replaced by UK REACH and the manufacturing and importing of biocides, pesticides, and classification, labelling and packaging of chemicals will also be impacted

To do

People

- Support and encourage current EU staff to apply for (pre-)settled status. Check out the [Settlement Scheme Employer Toolkit](#)
- Read the information on future recruitment of EU staff: [European Temporary Leave to Remain](#) and a [new immigration policy](#)

Trade

- Read the [general guidance for the construction sector](#)
- Find out what [selling goods to EU countries](#) will mean
- Find out what [buying goods from EU countries](#) will mean
- Register for [transitional simplified procedures](#) for imports from the EU
- Check out [temporary changes to tariffs on import](#)
- Call the UK Export/Import helpline for support: 0300 3301 331

Regulation

- Read the guidance on [Construction Products Regulation](#)
- Read the [HSE guidance](#) and [guidance on how to comply with REACH](#)
- Anticipate opening an account on REACH IT (not yet in use) to provide information on your chemicals registrations
- Consider changes to the labelling and packaging of chemicals and to using biocides, pesticides and hazardous chemicals
- Check what it means to [provide services in EU countries](#) after Brexit

- You may also want to read the EU preparedness notices on [professional qualifications](#), [services and posted workers](#), [timber products](#), [REACH](#), [plant protection products](#), [biocidal products](#) and guidance from [ECHA](#)

Check the [get ready for Brexit business tool](#) and the [EU Preparedness Notices](#) for all other questions on EU exit and your sector.

What's next?

If an exit agreement is ratified, trade under EU rules will continue as normal for at least a year during an 'implementation period'. In the event that there is no implementation period, the commercial environment will change faster and we will trade with the EU under WTO rules. In the longer term, a new trade agreement will lay down the final conditions for UK-EU trade. As part of this new commercial environment, a UKCA mark and UK REACH will be phased in.

For more information on EU exit and your business: Visit [London Growth Hub](#) or [sign up for free business resilience training](#).

London Growth Hub

growthhub@london.gov.uk