

Construction

Key Facts

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Businesses operating in the construction sector will face new rules from next year

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For example, importing and exporting construction materials and chemicals will require compliance with two sets of rules

Examples include: Construction companies, builders, tradespeople, distributors of construction materials and chemicals

How you buy and sell construction materials from and to the EU will be different from next year. Hiring people from EU countries will also change. Businesses are advised to consider their route to market and look at what trading as a business from a country outside the EU would 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 they can stay for a maximum of 90 consecutive days in any 180 day period
- 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 will be subject to customs controls and may attract tariffs
- Rules around placing products on the EU and UK markets will be different

Regulation

- Construction Products Regulation: CE marking will be replaced 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
- Check the [ICO guidance on GDPR](#)

To do

People

- Support and encourage current EU staff to apply for (pre-)settled status. Check out the [Settlement Scheme Employer Toolkit](#)

- Follow the development of a new points-based 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
- 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](#) from next year
- You may also want to read the EU Notices on [professional qualifications](#), [services and posted workers](#), [timber products](#), [REACH](#),

[plant protection products](#), [biocidal products](#) and guidance from [ECHA](#)

- Check the [ICO guidance on GDPR](#)

Go to the [Government's checker tool](#) and the [EU Notices](#) for all other questions on EU exit and your sector.

What's next

Trade under EU rules will continue as normal until December 2020 during a "transition" period. A new trade agreement will lay down the final conditions for UK-EU trade from 2021. As part of this new commercial environment, a UKCA mark and UK REACH will be phased in.

For more information on the changes next year:

Visit [London Growth Hub](#) or [sign up](#) for free business resilience training

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