

Food and Drink Federation  
10 Bloomsbury Way  
London  
WC1A 2SL

**Len Duvall AM**  
Chair of EU Exit Working Group  
City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London  
SE1 2AA

Sent via email

24 January 2019

*Dear Mr. Duvall,*

**Re: EU Exit Working Group**

Thank you for your letter of 14 January 2019 regarding the concern the Food and Drink Federation (FDF) has around the level of information being made available to business by Government, and on FDF's work it is undertaking with its member companies to prepare for a no-deal Brexit scenario.

In terms of the level of information available, we have found the main obstacle to be that we are no further forward in terms of clarity on what the UK's Exit from the EU will look like. We will not be able to any further forward until these political decisions are made, as opposed to government not having the relevant information available. The only outcome business can begin to plan for is a no-deal scenario, as it remains the default outcome.

There are still questions remaining that need to be answered. The enclosed document that accompanies this letter is a resource that FDF has developed from members 'No-Deal Brexit: 50 questions we're trying to get answered'.

At FDF, we have created a 'Brexit Roadmap' resource for member companies. The resource includes guidance and advice, analysis of relevant government publication, webinars and political updates as and when they arise. We hold specific internal committees for members to use as a platform for discussion, of which no deal has become an increasing item on the agenda. We have established key contacts for member companies to contact FDF on the following areas: trade policy and customs, workforce and labour, food safety, food labelling, devolution issues, politics and process, and No Deal planning – of which I am the lead for within the organisation.

I hope you have found the information provided to be of use.

*Yours,*



**Tim Rycroft**  
**FDF Chief Operating Officer**

Encl. No deal Brexit: 50 questions we're trying to get answered

# No-deal Brexit: 50 questions we're trying to get answered

fdi

## TRADE - IMPORTS

1. What tariffs will apply to UK imports from the EU?
2. What new non-tariff barriers will importers face?
3. Where will non-EU imports arriving via Rotterdam undergo product checks?
4. When will UK approval requirements for imports of POAO be in place?
5. Where will new UK BIPs be sited and when will they be operational?
6. What will be the process for goods transiting the UK en route to and from Ireland?
7. Will there be continued acceptance of EU legal labels on the UK market?
8. What protections will apply to EU GIs sold in the UK?
9. Will arrivals of ingredients/packaging for J-I-T production be prioritised?
10. How will Government protect UK Critical National Infrastructure (incl. food)?
11. Will the legal vices for the reverse VAT charge result in an accounting entry in the same return?

## TRADE - EXPORTS

12. Treatment of products carrying EU certification and other marks?
13. Where will checks take place for exports arriving in Europe via the Channel?
14. Consequences for farmers and growers of export friction?
15. Measures to accelerate/replace AEO status and need for EORI number?
16. Continued acceptance of UK-legal labels on EU market or for export to EU?
17. What protections will apply to UK GIs sold in the EU?
18. How will UK's application for approved third country status (e.g. for POAO) be accelerated?
19. Which EU FTAs will remain in place?
20. What ROO will producers face when exporting to these FTA partners?
21. Which EU FTAs will not be rolled over immediately in March 2019?

## TRANSPORT & LOGISTICS

22. Availability of permits for UK road haulage drivers?
23. Lorries stuck at the channel ports?
24. Waiver of restrictions on drivers' hours (and other regulations)?
25. Plans to keep trunk roads moving?
26. Availability of suitable additional storage facilities?
27. How will Government prioritise movements of limited shelf life products?

## EMPLOYMENT

28. What new checks for employers who employ EU citizens and when required?
29. Would the settled status scheme process, rules and timescale go ahead as planned?
30. When would freedom of movement end and new immigration rules be introduced?
31. Will the consultation on new immigration rules take account of workforce forecasting to ensure sufficient labour for the economy?

## FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES

32. What plans are being made to mitigate the anticipated devaluation of Sterling?
33. What support to defray/mitigate the costs of contingency planning?
34. What plans are being made to mitigate the impact of VAT and/or tariff costs?
35. What measures are planned to encourage banks to support (particularly) SMEs?
36. What plans to delay/mitigate other burdens on business until economy is stable?

## THE UK BORDER WITH IRELAND

37. What border checks on the UK or Irish side of the border?
38. What enhanced measures to combat fraud and other crime?
39. Cross-border movements of workers and part-finished products?
40. Plans to mitigate disruption at Irish Sea ferry ports?

## INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

41. Responsibility for food safety risk assessment and risk management?
42. What relationship will the UK have with EFSA regarding its risk assessment activity?
43. What contingency support for regulators and food safety enforcement?
44. Role of devolved administrations (e.g. Food Standards Scotland) in food regulation?
45. What access for UK to RASFF?

## EMERGENCY POWERS

46. Which powers will be used, and how?
47. What regulations may be waived to reduce supply chain friction and product waste?
48. What regulations may be relaxed to enhance product flow e.g. competition law?
49. Process for prioritisation of food over other cargoes; and certain foods over other foods; and schools/hospitals over retail?
50. Plans for compulsory lease/purchase of warehousing or other logistical resources?