

Board of Directors

Briefing Paper – EU Exit

As of 15th December 2020, the UK and EU negotiators have restarted talks over a post-Brexit trade deal in hope of securing an agreement. It is still uncertain as to whether or not a deal will be reached.

All local actions are in progress or have been completed. The EU Exit working group is continuing to meet on a fortnightly basis and are continuing to implement and embed the local actions set out below.

- ✓ Put in place and test business continuity and emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR) plans.
- ✓ Ensure an EU exit senior responsible officer (SRO) and associated subject matter expert (SME) team are in place.
- ✓ Keep your board aware up to date with progress and highlight issues.
- ✓ Finalise communication plans and key messages to frontline colleagues.
- ✓ Revise operational guidance and current information to ensure plans are up to date.
- ✓ Revisit assurance exercises and address outstanding actions.
- ✓ Test and communicate escalation routes.
- ✓ Engage across the system and walk the floor to identify any further concerns, interdependencies, and vulnerabilities around supply chain.
- ✓ With partners, ensure an integrated system-based approach to plans and ensure local risk assessments are up to date.
- ✓ Consider the conditions, such as the implications of winter, port access assumptions and vulnerable populations.

The Trust will be testing business continuity and escalation arrangements facilitated via a virtual table top exercise (Exercise Winter Crown) on 17th December 2020; the learning from this will be shared accordingly.

In his regular updates, the National Director Keith Willetts, has recommended that an 'Expert Management Team' should be ready to mobilise at short notice in the weeks preceding and proceeding 31st December 2020 comprising:

- SRO
- Director of Nursing
- Medical Director
- Procurement
- Estates
- Chief Information Officer
- Overseas Business Manager

SATH has these roles covered as part of the working group. Executives have been made aware that they may need to respond to EU Exit related issues 24/7 (via the Executive on Call arrangements).

The COVID-19 vaccine is categorised as a category 1 product and therefore will be given priority access as per other medicines and devices that fall within this category.

The Trust submits a daily Sitrep to NHSE/I in relation to our COVID status. As of 15th December 2020 this Sitrep will also include questions in relation to EU Exit impacts on the 10 key areas of concern (Supply of Medicines & Pharmacy, Supply of Medical Devices and Clinical Consumables, Supply of non- clinical consumables, goods and services, Supply of blood products, transplant organs and tissues, Workforce, Estates and Facilities, Clinical Trials, Data Sharing, processing and access, Reciprocal Healthcare, Cost Recovery).

EU Exit has been added to the Corporate Risk Register (Risk Ref CRR24) and draft BAF.