



Article 50: Preparedness

Call for Evidence

Introduction

The Scottish Parliament's Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee has been undertaking on-going monitoring and scrutiny of the Article 50 withdrawal negotiations and their implications for Scotland. The overarching remit of the Committee's Inquiry is to consider:

- the implications for Scotland and EU citizens in Scotland of the Article 50 withdrawal treaty;
- the process by which the UK position in relation to the Article 50 withdrawal negotiations are agreed and how Scotland's interests are taken into account;
- the implications for Scotland of any discussions or agreement on the framework for the future relationship with the EU.

Background

A range of scenarios may emerge from the Article 50 negotiations. These include, but are not limited to, the UK Government's 'Chequers plan', a 'Canada-plus' trade agreement, a 'European Economic Agreement' (also termed a 'Norway model') and a 'No Deal' scenario where the UK would rely upon World Trade Organisation rules. Recently, both the European Commission and UK Government, have been producing guidance for specific sectors of the economy in the event of a no-deal scenario. To date, the European Commission has published 68 ['preparedness notices'](#) whilst the UK Government has published general guidance on the UK Government's preparations for a no-deal scenario and a further 24 ['technical notes'](#) with specific guidance for individual sectors. It is expected that the UK Government will publish further 'technical notes' in the coming weeks.

The Committee considers that the Article 50 withdrawal negotiations between the European Union and the UK Government are now entering a critical phase. Accordingly, the Committee seeks the views on the current impact of the Article 50 negotiations on individuals, businesses and organisations in Scotland and what steps

are being taken to prepare for the UK's withdrawal from the EU. Specifically, the Committee would welcome views on:

- What impact the Article 50 negotiations have had upon your business / organisation to date?
- What preparations, if any, are being made by your business / organisation for the range of scenarios which may result from the Article 50 negotiations?
- What you consider the impact of a no-deal outcome would be for your business / organisation?
- To what extent, the guidance issued by the European Commission and UK Government has been helpful in helping you to prepare for the UK's withdrawal from the EU?
- What further support or guidance you consider the Scottish Government, UK Government and / or European Commission should be providing to enable individuals, businesses and organisations in Scotland to prepare for the UK's withdrawal from the EU?

How to submit your views

The call for written views will close on **Friday 12 October 2018**.

Before making a submission, please read our [privacy notice](#) about submitting your views to a Committee. This tells you about how we process your personal data.

Please use the template provided (see webpage) to format your submission. This includes the Data Protection Form. **Fill this out and return it with your submission.**

We welcome written views in English, Gaelic, Scots or any other language. Due to the time required to process and analyse evidence, late submissions will only be accepted with the agreement of the Committee.

Written responses should be sent **electronically, in the template format (as above)** to the following address. Ideally they should be no more than four sides of A4.

CTEEA.inquiries@parliament.scot

If you cannot submit electronically you may send in a hard copy written submission. If you are sending in a hard copy submission please print off and include a copy of the Data Protection Form. Please send them to:

Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee
Room T3.40
Scottish Parliament
Holyrood
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Contact

For details about the Committee's work on this Inquiry please contact Dr Stephen Herbert, Clerk to the Committee, Tel: 0131 348 5234 or:

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