

Board of Directors

Thursday 4 February 2021

Report Title:	EU Exit Update
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Report author(s):	Anne Finn, Head of EPRR and EFM Contracts
Previously considered by:	EMC, Trust Board

Approval

Discussion

Information

Assurance

Executive summary

The UK exited the EU on 31 January 2020, and the subsequent transition period ended on 31 December 2020. The UK Government reached an agreement with the EU about the ongoing relationship beyond the end of the transition period. The Future Relationship Bill was introduced into Parliament on 30 December 2020 and was passed into law. The agreement was in place on 1 January 2021.

In response to EU Exit, the Trust established an EU Exit Implementation Group with senior responsible officer (SRO) leadership and cross department and division representation. This group is leading our response and ensure that the Board and the Executive Management Committee are regularly briefed and assured.

A full risk assessment is in place and is regularly reviewed in line with updated information on potential disruptions to services caused by reaching the end of the transition period. ESNEFT continues to monitor, update and test business continuity and emergency preparedness, resilience and response (EPRR) plans in relation to the shifting political picture and regional updates.

Exercises to test resilience and response plans have taken place internally in ESNEFT and with system partners in Suffolk, Essex and with wider regional and national teams. ESNEFT are also represented and actively feeding into wider multi-agency response planning through the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) and the Local Health Resilience Partnerships (LHRP).

Development of and updates to communication plans and key messages to front line colleagues in line with central messages and guidance are continuing.

To date, there has been no impact on Trust operations across our sites; however, advice from the government is that some effects may not be felt for up to six months following the end of the transition period. It has not been necessary to enact any business continuity plans to date.

NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSE/I) have asked that all NHS organisations keep in place the plans and mitigations stood up for the end of the transition period until further notice as the risk of disruption at the border remains. In line with NHSE/I guidance we will continue to monitor this through our Trust group and our local resilience forums.

Continuity of supply preparations undertaken by the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) will remain in place, as they are required to mitigate against potential disruptions caused by new customs and border processes.

The Trust's EU Exit Implementation Group will continue to monitor and revise planning and mitigations until they are no longer required.

This information is provided to the Board for ongoing information and assurance.

Action Required of the Board/Committee

- To accept the assurance of the plans in place.

Link to Strategic Objectives (SO)		Please tick
SO1	Keep people in control of their health	<input type="checkbox"/>
SO2	Lead the integration of care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SO3	Develop our centres of excellence	<input type="checkbox"/>
SO4	Support and develop our staff	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SO4	Drive technology enabled care	<input type="checkbox"/>
Risk Implications for the Trust (<i>including any clinical and financial consequences</i>)		There are potential risks to the Trust performance, service provision and the maintaining of critical activity, as a result of the end of the transition period being reached.
Trust Risk Appetite		Quality: The board will take minimal risks when it comes to patient safety, patient experience or clinical outcomes. Its tolerance for risk taking will be limited to decisions where the impact is low and the potential mitigations are strong
Legal and regulatory implications (<i>including links to CQC outcomes, Monitor, inspections, audits, etc.</i>)		Compliance with the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 by ensuring the organisation is fulfilling its duties as defined in the document.
Financial Implications		There are unknown financial implications however if risks are realised it is expected that there will be increases in costs in relation to supply chain, procurement and labour provision.
Equality and Diversity		There are no implications for equality and diversity in this paper