

## Brexit Update

**31 March 2017:** President of the European Council, Donald Tusk submitted the [draft negotiating guidelines](#) to the 27 Member States for adoption on 29 April.

**30 March 2017:** The Department for Exiting the European Union published [The Great Repeal Bill: White Paper](#)

**29 March 2017:** The UK formally notified the EU of its intention to trigger Article 50 and begin the process for leaving the EU.

The below shows a timeline of the expected events during the two-year negotiating period.



## Brexit speech 17 January 2017

On 17 January Theresa May delivered a speech, which set out the Government's high-level strategy for negotiating Britain's exit from the EU.

### Overview

- It has been confirmed that on repeal of the European Communities Act, Britain will convert '[EU acquis](#)' to British Law.
- Theresa May is adamant that 'no deal for Britain is better than a bad deal for Britain'.
- Updates on negotiations will only be publicised when it is in the national interest to do so.
- Britain will not remain a member of the Single Market after exiting the EU.
- The Government has twelve objectives to deliver a new, positive and constructive partnership between Britain and the European Union.

### Twelve objectives

#### 1. Certainty and clarity

- British Parliament will debate and decide changes to law following Britain's exit of the EU
- Both the House of Commons and the House of Lords will [vote](#) on the final deal prior to it taking effect ([Parliament's statutory role in ratifying treaties](#))

#### 2. Control of our own laws

- Our exit from the EU will end the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice in Britain
- British laws will be made in Westminster, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast

#### 3. Strengthen the Union

- A Joint Ministerial Committee on EU negotiations has been formed so that the devolved powers of the UK can input into the process
- As powers are repatriated from Brussels, these will be apportioned to the right devolved administration
- Leaving the EU must not create new barriers within the UK
- All decisions currently within the remit of the devolved administrations will remain as such

#### 4. Maintain the Common Travel Area with Ireland

- A practical solution to maintain the Common Travel Area, while protecting the integrity of Britain's immigration system is to be delivered
- The solution must be fair to everyone who lives and works in Britain

#### 5. Control of immigration

- Britain will control the number of people entering the country from Europe

## **6. Rights for EU Nationals in Britain and British Nationals in the EU**

- An agreement is to be made as quickly as possible, as it is the right and fair thing to do

## **7. Protect workers' rights**

- Workers' rights to be fully protected and maintained as European Law is translated into domestic regulation
- The Government will also build on these rights to ensure legal protection for workers keeps pace with the changing labour market

## **8. Free trade with European Markets**

- The Government will pursue a bold, ambitious free trade agreement with the EU to achieve the freest possible trade of goods and services between Britain and the Member States
- The new treaties will be based on elements of the current trade agreements to achieve a strategic partnership

## **9. New trade agreements with other countries**

- New customs agreement with the EU outside of the EU Customs Union
- The aim is to remove as many barriers to trade as possible
- Britain will establish its own tariff schedule with the World Trade Organisation

## **10. The best place for science and innovation**

- Britain will welcome an agreement to continue to collaborate with European Partners on major science, research and technology initiatives

## **11. Co-operation in the fight against crime and terrorism**

- Future relationship to include practical arrangements on matters of law enforcement and sharing intelligence information with EU allies
- We will continue to work closely with European allies on foreign and defence policy

## **12. A smooth, orderly Brexit**

- The Government will ensure an agreement about Britain's future partnership with the EU is reached by the time the two-year Article 50 process ends
- It is believed that a phased process of implementation is in both Britain and the EU's mutual self-interest. This is to give businesses enough time to plan and prepare for the new arrangements
- Each issue will have a phased implementation and any interim measures are likely to be a matter of negotiation.

**Ends  
March 2017**