



**YOU NEED
TO ACT
NOW**

November 2020

ARE YOU READY FOR NEW RULES FOR BUSINESS WITH THE EU?

Urgent message from the Business Secretary

There is just over **a month to go** until the end of the transition period and there will be new rules to follow from 1 January 2021 onwards. As Business Secretary, I urge you to **ACT NOW** to avoid your business operations being interrupted when the transition period ends.

You can find out what you need to do by going to gov.uk/action-2021. The top actions you can take now to prepare are:

- 1. Check the new rules on importing and exporting goods between the EU and Great Britain from 1 January 2021. Different rules will apply in Northern Ireland.**

Your business could face delays, disruption or administrative costs if you do not comply with new customs procedures from 1 January 2021.
- 2. If you are planning to recruit from overseas from 1 January 2021, you will need to register as a licensed visa sponsor.**

You may not be able to legally hire people from outside the UK if you do not have a licence. New employees from outside the UK will also need to meet new job, salary and language requirements. Irish citizens and those eligible under the EU Settlement Scheme are not affected.
- 3. Use GOV.UK to identify changes affecting manufactured goods, such as new marking requirements or approvals needed, to ensure your business is ready to sell them in the UK and EU.**

You may not be able to sell your goods in the UK and the EU from 1 January 2021 unless you act.
- 4. If you are moving goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland, check the latest guidance.**

At the end of the transition period, the Northern Ireland Protocol comes into force. There will be special provisions which only apply in Northern Ireland so if you move goods into, out of, or through Northern Ireland make sure you check the latest guidance at: gov.uk/northern-ireland-trade



**FIND OUT WHAT YOU
NEED TO DO BY USING
THE CHECKER TOOL**



GOV.UK/ACTION-2021

- Check**
- Change**
- Go**

THE CHANGES CAN TAKE LONGER THAN YOU THINK, SO START TODAY

The Government is providing a range of support, including webinars to walk you through the changes. These are available to watch on demand at: [gov.uk/transition-webinars](https://www.gov.uk/transition-webinars). You should also check with your suppliers and customers that they are taking action.

These are challenging times, but the transition period is ending on 31 December 2020 and there will be **NO EXTENSION**. Unless you take action, there is a risk your business operations will be interrupted. The Government will be there to help you to take advantage of the many new opportunities that being an independent trading nation will bring.

Yours sincerely,



The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
Secretary of State for Business,
Energy & Industrial Strategy



SCAN TO LISTEN TO
OUR WEBINARS
[GOV.UK/TRANSITION-WEBINARS](https://www.gov.uk/transition-webinars)

-  **Check**
-  **Change**
-  **Go**



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

NEW RULES FOR BUSINESS WITH
EUROPE START ON 01 JAN 2021

THERE ARE ACTIONS YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS
TO TAKE NOW AT [GOV.UK/ACTION-2021](https://www.gov.uk/action-2021)