



Reference Number: FOI-101004584348

Response provided under: Freedom of Information Act 2000

Request and response:

1. Please send me any risk assessments you have done for a no-deal Brexit.

I can confirm that Cornwall Council holds information falling within the description specified in your request. Our '[Catalyst for Change](#)' assessment provides our review of the implications, risks and opportunities of Brexit for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Furthermore, a review of Brexit risks resulted in the addition and updating of risks to the Council's corporate risk register, which was recently updated. You can find the most recent version of this risk register within the latest [Strategic Risks Report](#), and which details evaluations of Brexit risks across five areas (the latest update for which will be released during the week commencing 9 September). EU exit has therefore been considered as a factor in resourcing decisions, including through arrangements for suitable resourcing to handle any expected increase in workloads.

A document is planned for future publication which will provide further details of Cornwall Council's Brexit risk management activity, as this evolves in response to national events and preparations. Some existing detail is therefore currently exempt under Section 22 (information held with a view to its future publication), but will be detailed in due course.

Key documents – including our 'Catalyst for Change' assessment, our post-Brexit plan 'New Frontiers', and assorted research and consultation submissions – are available at www.cornwall.gov.uk/brexit. This webpage is frequently updated, so additional information resulting from continuing preparatory activity will appear on this page.

2. (If not already answered in question 1) What are the risks you have identified in the event of a no-deal Brexit?

Multiple risk areas have been identified for Cornwall as identified in the Catalyst for Change document. Issues pertaining to the Council specifically have been identified in line with Government's guidance to local Government. The identification of these as risks does not entail that they are evaluated as *high* risk (in respects of likelihood or impact), but rather as mere possibilities (however unlikely) to be considered as part of a prudent approach to risk management. In general, this includes issues arising from disruption to supply chains and contractor viability; adverse consumer behaviours; contract failure; disruption to data sharing arrangements; labour and skills supply or retention; vulnerability or hardship issuing from uncertain immigration status/eligibilities or adverse

economic circumstances (including inflation); reductions in social cohesion; increasing demand on services; data; adaptation to new replacement systems; capacity, skills and resourcing for unexpected new functions; health, safety, or environmental issues arising from new regulatory arrangements, systems or adverse public behaviours; reductions in income or inflationary pressures; and adaptation to new legislative changes or uncertainty. Government has also provided guidance on some specific issues in relation to specific aspects of Council operations. For example, in respects of Adult Social Care, guidance has been provided in relation to the following areas: supply of medicines and vaccines, medical devices, clinical and non-clinical consumables, workforce, professional regulation, reciprocal healthcare, research and clinical trials, and data sharing, processing and access.

3. (if not already answered in Qs 1 or 2) What are the risks you have identified for rural communities in the event of a no-deal Brexit?

As above. The industrial structure, sparsity and remoteness may be reasonably assumed to be aggravating factors cross-cutting many risk areas.

4. How many training exercises have been carried out so far by organisations involved in your Local Resilience Forum, from 1st April 2017, to help prepare for a no-deal Brexit? What was the purpose of each exercise?

Cornwall is collaborating closely with the Devon, Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Resilience Forum to coordinate cross-organisational preparations through regular engagement with LRF partners. None of this coordinative activity falls under the descriptor 'training exercise'.

5. How many no-deal training exercises are planned between now and October 31st and what is the purpose of each?

As above.

6. How much extra funding have you received to deal with and prepare for a no-deal Brexit?

£315,000.

7. How many staff do you have working full time on preparing for a no-deal Brexit?

Staff resourcing for no deal preparatory work is distributed across the council, with relevant activity sitting alongside other responsibilities and with no staff working wholly on no deal preparations.

8. How much has no deal Brexit planning cost you to date? For example in terms of salaries, training, equipment, building, contracts etc

To date approximately £50,000 of the allotted no deal funding has been spent, with further planned. Further staff resource has been utilised to support preparatory work, however it is not possible to reliably disaggregate this activity – and it is considered as part of business as usual activity (such as usually scheduled supplier engagement work). A very rough estimate of total costs to

date is assessed as around £80-90,000, though this estimate should be interpreted with the caveat on disaggregation in mind.

- 9. *Has any council funding been diverted from other areas to spend on preparing for, or dealing with, a no deal Brexit? If so, where did that funding come from?***
No.

Yours sincerely,

Strategy and Engagement

Information provided by: Strategy and Engagement Service

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