



Chairs of LRFs

Date: 26 July 2018

Dear Colleagues

## BREXIT PREPARATIONS

Recent media coverage has highlighted the UK Government is beginning to assess the impact of a 'no deal' exit from the European Union (EU) next March. The EU itself has recently published a [document](#) setting out some broad guidance as to what Member states ought to be considering and the UK Government has promised to publish a series of technical papers over the summer providing further advice on potential risks and issues.

Prior to the publication of those UK government papers and therefore an understanding of how useful they may be to informing a practical, public sector response to a 'no deal' exit in Wales, we have limited information with which to work. Despite this, from our own work and planning within Welsh Government we know that the implications of Brexit could manifest in a number of ways, some of which may have a direct and immediate impact on citizens, while others less so. In this context, our extensive and well-tested emergency preparedness framework suggests that in many potential Brexit related circumstances, mobilising existing plans – or variants of them – could form the basis of a robust and rapid response.

As we head into a period of considerable uncertainty around the terms of our exit from the EU, as a precautionary measure, I would be grateful if your Forum could consider the implications of Brexit as part of its work going forward, and develop local planning and response arrangements to the risks which may potentially emerge. We expect further information on the risks and the corresponding planning assumptions to emerge at the UK level as we move closer to exiting the EU, and we would also be happy to discuss with you in confidence our internal work as it continues to develop if that would be useful. It would not be unreasonable to envisage that considerations could include preparedness in relation to some areas set out in the Part 1 of the Civil Contingencies Act, such as disruption to the supply of food, energy or fuel, disruption to transport (particularly around ports), animal welfare and the smooth and effective running of health services.



Parc Cathays • Cathays Park  
Caerdydd • Cardiff  
CF10 3NQ

Ffôn • Tel 03000 250913  
[reg.kilpatrick@gov.wales](mailto:reg.kilpatrick@gov.wales) Gwefan  
• website: [www.gov.wales](http://www.gov.wales)

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I understand that this request is necessarily general at this stage but, in due course, I hope to provide more information on potential scenarios to help refine the discussion and your potential response. In addition, I plan to convene a meeting of all LRF Chairs in the early Autumn to inform a collective Wales' view. I would be grateful if you would confirm that you have included the item on your agenda and for a short summary of your discussion, including action points.

Yours sincerely



**REG KILPATRICK**

Cyfarwyddwr Llywodraeth Leol /  
Director for Local Government

cc Matt Jukes, Chief Constable, South Wales Police  
Patrick Rees, JESG Co-Ordinator  
Simon Wilkinson, WLGA