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NHS Estates and Facilities Teams

Via e-mail

**Simon Corben**  
**NHS Estates & Facilities**  
**NHS Improvement**  
Quarry House  
Quarry Hill  
Leeds LS2 7UE

E: Nhsi.efmeuexit@nhs.net  
W: improvement.nhs.uk

Dear Estates and Facilities Team

### **NHS Estates and Facilities: EU Exit Guidance**

You will no doubt be aware of the detailed planning work which has been underway in support of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union on 29 March 2019. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is leading the response to EU Exit across the health and care sector, with NHS Improvement and NHS England working together to support the operational response.

We have recently held workshops where representatives of all provider organisations were updated on the preparations taking place at a national and regional level around EU Exit, including information on estates and facilities. A letter on non-clinical goods and services has also been sent from DHSC to heads of procurement. The attached guidance has now been developed for NHS estates and facilities teams.

We are confident that you as an EFM community are prepared for any disruptions to service. However, I would be grateful if this guidance can be reviewed and the suggested actions taken on board. This includes a reminder for colleagues to 'walk the floor' of their organisations to identify any goods and services, contracts, and suppliers potentially affected by EU Exit. There are also additional actions required around workforce to ensure the delivery of crucial services.

Although there is no formal assurance process to reduce the burden on trusts, we would advise that particular attention is given to the following areas:

- identifying your top five suppliers
- understanding high-level risks identified by your suppliers
- budgeting sufficient resource to mitigate the impact of EU Exit on estates and facilities
- reviewing significant contracts to understand the legal and commercial position consequences following EU Exit
- ensuring access to legal advice in the event of queries around contracts.

Please note that a copy of this letter and the guidance will also be sent to the EU Exit SRO for your organisation through our regional EU Exit teams.

Many thanks for your continued support and co-operation which is appreciated.

Yours faithfully



Simon Corben  
Director and Head of Profession NHS Estates and Facilities