



SOLENT
LOCAL
ENTERPRISE
PARTNERSHIP



COUNTDOWN TO BREXIT

Brexit Readiness Pack

Don't get left behind.

Business planning is an integral part of any successful business. With 29 March 2019 drawing closer, Brexit planning should form part of your business strategy. Brexit can provide the opportunity to explore new markets and diversify your portfolio of products and services.

In the context of the political debates taking place over the coming weeks, and the potential changes that might impact businesses and individuals, the Solent Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) is producing a package of support.

The Solent region has 50,000

businesses and an economy that generates £27.8 billion (or GVA). It has a range of assets that are globally renowned and a strong population of small and medium-sized businesses. The area is strategically positioned in relation to London, mainland Europe, and just 20 nautical miles from the key Shanghai to Rotterdam shipping superhighway.

Commenting on the Solent area, David Dingle CBE, Chairman of Maritime UK and of Southampton-based Carnival UK, said: "We are seeing fantastic growth and we expect it to continue.

"The Solent plays a unique role in facilitating UK global trade and the

importance of the sector will only grow post-Brexit. We're supremely confident that we can play a crucial role in positioning Britain as an outward-looking, global trading maritime nation. The Solent and its maritime sector will be critical to that success."

This guide has been created to pull together the most relevant sources of information for your business, utilising a range of industry experts that include:

- Department of International Trade
- Hampshire Chamber of Commerce
- Meachers, a global logistics provider.

PLEASE READ ON 

Helping you to navigate Brexit

The Solent LEP offers a wide range of support for local businesses. Our aim is to support ambitious businesses to make the most of Brexit.

Here we answer some of the questions you may have:

With Brexit on the horizon, how do I know where to start?

To view a ready made checklist of considerations click [here](#). This will give you a concise overview of areas of the business you should be thinking about.

How do I stay in touch with government updates as they happen, to maximise the potential for my business as the 29 March draws closer?

Click [here](#) to register for all government updates and stay in touch with changes as they happen.

What local events are happening where I can speak directly to experts?

Events both locally and nationally can be found [here](#).

What finance is available to support my business during this Brexit period?

The Solent LEP Growth Hub has a team which offers a FREE business advisory service that can take you through the various options available and signpost you to our extensive network of specialist organisations.

To contact us with any questions or queries click [here](#).

Or visit our website and search for what is available to you by clicking [here](#).



International business gateway and tourist hub: Port of Southampton



Centre of engineering excellence: Portsmouth Naval Dockyard

Image courtesy Portsmouth City Council



Travel link: Southampton Airport and Southampton Parkway station.

Image courtesy Southern Daily Echo

Brexit Advisory Masterclasses

The Solent LEP is working with a range of strategic partners to deliver a number of Brexit advisory masterclasses. These will cover:

- Financial Management
- Government Support
- Market Diversification
- Contingency Planning

Please register your interest [here](#) for the masterclasses as places will be limited to allow interaction. If interest exceeds maximum numbers the LEP will add additional masterclasses.

Solent LEP would like to encourage you to let us know what additional topics you would like us to introduce to this series. Please send to enquiries@solentlep.org.uk

Checklist



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- ✓ Read Solent LEP Brexit Readiness Pack
- ✓ Develop a Brexit business action plan
- ✓ Speak to the Solent LEP Growth Hub team
- ✓ Register interest for advisory masterclasses
- ✓ Maximise business potential

Further reading material for more information

No deal technical notices:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/how-to-prepare-if-the-uk-leaves-the-eu-with-no-deal>

Importing from non-EU countries:

<https://www.gov.uk/starting-to-import/importing-from-noneu-countries>

Exporting goods outside the EU:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/exporting-goods-from-the-eu-to-a-third-country-outside-the-eu>

Letter from HMRC to businesses on trading with the EU:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-deal-brexit-advice-for-businesses-only-trading-with-the-eu>



Visit www.solentlep.org.uk