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Dear colleagues,

### **Ongoing NHS preparations for EU Exit**

As you will be aware, the legal default in UK and EU law remains that, unless and until a deal is agreed and ratified, there is a possibility of a no deal exit at the end of the extension period on 31 October 2019.

It is reasonable for the NHS to continue to prepare for every EU Exit scenario, including no deal. As part of these preparations we expect all providers and commissioners to have full contingency plans in place to ensure safe services for patients can continue to be provided in the event that the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

NHS organisations should already have an EU Exit SRO in place. It is important that each organisation also has in place a key team to oversee EU exit preparations. We would expect these teams to be in place as soon as possible to allow time for training, exercising and testing. At the end of August, we will undertake an assurance exercise in order to confirm that these teams are in post and ready.

I am in the process of arranging regional events for September to create an opportunity to discuss further details of the operational response and what is needed at a local level, give updates on the EU Exit workstreams and to provide the opportunity to raise questions and to give feedback on preparations.

Should you have any queries, please contact your regional EU Exit lead.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,



NHS England and NHS Improvement



**Professor Keith Willett**

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