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Dear colleague

As you know the UK exited the EU on 31 Jan 2020 and is now in a transition period until 31 December 2020. The government has recently confirmed that [the transition period will cease as planned on 31 December 2020 and there will be no extension.](#)

I will now be resuming the role as EU Exit SRO (along with Strategic Incident Director for COVID-19) which we will manage alongside the ongoing COVID-19 response and restoration of services, through our established national and regional incident coordination centres. They will continue to work with the incident teams that you have set up for COVID-19 to ensure that we are all working to a single, shared operational readiness and response structure across those areas to avoid conflict and to reduce burden on the system.

We are requesting that you now identify your named “UK end of transition SRO” in each NHS organisation and that they work with the existing incident team. Please send contact details for your UK end of transition SRO to your regional ICC by 21 September.

Our planning will use the government’s planning assumptions. We expect by October to be able to define the appropriate operational response that NHS England and NHS Improvement will need to stand up to manage the end of transition changes. Over the coming months we will also undertake assurance as to preparedness.

We will continue to provide updates on the UK end of transition progress and the NHS response. In the meantime, if you have any queries relating to the UK

transition, they should be raised with the appropriate regional incident coordination centre.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K Willett', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Professor Keith Willett

Strategic Incident Director for COVID-19

National Director for Emergency Planning and Incident Response