Dear Ms Hillier,

I am writing with reference to the requests from the Public Accounts Committee for details of the workstreams to implement EU Exit. The Government most recently replied to these requests in the Treasury Minutes published on 26 March which reaffirmed our commitment to reply by April. We appreciate the Committee’s patience whilst we concluded the necessary, careful assessments of what it is possible to provide without unduly affecting sensitive negotiating positions. The Prime Minister has now asked me to reply on behalf of all departments.

As set out in the Cabinet Secretary’s letter to you of 13 February, the Government is committed to aiding the Committee’s work and is continuing to work closely with the National Audit Office as they produce their various reports into EU Exit delivery. We are also committed to finding an appropriate arrangement that allows effective parliamentary scrutiny while avoiding prejudicing the negotiations to leave the EU or our preparations for implementing the results.

To this end, I attach department-by-department summaries of the areas of work being undertaken. In these summaries we set out the policy areas requiring particular focus, the current number of workstreams for which each department is responsible, and some specific examples.

In addition to these summaries, I would be pleased to offer you an in-person briefing on preparedness issues to provide additional context and explain in more detail the progress the Civil Service is making to prepare for leaving the EU.
I am copying this letter to the Cabinet Secretary, Permanent Secretaries of the Departments for which we are releasing information, the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, and the Comptroller and Auditor General.

PHILIP RYCROFT
PERMANENT SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT FOR EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION
## Departmental summaries of EU Exit workstreams

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<th>Summary of workstreams by Department</th>
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<td><strong>The Cabinet Office</strong> has 10 workstreams relating to exit. Three of these are focused on the devolved administrations (DAs) and include new UK frameworks to replace (where appropriate) the structures currently created by EU law. The Cabinet Office's other workstreams cover public procurement, civil contingencies, the Civil Service Nationality Rules, electoral reform, and digital regulations. Specific examples include a programme to deliver a new public procurement system; and a programme to consider whether the UK will adopt an EU framework that enables businesses and citizens to use electronic IDs across borders.</td>
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<td><strong>The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)</strong> currently has 72 workstreams which cover a wide range of policy areas relevant to current departmental responsibilities. This number is subject to ongoing revision as the department optimises the organisation of its portfolio over time. BEIS workstreams are split across issues relating to goods, services, energy &amp; climate change, consumers, competition and state aid rules, intellectual property, insolvency, employment, company law, science and innovation, nuclear and space programmes. Specific examples include developing new bilateral Nuclear Cooperation Agreements with third countries in order to trade nuclear related materials, and retention of the EU labour market rules, where the department published draft legislation before Christmas. BEIS has delivery plans in place for all its workstreams, has deployed and continues to deploy additional resource to deliver these, and co-ordinates delivery across a wide range of partner organisations.</td>
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<td><strong>The Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS)</strong> has 18 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover data, telecoms, digital policy, media and creative industries, cultural cooperation, voluntary and charitable sectors, and sectoral workforce and mobility requirements. Specific examples include: the data protection framework for ongoing personal data transfers between the EU and the UK; the export licensing of cultural objects; and the temporary movement of goods and equipment in DCMS sectors. DCMS has developed delivery plans for a range of negotiated and contingency outcomes and is working with other government departments where there are issues with joint policy responsibility.</td>
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<td><strong>The Department for Education</strong> has 11 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover issues relating to access to education and training, the Higher Education sector, EU funded education programmes, skills and training provision in the UK, and sectoral workforces. Specific examples include determining future participation in Erasmus+ (or alternative schemes) and considering the future student finance regime for EU nationals.</td>
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| **The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)** has 64 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover agriculture, fisheries, environmental regulations, animal and plant health, food, science and trade. Specific examples include delivering import control arrangements for plants, animals and animal products; ensuring an effective regulatory regime for pesticides and chemicals, including transferring REACH (Registration, Evaluation,
Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals) into UK law; addressing issues related to animal and plant health post-EU Exit; delivering domestic fisheries management arrangements and a new statutory framework for a domestic agriculture policy. Defra has developed delivery plans for a range of negotiated and contingency outcomes and is working with other Government departments where there is joint responsibility or dependencies, and with the Border Delivery Group.

The **Department for International Development** has five active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover on- and off-budget development funding instruments, UK organisations and staffing. Specific examples include planning and negotiating the UK’s post-exit relationship on development and negotiating and clarifying funding eligibility rules for UK organisations.

The **Department for International Trade** (DIT) has nine active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover both current EU trade and future trade agreements, multilateral trade policy, trade remedies and disputes, export control, unilateral preferences and tariff arrangements after the United Kingdom has left the EU. Specific examples include: creation of the Trade Remedies Authority which will investigate complaints of unfair trading practices affecting UK industry; achieving transition at the World Trade Organisation (WTO); securing independent UK membership of the Agreement on Government Procurement; and securing continuity of the EU’s existing Free Trade Agreements and Economic Partnership Agreements. DIT has developed delivery plans for a range of negotiated and contingency outcomes and is working side-by-side with other government departments where there are issues with joint policy responsibility.

The **Department for Transport** (DfT) has 18 active workstreams, designed to ensure that people and goods can continue to move as freely as possible after we leave the EU. Particular examples include: aviation services, along with related safety, security and air traffic management; road haulage and bus and coach movements; private motoring; vehicle type approval and emission regulations; maritime safety and equipment; rail services. DfT has developed delivery plans for a range of negotiated and contingency outcomes. It is also working with other government departments where there are issues with joint policy responsibility, such as with BEIS for the aerospace, automotive and marine sectors, and the Border Delivery Group on border arrangements.

The **Department for Work and Pensions** (DWP) has seven main work streams related to leaving the EU. These include having policy responsibility for deciding the future approach for social security arrangements with the EU. Another example is its partnership work with the Health and Safety Executive on the fixes necessary to health and safety regulation, including in the chemicals field, as a result of EU exit. DWP also has the UK responsibility for a service to support labour mobility via an EU wide jobs portal.

The **Department of Health and Social Care** leads 23 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover life sciences, reciprocal healthcare, public health, continuity of NHS supplies, health cooperation on the island of Ireland, and sectoral workforce and mobility requirements. Specific examples include preparing for the continuation of a functioning regulatory framework for the approval
of medicines, medical devices and clinical trials; arrangements for future healthcare access; and nutritional health claims and front of pack labelling.

The **Food Standards Agency** (FSA) has 10 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover the regulatory regime for food safety, the FSA’s workforce, incidents handling and import controls for food products. Specific examples include risk assessment and risk management decision making, functions currently carried out by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the European Commission and Council, respectively.

The **Foreign and Commonwealth Office** has 11 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover foreign and external security relationships, Heading IV and EU budget, consular services, Gibraltar and the Overseas Territories, sanctions, Kimberley Process and third country agreements. Specific examples include planning and negotiating the UK’s post-exit relationship with the EU’s Common Foreign and Security policy; planning to ensure that consular assistance continues to be available to the most vulnerable UK nationals affected by EU Exit and working to ensure continued prosperity for Gibraltar following EU Exit.

**HM Revenue and Customs** (HMRC) has 17 aggregated workstreams monitored by DExEU relating to policy areas affected by leaving the EU. These cover areas such as customs, VAT and excise, direct taxes directives, mutual assistance in the recovery of debt, information sharing and cooperation for law enforcement, coordination of social security contributions, and EU nationals’ access to HMRC administered benefits and tax credits. Specific examples include a workstream to deliver a new customs regime following EU Exit and a workstream covering options for social security contributions currently co-ordinated with the EU for after the Implementation Period. HMRC, alongside other departments, also works closely with the Border Delivery Group, which provides a means of ensuring a cross-government view of requirements at the border.

**HM Treasury** (HMT) has nine active workstreams relating to policies affected by the UK’s Exit from the EU. These include financial services, sanctions and anti-money laundering and the UK’s future relationship with the European Investment Bank (EIB). The other workstreams can be categorised as cross-cutting public spending issues, including HMT’s public finance responsibilities, the financial settlement with the EU, and funding for future participation in EU programs. HMT has developed delivery plans across a range of EU Exit scenarios and determines funding allocations for departments for EU Exit preparations.

**The Home Office** has 10 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover immigration, asylum, the Common Travel Area, passports, customs operational delivery, internal security and law enforcement, regulatory systems, and equalities. Specific examples include: the policy and process by which we protect the status of EU citizens and their families currently living and working in the UK; designing a new immigration system for future arrivals to the UK from the EU; addressing future cooperation in four regulatory areas currently governed at an EU level: animals in science, firearms licensing, drug precursor chemicals and explosive precursors; and implementing HMG’s commitment to retain existing protections in/under the Equality Acts 2010 and in Northern Irish legislation.
The **Ministry of Defence** has 12 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover defence policy, defence cooperation, defence procurement, defence capability and people, and overseas territories. Specific examples include planning and negotiating the UK’s post-exit relationship with the EU’s Common Security and Defence policy and future European Defence Agency cooperation.

The **Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government** has 10 active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover EU structural funds, access to public services, and the implications of exit on local government and housing delivery. Specific examples include: the development of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and transition from EU Structural Funding and European Territorial Cooperation programmes; the future requirements for construction products; and the mutual recognition of architects’ qualifications.

The **Ministry of Justice** (MoJ) has nine active workstreams relating to policies affected by leaving the EU. These cover understanding the impacts of EU exit on the workload of courts and tribunals, fundamental rights issues related to EU Exit and legal services market access post EU Exit. It also includes the future civil judicial cooperation with the EU, to enable clear rules on the handling of cross-border disputes in civil, commercial, insolvency, and family law matters. MoJ has developed delivery plans for a range of negotiated and contingency outcomes and is working closely with other Government departments where there are issues with significant cross cutting interest, for example with the Home Office on criminal justice cooperation post-exit and with the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy on mutual recognition of qualifications.