# WRITTEN STATEMENT

# BY

# THE WELSH GOVERNMENT

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **TITLE** | **Launch of the Business Wales Brexit Portal** |
| **DATE** | **25 September 2018** |
| **BY** | **Ken Skates, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport** |

Today the Welsh Government has launched the Business Wales ‘Brexit Portal’ – a website specifically designed to help businesses as they prepare for the changes and challenges arising from the decision to leave the European Union.

The portal has two objectives:

First, to provide up-to-date information and advice on a range of relevant business topics (including trading internationally and workforce planning) as we enter the six-month period leading up to the UK’s departure from the EU.

Second, to provide a diagnostic tool which will enhance our existing support to businesses, raising awareness of appropriate preparedness actions and additional sources of support. This will provide a health check for those businesses already prepared or identifying key actions for those that may need more support.

The Brexit Portal (Portal) is part of the wider consideration of the two-year budget agreement between the Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru to support businesses with Brexit preparations.

As a responsible government our Brexit planning is intensifying and we will continue to plan for all possible outcomes. The aim of the Portal is to build on the existing information, advice and guidance provided by Business Wales to support businesses to prepare for Brexit.

The concept and specification for the Portal was taken forward through the Council for Economic Development sub-group on Brexit - the EU Exit Working Group.

Development of the Portal has considered emerging research and evidence on business support requirements as well as good practice from elsewhere including Ireland.

The Portal is an evolution of the existing Brexit Q&A section on the Business Wales website and contains links to the UK Government’s technical advice notices on a no-deal exit scenario.

The Portal can be viewed via the following link: <https://businesswales.gov.wales/brexit/>