

Minutes

- Meeting Title:** Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Futures Group
- Date:** 16 January 2019
- Time:** 10:30 – 12:00
- Location:** Chairman's Dining Room, New County Hall, Truro
- Chair:** Jessie Hampshire (JH)
- Members:** Kate Kennally (KK), Mark Goodwin (MG), Kim Conchie (KC), Malcolm Bell (MB), Matthew Thomson (MT), Stuart Benson (SB), David Rodda (DR), Stuart Roden (SRo), Richard Williams (RW), Tony Tomlinson (TT), Catherine Mead (CM), Anne VanDerMeulen (AvDM)
- Support officers:** Emily Kent (EK), Steve Ford (SF), Jessie Hamshar (JH), Ginnie Odetayo (GO)
- Additional Attendees:** Carl Warom (CW), Wendy Gibbard (WG)
- Apologies:** Mark Goodwin (MG), Kate Kennally (KH), Emily Kent (EK)

Minutes		Action
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>JH welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were noted from those listed above.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Actions from the last meeting – insert date</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 3.10.18 were considered and MT highlighted an amendment to the last set of minutes stating CW is attending the meeting to deliver a segment on Brexit not an event.</p>	GO
3.	<p><u>Update on Brexit Preparations</u></p> <p>CW updated the group on the progress of Brexit Preparations across the Council.</p> <p>CW advised the group that the Brexit ready service updates have been added to the Corporate Risk register. Cornwall Council and the Local Resilience Forum (LRF) have summarised no deal notices and shared across the LRF's.</p> <p>Business Continuity workshops were held by LRF to include a series of scenarios encouraging organisations to consider contingency plans in line with a no-deal Brexit. Cornwall Council was asked to advise MHCLG and Treasury on the allocation of the 35million Brexit Resilience Fund.</p> <p>JH referenced Brexit update paper to be presented at the Leadership Board 25 January 2019. It discussed lack of preparedness for no deal amongst small businesses, and invites support for the dissemination of the Business Support tool kit – an amalgamation of the Governments, Cornwall's Chamber of Commerce and Federation of Small Business tool-kits for contingency planning.</p> <p>The paper also invites the Leadership Board to support the promotion of the EU Settlement Scheme and to encourage EU nationals to apply. <u>Additional recommendations</u></p> <p>Finally the paper recommends that the Leadership Board sign up to the principles around future collaborations with Horizon 2020 and Interreg.</p>	

Discussion

JH asked for support of the paper and Horizon 2020 and Interreg. The group endorsed this and recommended that Erasmus should be included in the paper.

MT advised that one of six scenarios was likely to be arrived at by the government and queried whether an additional appendix should be included in the paper outlining these six scenarios.

JH felt that in the current political environment it was important to keep the paper as fluid as possible. The paper would be amended up to the last possible moment to ensure it had the most up to date political position.

ACTION: Update paper with most up to date political situation

CW

KC agreed with MT's comments and reiterated that no clarity will be forthcoming from Government on a Plan B. He felt that The Leadership Board should be proactive and we should encourage businesses to prepare regardless of uncertainty.

JH proposes to launch the Business Support tool-kit and the group supported this proposal.

ACTION: Business Support Tool-kit to be disseminated

Comms

KC concurred that Businesses required support and communication is vital at this time. Many SME's have done little to no preparation for the impacts of Brexit.

RW – expressed concern that the initial purpose of the group was on the social impacts of Brexit and that he was keen not to lose this vital aspect. Does the paper address social cohesion and impacts of Brexit on this?

CW responded that the paper included details of the EU Settlement Scheme and the funding available for the Voluntary Community Sector. Following discussions with Citizens Advice Bureau, Children's Charity and Women's Centre we are supporting these organisations to bid for the vulnerable EU

	<p>citizens access scheme.</p> <p>Additional request in regards to section 2.14 of the paper on hate crime statistics.</p> <p>CW confirmed that the LRF are tracking this and a contingency plan is in place. In addition, a paper has been sent to the Safer Cornwall Group.</p> <p>DR requested that the Business Toolkit included case studies on how businesses using the toolkit and preparing. KC and AvDM confirmed they would assist with this.</p> <p>DR also confirmed that economic analysis work was still proposed on what remain and no-deal would look like for the Cornish economy. The group agreed that the assessment should be kept on hold for the moment pending political developments.</p> <p>MT advised that Exeter are arranging a University visit to Brussels next week and will feedback any intelligence from that.</p> <p>SRO added that the Business tool-kit will be added to the website and will be promoted at the South West Regulation Event on the 30 January 2019. CW will be attending along with other Local Authorities and Federation of Small Businesses.</p>	<p>CW/KC/AvDM</p> <p>MT</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>Government and LRF Resilience Preparations</u></p> <p>Guest speaker Jenny Shellens (JS) MHCLG Resilience Emergencies Division</p> <p><u>Intro on MHCLG Resilience Emergencies Division</u></p> <p>JS works closely with LRF in regards to preparing mitigation plans around a no-deal Brexit. JS supports the LRF via the Government with emergency events within Cornwall such as flooding at Coverack and the recent grounded ship in Falmouth.</p> <p><u>Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acknowledgement of challenges around mitigation plans around specific risks and keeping the flow of information. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Primary focus is short term impacts approx. 12 weeks to 6 months. - Current political environment the preparations for a no-deal Brexit have increased but this does not mean that the Government are not seeking a deal - Acknowledgement of the outstanding work CW & LRF have carried out on the technical notice analysis and potential impacts of no-deal. - The LRF are now reporting weekly to central government for support, mitigation plans and clarification on negotiation proceedings. - Acknowledgement that support from Government is not always clear. - Advised that resourcing is assessed and appropriate action taken - Focus of JS is to look at supply chain disruption and potential impacts on food distribution. Concern over stockpiling, disruption and public concern. <p><u>Questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JH asked for clarity over communication to residents. Are there official Government messages? Main concern is lack of information. - JH clarity is required over business tariff rates in a no-deal scenario. Are they or have they been published - KC would like the information for business preparation to be as clear and concise as possible. - Are there concerns around civil unrest? JS responded with community assessments are reporting low levels and that large uplifts are not expected. 	
<p>5.</p>	<p><u>Heart of South West LEP BROG (Brexit Resilience and Opportunities Group) update on collaborative SW Brexit work</u></p> <p>Speaker: Sue Rose (SR)</p> <p>Thanked CC and LEP for their collaboration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explained that the group was created to focus on strategic issues that may arise due to 	

	<p>Brexit. Open letter recently sent from their group including signatures from the local community on concern with regards to communication and lack of detail about no deal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group have now moved to an operational footing with the two LRF's in their area and focussing on preparations for a no-deal Brexit. - Plans will be shared with Cornwall's LRF. - The link with MHCLG will hopefully provide clarity on their concerns around how they are working with LRF's, Defra and FSA etc... - They confirmed that Devon STP and Council will meet the cost of the EU Settlement Scheme applications for their staff. - Highways have reported they are not concerned on increased traffic on the A38. - Concern is around the environmental and health impact of increased traffic along with Trading Standards at the port. - Concern over the risk of light touch on imports and paperwork being in place for exports. - Confirmation they will be issuing communications around haulier's paperwork etc... as soon as it is clear. - Confirmation that they support Interreg. - Concern over rising costs for LA's and where is the funding coming from to assist LA's continued support for businesses? <p>RW was concerned about the issues in regards to DWP and how this will be affected by no-deal for EU citizens.</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p><u>Brexit Communications – MHCLG position update and future comms</u></p> <p>Guest speaker Tom Tyler (TT), EU Exit Director MHCLG</p> <p><u>Overview</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TT confirmed primary role is to support LA's and that MHCLG and Government are considering the implications for LA's. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regional events have been delivered to LA's to focus on LA's role and what support is required. Concerns highlighted were financial support for anticipated costs and lack of communication. - Communications have been addressed by the regional communication networks with representation from Phil Norry who will relay messages between MHCLG and LA's. - Advice from MHCLG is to continue planning for exit unless instructed otherwise. <p><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KC Please can MHCLG reflect on the quantity of information? It is overwhelming for businesses and LA's. Clear and concise details would be beneficial for preparatory purposes. - TT acknowledged this point. - TT confirmed that MHCLG are keen to work with LA's - TT highlighted events to be hosted by MHCLG on key issues. The first to be held on 29 January by MHCLG and DHSC on EU exit for Adult Social Care workforce and impacts. One event will be held weekly. - A portal via.gov.uk is being created to be a one stop shop for LA's and will provide guidance and advice. - DEFRA will be updating their no-deal notices shortly. - MHCLG engagement will increase over the forthcoming weeks - Weekly email bulletins will be issued to highlight key announcements and updates. 	
	<p><u>Conclusions & AOB</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concern that the burden of overseeing no-deal is to be taken by LA's and there are no additional resources. - Resourcing for additional staff for no-deal prep is a priority. 	
	<p><u>Date of the Next meeting</u> 1st April 2019</p>	