Dorset Council: Brexit (EU Exit) Preparedness Work

1. Brexit extension

- An extension has been granted to 31 January 2020.
- The Government's Get Ready for Brexit campaign has been paused.
- Operation Yellowhammer has been formally stood down and MHCLG reporting arrangements have been relaxed.
- Dorset Local Resilience Forum's Brexit planning and response structures have also been stood down.
- During purdah the expectation is that councils will be able to promote *factual* Brexit communications, such as the EU Settlement Scheme (EUSS).

2. Work delivered by Dorset Council in preparation for October 31

- Our internal Brexit preparedness structures are our Strategic and Operational Groups, which have met weekly since August.
- The Groups have driven a significant programme of business continuity planning, both internally and with our providers.
- Work delivered by the groups includes:
  - Brexit risk register- risks incorporated within the corporate Risk Register and updated by directorates as part of BAU.
  - A single harmonised DC critical service list- allowing us to prioritise resource to support the critical functions.
  - Critical service's business continuity plans have been updated and harmonised.
  - 1st one authority business continuity table-top exercise was held on 25 October 2019, to test and refine their plans.
- Dorset Council and BCP have funded a DCCI Brexit Officer, which is due to begin on 18 November 2019.
- In line with MHCLG approach, the Strategic Group have paused the meeting of our internal Brexit groups and we are shifting our focus to delivering the general election.

3. Next phase of Brexit planning

- We plan to stand all internal Brexit preparedness structures back up in January 2020.
- The default position is for the UK to leave without a deal on 31 January 2020 unless the Withdrawal Agreement is agreed.

Dorset Council