

Summary of recommendations from report commissioned by the Port Health and Public protection Division

- Through its political processes, look to agree its position in respect of current relevant regulations, standards, controls leading up to and then when the UK has fully withdrawn from the EU. This will be in relation to the 'Repeal Bill', for example prioritising which relevant EU derived regulations should continue in UK domestic law to maintain equivalence standards of public health, animal health and consumer protection, and which regulatory controls could be relaxed or removed.
- Establish a dedicated resource to monitor Brexit issues and manage engagement with key regulators and stakeholders; providing regular updates and briefing to senior managers and elected Members.
- Continue to build strong alliances with key stakeholders to ensure the City Corporation's position is effectively communicated to decision-makers and that the PHPP's leadership and unique competence is clearly recognised
- Engage with and seek to influence central government regulators, particularly to ensure that appropriate data and IT solutions are developed to support post-Brexit strategies and operational priorities
- Engage the Department for Exiting the EU, possibly in cooperation with the Local Government Association, to better understand and influence thinking on the post-Brexit landscape
- Consider developing an intelligence and data-sharing capability with partner authorities and stakeholders. The City Corporation should also look to capture relevant data identifying the current and forecast volumes, flow and specific types of products imported into the UK via City Corporation jurisdiction ports.
- Develop a post Brexit resilience plan that identifies, weights and then prioritises any risks and threats to the PHPP service/s from a range of regulatory scenarios based on its understanding of likely outcomes. For example a major reduction in regulatory controls at the UK border impacting on future City Corporation Port Health Authority resource requirements that could subsequently compromise public health and consumer protection for UK citizens.
- Adopt a proactive approach to a potential future regulatory role, including exploring the potential for joining up with other similar teams in other major Ports to share training, data/intelligence, and where it is cost-effective the sharing of back-office functions. This should be scoped ahead of the Brexit deadline to ensure opportunities are maximised.
- Consider the potential for development as a lead authority/centre of excellence for a group of Port Health Authorities (on a regional or national basis), or as a Primary Authority for a number of major sea port and airport businesses operating either across the UK as a whole, within a region, or the within the City Corporation jurisdiction area only
- Ensure it has effective and regular dialogue with the major trade bodies/air transport/airline companies, and use these alliances to lobby government to reduce any risk from moving away from the current and future EC rules and standards on Pet Travel through the Pet Travel Scheme, that could particularly impact on transit movements from third countries to EC countries via Heathrow Airport (HARC).