UK Departure from the EU and how 2020 may play out

UK Lockdown

23 March 2020



2300 hrs GMT/0000 hrs CET 31 January 2020 UK leaves the EU under the WAB

Transition Period
1 Feb 2020 to 31 Dec 2020

begins – UK is still in the Customs Union and the single market

1 July 2020

EU and UK aim to agree on fishing quotas for 2021

Deadline for UK to request a Transition period extension according to the WAB

UK Prime Minister

Has placed in UK law that we cannot exercise this request for a further period of extension beyond Dec 2020

UK law overturned

One-year extension places the deadline at 31 Dec 2021

Two-year extension places the deadline at 31 Dec

2022

UK law enforced

31 December 2020

Have the UK and the EU negotiated a Free Trade Agreement?

UK Gov believes the new UK/EU FTA will be completed in late summer for ratification in time for 1 Jan 2021

Covid-19

pandemic hits

Yes

No

Before 31 January 2020

Withdrawal Agreement Bill (WAB) must clear the House of Lords, House of Commons, given Royal assent, signed by the EU commission and ratified by the remaining EU 27

25 February 2020

EU Expected to agree on a mandate for trade negotiations with the UK

Transition Ends

New Trading relationship begins

UK could crash into trading with the EU under WTO Terms

Four-year alignment between Northern Ireland and the EU begins (Northern Ireland Protocol)

October 2024

Stormont (Northern Ireland Parliament) votes on whether to continue this alignment for a further four or eight years