

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Report of the Chief Executive

to

Cabinet

on

17 January 2019

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Brexit – Implications

Relevant Scrutiny Committee(s): Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee

Cabinet Member: Councillor Lamb

A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To consider the implications for the Council of the UK leaving the European Union (EU).

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Cabinet considers the likely implications, including risks and opportunities, for the Council of the UK leaving the European Union, and to note the action being taken by the Council to address these.

3. Background

- 3.1 On 24 June 2016, the UK voted, 52% to 48%, to leave the EU, having been a member since 1973. Voters in Southend-on-Sea voted 58% to 42% to leave, in line with the rest of Essex (62% leave), which saw some of the highest pro-Brexit levels in the country.
- 3.2 'Article 50', (of the Lisbon Treaty) giving a member state the right to leave the EU unilaterally, was triggered by the UK in March 2017, giving the country two years to negotiate an exit deal. Since March 2017 the Government has been in negotiations with the EU with a view to achieving a deal to establish a new relationship and for this deal to be agreed by Parliament.
- 3.3 A Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration on the future relationship between the UK and the EU was endorsed by EU leaders at a special meeting of the European Council on 25 November 2018. The Withdrawal Agreement and Political Declaration will be subject to a vote by the House of Commons on 15 January 2019, with the Government required to come back with revised plans within three days if the withdrawal deal is rejected by MPs. However, there are a range of potential scenarios, all subject to considerable speculation, including further renegotiation of the Agreement, the extension/revocation of Article 50, a general election, the potential for a second referendum and a no-deal Brexit.

- 3.4 In the event that the Government or Parliament do not agree a way forward, and no extension to Article 50 is requested and/or agreed, the UK automatically leaves the EU. In such a situation, all existing agreements, including access to the single market, would cease to apply to the UK. If that happens, 'Brexit Day' would be Friday, 29 March 2019. Given recent developments, the prospect of a no-deal Brexit should be considered a serious possibility. The Government announced in December that it has decided to 'ramp up' preparations for a no-deal Brexit, by approving £2bn for government departments to help preparations for UK departure and putting civil contingency measures into effect. This will be accompanied by further communications to relevant parties, including letters going to 140,000 business. It has also allocated £35m to councils to help them prepare for Brexit.
- 3.5 If the Withdrawal Agreement/Political Declaration is agreed by Parliament (and all EU states), the UK leaves the EU on 29 March but a transition (or 'implementation') period will apply until December 2020 to enable businesses, governments and others to prepare for the new regime. During that period, the UK can negotiate, sign and ratify its own trade deals, while EU citizens arriving in the UK will enjoy the same rights and guarantees as those who arrive before Brexit. Unless there is no deal, Brexit is likely to begin to feel like Brexit, therefore, only after the end of the transition period (which can be extended, but only until the end of 2022).
- 3.6 The current Brexit withdrawal agreement means:
- The UK will need to abide by all current EU rules during transition, but will lose membership of its institutions (notably the European Parliament, the European Commission and Council).
 - There is a basis for the payment from the UK to the EU to meet obligations.
 - UK citizens in the EU, and EU citizens in the UK, will retain their residency and social security rights after Brexit.
 - Freedom of movement will end and be replaced by a skills-based immigration system.
 - EU nationals living in the UK (for five years) and UK nationals living in EU states will retain their rights, and be able to have their family live with them, but will need to apply formally to remain in the country.
 - Citizens who take up residency in another EU country during the transition period (including the UK) will be allowed to stay in that country after the transition.
 - If no long-term trade deal has been agreed by the end of 2020 that avoids a hard border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, and if there is no extension to the transition period, then a backstop consisting of 'single customs territory' between the EU and UK will be triggered.
 - As long as the backstop is in operation, the UK will be subject to 'level playing field conditions', to ensure it cannot gain a competitive advantage while remaining in the same customs territory.
 - The UK cannot leave the backstop independently - it needs to be decided together with the EU.
 - A separate agreement will need to be reached on access to EU fishing in UK waters.

- There will be visa-free travel for all short-term trips to EU countries and arrangements for temporary entry and stay of people for business purposes.

3.7 Alongside the withdrawal agreement, the Political Declaration, setting out what the future UK/EU relationship might look like, will be the subject of continuing discussion/negotiation during the transition period.

4 Opportunities

4.1 The LGA has set out its view that Brexit is an opportunity to both amend and strengthen former EU laws to help local communities and has set out a short-list of those laws that should be addressed. This includes more flexible procurement rules, the potential for easier state aid rules for projects of local benefit, greater devolution to local authorities and appropriate strengthening of particular laws, such as on food hygiene.

4.2 The LGA argues that the Withdrawal Act, 2018 will ensure that there will be legal certainty for councils as those EU laws that underpin key services on exit day will apply through UK law, even under 'no deal'. The Government is ensuring this happens through a passing a raft of Statutory Instruments through Parliament. This relates to the many local government services affected by EU rules and regulations, including waste management, environmental standards, trading standards and procurement.

5. No deal Brexit

5.1 The Government has been developing contingency plans for a no deal Brexit ('operation Yellowhammer') and has published a series of 'technical notices' setting out what it is doing to prepare for no-deal. These cover areas such as medical supplies, financial services, nuclear safeguards, farming and organic food production, driving licences, passports, mobile charges and environmental standards.

5.2 There is not a single notice that specifically relates to the local government sector as a whole, although it is anticipated that an intranet page dedicated to local government and Brexit will be set up in the new year. The Department of Health released further 'no deal' guidance, before Christmas, outlining action that should be taken by health and social care commissioners and providers.

6 Council response

6.1 The Council's Corporate Management Team has considered the potential implications for the Council of Brexit on a number of occasions and reviewed action being taken. This can be summarised as:

- The Council's Emergency Planning and Business Continuity arrangements have been, and will continue to be, reviewed to take account of different scenarios. The Council is an active member of the Essex Resilience Forum and is working to identify key issues and consider the appropriate response;

- The Council is providing support to the Southend Business Partnership Brexit Working Group, who have been specifically looking at the impact of Brexit on key sectors in the borough and possible mitigating action;
- The Council is having on-going conversations with neighbouring local authorities and key partners to assess implications and requirements;
- The Council has liaised with core suppliers to obtain feedback on their perceived implications, particularly in relation to impact on labour supply;
- The Council is specifically liaising with colleagues in the region in relation to the impact on the labour supply to care providers;
- The corporate management team and senior managers are being briefed on potential implications as information becomes available and acting on further Government guidance as it is released.;
- The Council is liaising with schools to assess and advise on impact;
- The Council is closely monitoring the outcome of the fisheries legislation to inform a view on how it will affect local fisherman;
- The Council has revised its Corporate Risk Register to take account of latest developments;
- The Council is closely monitoring further information as it becomes available from the Government and local government sector organisations.

7. Key issues for the Council

7.1 Macro-economic

- 7.1.1 There is a common view that there is likely to be a short-term negative impact to the UK economy from Brexit as it adjusts to new conditions. However, there is significant disagreement on the likely duration. Much will depend on the nature of the withdrawal (deal or no deal) and whether new trade agreements with the EU and others are in place by the end of the transition period.
- 7.1.2 A true no-deal scenario would mean that the UK reverts to World Trade Organisation trading rules, including new trade tariffs (eg. 2-3% on industrial products and 20-40% on agricultural goods) and a requirement to meet EU trade requirements. The Treasury's original analysis, in January 2018, calculated a no-deal Brexit could cost the UK economy up to 10% of GDP, leading to £80bn a year in extra borrowing by 2033 with possible additional tax rises and spending cuts. The Bank of England assessment, at the end of November, warned a no deal Brexit could trigger a deep recession, with an 8% loss of GDP, a house price crash and a significant increase in inflation and unemployment
- 7.1.3 However, others argue a more 'orderly' reversion to WTO rules would see the negative impact dampened. The previous Brexit Secretary, Dominic Raab, has suggested the 'vast majority' of consumers will not notice its impact. Economists

for Free Trade argue the Treasury would receive about £80bn in extra revenue over the next 15 years, there will an 8% cut in prices and there will be an overall long-term gain for GDP of about 7% (although this is contingent on a significant de-regulation of the UK economy). In addition, the Government is developing its 'Brexit dividend' strategy to take advantage of no longer having to pay (about £9bn pa net) into the EU budget.

7.2 Local economy and business

7.2.1 The principle micro-economic impact of the Brexit referendum, (identified from CBI, commercial bank and Chamber of Commerce economic reviews, along with informal discussions with local business) has been identified as:

- Low (though, at least over the summer, increasing), business investment confidence;
- Cost increases from a weaker pound, particularly for manufacturing related businesses;
- Sales increases due to exchange rate position for tourism related businesses;
- Low unemployment, a reducing migrant workforce and increasing skills shortages

7.2.2 In the longer-term, the main concerns relating to the future of small businesses, include: the loss of European funding (particularly relevant for the creative and cultural industries and education sectors); an inability to recruit staff from Europe (particularly relevant for the healthcare, education and finance sectors); high and increasing costs for raw materials due to unfavourable trading tariffs (particularly for construction and manufacturing sectors) and the relocation of business to Central Europe (particularly relevant for finance and manufacturing sectors).

7.2.3 The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has stated its preference of using the network of business support, 'growth hubs' to support and inform businesses of changes brought about by Brexit. Accordingly, the Business Essex Southend and Thurrock growth hub is currently offering business planning advice and Brexit information to small businesses in Southend. The Southend Business Partnership is having on-going discussions to assess and help business prepare for different scenarios (these include the Council) and these will continue in the coming months.

7.3 Regeneration and other funding sourced from the EU

7.3.1 Under a '**no deal**' scenario, the UK would lose access to European Structural and Investment Funding (ESIF), worth £5.6 billion to local communities in England (2014-20). However, in July 2018, the Treasury announced that in the event of 'no deal' the Government would 'underwrite' ESIF funding until the end of 2020.

7.3.2 The current EU programmes that the Council is a partner of and funding running beyond March 2019 are:

Project name	Project Location	SBC Role	Start Date	End Date	Total Project Value	EU contribution
South East Business Boost	Pan-Selep	Lead Partner	July 2016	June 2019	£12.6m	£6.3m
Low Carbon Across the South East (LOCASE)	SELEP-wide	Delivery partner	May 2016	June 2019	£18.5m	£8.8m
2IMPRESZ – Energy Behavioural Change in Schools	Schools	Delivery partner	Jun 17	Oct 2020	c.£0.5m	£0.25m
NatureSmart Cities-Green infrastructure	Southend	Lead Partner	Jul 2018	Oct 2022	c.£1m	c.£600k
Cool Towns – impact of heat stress	Southend	Delivery Partner	Jul 2018	Oct 2022	c.£650k	c.£400k
CRUNCH – food energy	Southend	Delivery partner	Jul 2017	Oct 2022	c.£15k	£15k

7.3.3 The Council is, therefore, continuing to bid for EU projects (for example, in relation to energy, environment and transport) which have the prospect of being awarded by end of 2020. The Council will need to be ready to make bids to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), which the government has pledged to set up after Brexit to replace the regional aid funding that local areas currently receive from the EU, from 2021 onward (the LGA estimates that local areas will need £8.4bn of EU regional funding replaced after Brexit).

7.3.4 While Southend Adult Community College does not receive direct funding from the European Social Funding (ESF), it does receive about £1.6m from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), via the DfE and Council. The ESFA use such funding to match fund against the ESF and to draw down ESF funding nationally for projects, particularly for disadvantaged adults and communities. As the College does not currently access ESF funding there is unlikely to be a negative impact from Brexit as it stands. However, there could be implications for the college if the Government choose not to replace ESF funding in this respect and, therefore, appropriate lobbying on this will be necessary if this occurs.

7.4 Civil Contingency planning

7.4.1 Media stories have highlighted that councils are preparing for possible repercussions of various forms of Brexit, ranging from potential difficulties with farming and service delivery to concerns about civil unrest. This came in the light of publication of details by Kent County Council suggesting that parts of the M20 might have to be used as a lorry park to deal with port queues, until at least 2023, in a no Brexit scenario.

7.4.2 The Essex Resilience Forum (ERF) are having ongoing discussions to assess the potential risks of a no deal Brexit, with briefings provided to the Essex Planning Assurance Group and Chief Executive's Association. Issues highlighted by the Forum included:

- Disruption to fuel, food and transport (in particular at sea/air ports);

- Transport gridlock
- Disruption to medical supplies
- Impact on the operation of borders
- Impact on key areas of the workforce (eg. health and agricultural workers)
- Animal welfare
- UK residents in the EU returning to the UK
- Stockpiling by households

7.4.3 The ERF has set up a task and finish group (which includes Southend BC Resilience Team representation), chaired by Essex Police, to assess and take necessary action in relation to the potential impact of Brexit. The Humanitarian Assistance Plan and Combined Operating Procedures for Essex (COPE) have been, and will continue to be, reviewed. Meetings between the ERF Brexit Group, Rochford DC and London Southend Airport are being held to assess implications.

7.4.4 In addition, all ERF members are reviewing their own civil contingency arrangements in the context of Brexit and reviewing their business continuity and emergency planning arrangements accordingly.

7.4.5 The Secretary of State for Health and Social Care has written to all health organisations to set out expectations in the event of a no deal Brexit and highlighting a new scheme to ensure a sufficient and seamless supply of medicines.

7.4.6 Under the medicines scheme, pharmaceutical companies have been told they should ensure they have an additional six weeks supply of medicines on top of their own normal stock levels. The scheme also includes separate arrangements for the air freight of medicines with short shelf-lives, such as medical radioisotopes.

7.4.7 Hospitals, GPs and community pharmacies have been told they do not need to take any steps to stockpile additional medicines, beyond their business as usual stock levels. In fact incidences involving the over ordering of medicines will be investigated and followed up with the relevant Chief or Responsible Pharmacist directly.

7.4.8 Otherwise, Government advice has stated that preparations for a 'no deal' scenario should be seen in the context of on-going work to update existing business continuity plans.

7.5 Procurement

7.5.1 In practice, it is anticipated that there will be minimal short/medium term changes to the public sector procurement regime on the UK leaving the EU. This is because EU procurement measures have already been incorporated into domestic legislation and, given the UK will want to access EU markets, the EU is likely to insist on the continuation of many of the regulatory measures. The Trade Bill (currently going through Parliament) makes provision for the UK to become an independent signatory to the Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA). Many of the rules under this Agreement correspond with the rules under the EU procurement directives.

- 7.5.2 However, changes may occur over time, as areas of procurement law become subject to different interpretation by UK courts and post Brexit case law no longer applies. This may mean, for example, it could be easier for contracting authorities to make changes to contracts without embarking on a new procurement exercise.
- 7.5.3 There are queries about what Brexit will mean for 'Teckal companies' - where external trading, for public sector companies, is limited to 20% by the EU Public Procurement Directive. This issue does currently relevant to the Council's own companies.
- 7.5.4 In addition, there may be some issues of transition to resolve. For example, a council may be half-way through a major procurement exercise using EU processes and systems. There is no certainty that councils would continue to have access to EU systems under a no deal scenario.
- 7.5.5 In the longer term it will be a matter for UK Governments to decide whether or not it wishes to continue with regulations over public procurement matters, including public to public cooperation arrangements. However, even if public procurement legislation is amended considerably at some point, local authorities are currently required by the Duty of Best Value to seek best value for money, which can clearly be met by some form of competitive tender process and benchmarking exercise.
- 7.5.6 The prospect of more flexibility in the short term over state aid rules within the procurement process receded with the Brexit white paper in July outlining the Government's intention to adhere to a common rulebook on state aid.

7.6 Council suppliers

- 7.6.1 The Council has been in conversation with core suppliers to monitor the potential implications of Brexit, notably in relation to the impact on the labour supply, in key sectors, such as care. Early indications are that the impact in Essex is relatively limited, although it is anticipated the market could tighten significantly in the lead up to exit and beyond. Key points from supplier feedback include:
- Suppliers wherever possible try to recruit local UK labour;
 - The Council's main construction supplier ensures a diverse contract and supply chain portfolio to offset commercial risks;
 - Some suppliers have seen EU nationals returning home before Brexit is concluded and so the number of EU nationals available for work appears to be reducing in some areas of work;
 - Some sectors are seeing a lack of skilled operatives which was previously made up by EU nationals;
 - Less EU nationals are applying for jobs and so care providers are having to continuously market their service and recruit to ensure any loss of staff is managed;
 - The Council's insurance providers are cross border and as such the risks are felt to be limited. Those in the UK have very little reliance on non-UK staff anyway

7.7 Goods and Services

- 7.7.1 Under a no-deal scenario, councils would have to pay a new set of tariffs, or pay the supplier, when they themselves import goods directly from a supplier in the EU – though this is a rarity. However, the LGA is working on the detail of this scenario and potential additional costs to councils and will include a case for local government receiving a share of any additional tariff income accrued by the Treasury.
- 7.7.2 Businesses trading with the EU have been advised to start planning for new customs checks, and may have to pay for new software or logistical help, which may be relevant for council suppliers.

7.8 Environment

- 7.8.1 Immediate environmental consequences post 29 March 2019 are likely to be limited, although this could change over time. The proposed Environmental Principles and Governance Bill seeks to establish a ‘world-leading’ independent body that holds the government to account on environmental issues. This includes the ability to take ‘proportionate’ enforcement action - including legal proceedings if necessary on issues such as water and air quality, although not on climate change. Consultation on the Bill closed on 2 August with the outcome awaited.
- 7.8.2 Carbon reduction: The 2008 Climate Change Act imposes tougher requirements for cutting CO₂ emissions than EU regulations, with a need for the UK to cut emissions by 80% on 1990 levels by 2050. It is not anticipated that targets will be reduced in this area, but that the Government will continue to implement a revised version of the Carbon Reduction Commitment as a means of encouraging organisations, including the Council, to continue to reduce their CO₂ emissions.
- 7.8.3 Waste and recycling: The UK is currently bound by the EU’s legislative framework for waste, with recycling targets of 50% up to 2020 as the principal drivers. The Government has signalled that it will adopt the EU’s recently agreed ‘**Circular Economy Package**’ (CEP), which includes more ambitious recycling targets of 55% by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035. The Government has also signalled its intention to reduce the use of single use plastic through its 25 Year Environment Plan and Resources and Waste Strategy.
- 7.8.4 The CEP includes specific targets for packaging, specific materials and separate requirements for bio-waste and landfill with EU member states expected to achieve tailored recycling rates for materials by 2030.
- 7.8.5 In addition to this, member states will have until 1 January 2025 to set up separate collections of textiles waste and hazardous waste from households, while they must ensure that bio-waste is either collected separately or recycled at source through home composting, for example, by 31 December 2023.
- 7.8.6 Air Quality: Although EU targets would remain in UK law, having been enshrined through Air Quality Standards Regulation, the EU would no longer have a role in enforcement and the UK could repeal the laws if desired.

7.8.7 Weed controls and chemicals: Again while the source of regulations in this area may emanate from the EU it seems unlikely there will be meaningful demands for deregulation of what is largely seen as public interest protection measures.

7.8.8 Councils may find an increase in demand for trading standards and environmental health services as a result of increased checks required at airports/ports, particularly in a no-deal scenario, and increased need for issuing 'export health certificates' for certain food products. The Office for Product Safety and Standards is working to ensure trading standards services continue to have access to necessary data that informs this area of work (there will be loss of access to EU systems that facilitate an effective response to food and feed incidents) and advise on new labelling requirements.

7.9 Energy

7.9.1 Much will depend on whether the UK chooses to remain within the Internal Energy Market. The EU has been pushing for greater transparency and regulation in the energy markets with many councils remaining concerned about levels of fuel poverty. Targets, such as 15% of energy coming from renewables under the EU Renewable Energy Directive are likely to remain.

7.10 Housing and construction

7.10.1 The development of wholly owned local housing companies which have some significant advantages for local authorities, in terms of the speed by which new developments can be delivered, and sharing of risk, may be impacted by future changes to procurement regulations.

7.11 Workforce

7.11.1 EU workers make a substantial contribution to public services, notably care workers, lecturers, nurses, technicians, doctors and academics. About, 62,000 of the 1.2m NHS workforce in England are from other EU countries, including 11,000 doctors, 21,000 nurses and health visitors and 1,400 midwives. There is speculation that a significant decline in EU nationals coming to the UK will exacerbate labour shortages in key areas. Current net-migration rates from the EU are at their lowest since 2012 (although the official measure, the three monthly ONS, International Passenger Survey is seen by many as unreliable).

7.11.2 The most recent ONS estimates show that 5.5% of the borough's population (10,000) are EU nationals. Five members of staff are recorded as being EU nationals. The Council's current recruitment supplier, Reed, do not know how many of their staff are from the EU. The risk of labour shortages in the care sector is generally seen as the most pressing issue, with an estimated 7% of social care workers being from the EU.

7.11.3 In December 2017 the UK government reached an agreement with the European Union on citizens' rights. In March this was extended to cover those arriving during the implementation period (to end of 2020). The agreement protects the rights of EU citizens after the UK leaves the EU and enables them to continue to live their lives as now. It also covers their close family members

- 7.11.4 However, Through the EU Settlement Scheme, EU nationals will need to register (by June 2021) for settled status if they have been here for five years, or register for pre-settled status if they have been here for less than five years. The Council may need to respond to queries about this and be in a position to respond (and also apply for any EU Looked After Children in SBC care). Current 'right to work' checks (eg EU passport and / or national ID card) apply until the end of 2020. There will be no change to the rights and status of EU citizens living in the UK until 2021.
- 7.11.5 The Government has announced that doctors and nurses are now exempt from the cap on skilled worker visas, meaning there will be no restrictions on the number of doctors and nurses who can be employed through the Tier 2 visa route.
- 7.11.6 Where employment rights are *potentially* weakened is in relation to an appeal to the European Courts on points of interpretation, with reliance on the original wording in the specific EU directive.
- 7.11.7 Much will depend, therefore, on what is finally agreed, or not, in relation to freedom of movement. Although employers are already obligated to make checks on the status of workers, the Government has made clear this will not include establishing the status of EU citizens.

7.12 Elections

- 7.12.1 Current arrangements, in relation to EU nationals being registered and able to vote for local elections will continue, as will the ability for EU nationals to be able to serve their terms as councillors and stand as candidates in the 2019 local elections.
- 7.12.2 The potential for an early general election being called, as well as the possibility for a second referendum on the Withdrawal Agreement and/or EU membership and 'no deal', to resolve any impasse in Parliament are real possibilities. Each will potentially have resource implications for the Council. Current working assumptions are that the European Elections (due for 23 May 2019) will not be held and that primary legislation would be needed to enable UK participation – meaning the ability for them going ahead is difficult.

8. Other Options

Not applicable to this report.

9. Reasons for Recommendation

To enable the Council's Cabinet to assess the potential implications of the UK leaving the EU and whether further action by the Council is required.

10. Corporate Implications

10.1 Contribution to Southend 2050 Road Map

The report assesses potential risks and opportunities for the Council, in achieving its desired outcomes, outlined in the 2050 Road Map, which will be affected, in particular, by the impact on the economy, nationally and locally. The implications

and necessary contingencies will be considered as part of the development and implementation of the 2050 Strategic and Outcome Delivery Plans.

10.2 Financial Implications

None specific, although the report highlights potential scenarios where the Council may be adversely affected financially - notably in relation to an economic downturn and price/wage inflation.

10.3 Legal Implications

The UK leaving the EU will lead to a significant change in the UK's future legal landscape. There are potential legal implications arising from each aspect of this report that will be better understood as the process evolves and when it is clearer as to whether there is a Brexit deal, or not.

However, most EU law that governs local authority services has already been incorporated into domestic law and will continue to apply when the UK leaves the EU, regardless of the form that exit takes. On exit, the UK Parliament would then be able to amend or introduce new legislation that affects local government.

During the 'transition period' (29 March 2019 to 31 December 2020) the UK will continue to abide by European Court rulings, but these will no longer apply after then, save for the transition period being extended or any agreement that is part of a Brexit deal that suggests otherwise.

10.4 People Implications

These are outlined in paragraph 6.9

10.5 Property Implications

There are not currently any readily identified property implications.

10.6 Consultation

None specific

10.7 Equalities Implications

None specific.

10.8 Risk Assessment

The report highlights the potential risks and opportunities for the Council and highlights that the Corporate Risk Register is being revised accordingly.

10.9 Value for Money

None specific

10.10 Community Safety Implications

Implications in relation to security are being addressed as part of the negotiations between the UK and EU, particularly in relation to the UK's continued participation in the European Arrest Warrant and EU crime databases.