Brexit Preparation,

10:00 Hrs, Thursday 31st December 2020

Zoom Teleconferencing only (due to COVID-19)

**Minutes of Meeting**

Yesterday the UK Government voted unanimously in favour of the Brexit Trade deal, therefore new information is now available regarding the implementation of changes that come into effect at 00:00 GMT 01.01.2021

There are two pages for UK Workboat operators working outside the UK to familiarize with:

* <https://www.gov.uk/visit-europe-1-january-2021/business-travel-extra-requirements>
* <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/providing-services-to-eea-and-efta-countries-after-eu-exit>

**Be aware, there is no ‘one size fits all’ rule for working in the EU and every country is implementing control measures for the service sector (workboats incl.) slightly differently. It is important to check each location/ country you are working in detail.**

Non-UK workers coming to work in the UK, as we have previously discussed there is a new *Points Based Immigration Scheme* in the UK starting 01.01.2021. Those join a vessel due to leave the UK or those working outside of the UK territorial waters are exempt from requiring to meet the new PBIS.

The UK started the Frontier Worker Permit Scheme just before Christmas and reports are that it is working very smoothly, though it is to be noted that the applications are being checked case-by-case and not all applications are successful.

See the attached letter from the Future Immigration Minister, Kevin Foster MP: [Read here](https://d.docs.live.net/1adaa5b490893596/Desktop/MIN%20124139.pdf)

The Workboat Association (together with a number of similar organisations) continue to pursue a UK Temporary Skilled Workers Visa for Seafarers.

**If you have any unexpected experiences regarding changes as a result of Brexit** (positive or negative) **please contact Kerrie Forster on:** [k.forster@workboatassociation.org](mailto:k.forster@workboatassociation.org)