



BREXIT

IMPLICATIONS FOR CARDIFF

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

BREXIT

On 23rd June 2016 the United Kingdom chose to leave the European Union. Across the UK, 51.9% of the electorate voted to leave the EU and 48.1% voted to remain. In Cardiff, 40% voted to leave and 60% voted to remain.

IMPACT

Impact on... People

Cardiff is well known for its inclusivity and harmony, with a history of welcoming diverse populations from across the globe. **The decision to leave the EU cannot and will not change this.** It is essential that everyone recognises the strength that comes from our diversity and the role it plays in making our city great.

According to Census figures there were **13,414** (non-UK) **EU born residents** in Cardiff in 2011 – around 4 % of the total population.

The **uncertainty of what Brexit will actually entail** is understandably **causing these individuals anxiety** about their futures in Cardiff and the UK.

Impact on... Cardiff's economy

Cardiff and Wales' economy benefits substantially from being in the European Union Single Market. Two thirds of Welsh exports and 61 % of Cardiff exports go to EU countries, placing Cardiff in the **top five British cities most reliant on EU markets.**

Many Cardiff firms rely on **workers from EU countries**, in particular those in **construction, retail and hospitality, and health and social care.**

Impact on... healthcare and the NHS

Cardiff's **health service is reliant on doctors, nurses and other health professionals** from across the world, with many coming from the EU. The University Health Board – and the NHS in general – will have a continuing need to recruit staff. Brexit must not make this harder.



Impact on... Cardiff's universities

Cardiff's universities are vibrant international communities. Almost 3,000 students in the city region are from the EU – nearly 4% of the total student population. Potential fee changes for EU students could lead to a sharp reduction in numbers over the coming years, leading to a **potential loss of up to £10m per annum** in tuition fee income to Cardiff's universities.

The city's universities employ talented researchers and teachers from across the EU – for example, nearly **one in six academic staff** in Cardiff University are EU nationals. The ability to attract and retain the best students, staff and researchers is central to the universities' future success, and to supporting a **culture of creativity and innovation** – in the universities and in the city economy – that is fostered by this diversity.



Nearly **one in five students** at Cardiff University, and **two in every 25** in Cardiff Metropolitan – a significant number given the University does not have a Modern Foreign Language Department with a compulsory year abroad – are **internationally mobile**.

Science and innovation rely on being able to participate in international networks and access funding. For Cardiff University alone, securing future access to Horizon 2020 – the EU's research and innovation programme – would safeguard research income **in excess of £10 million per annum**.

Impact on... European Funding

In budgetary terms, Wales is a net beneficiary of EU membership, receiving about **£680million in EU funding each year**. To put this into context the Cardiff Capital Region City Deal is worth £1.2 billion over a 20 year period.

During the referendum campaign, commitments were made that Wales would not be worse off financially if the UK left the EU. It is therefore crucial that future funding arrangements honour this promise. For the Capital Region, this would mean **at least £330m a year** based on a pro rata share of Wales' total EU support.

Wales' economic strategy and investment programme has been distorted by European Funding. The nation and the city-region **have for 20 years been cut in two by artificial administrative boundaries** – between Objective One and Objective Two; Convergence and Competitiveness; the Valleys and the cities. **Brexit provides an opportunity to change this, and align all future funding alongside the City Deal to deliver the priorities of the Cardiff Capital Region.**



OUR RESPONSE

It is clear that Brexit will impact on our city, making it essential that Cardiff is able to respond to all challenges and opportunities which may arise. The Cardiff Public Services Board has therefore developed a number of proposals to protect the economy and public services, as well as to ensure any opportunities Brexit creates are taken advantage of. Our ten proposals to achieve this are:

Proposal 1:

The **capital city** must be put at the heart of **Wales' post-Brexit economic strategy**.



Proposal 2:

Access to the Single Market for goods, services and capital must be the UK Government's top priority for negotiation with the EU.



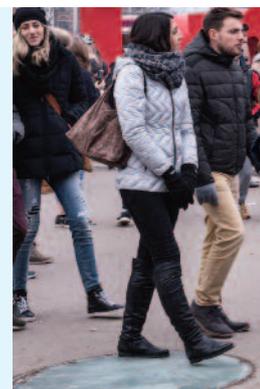
Proposal 3:

The rights of **EU citizens** living, working or studying in **Cardiff** must be guaranteed immediately and **rights of Cardiffians living in the EU** must be similarly protected.



Proposal 4:

Future **visa requirements** for **workers recruited from the EU** – particularly in the Health and Higher Education Sectors – must be clarified quickly, and that the **status of EU students** – including clarity on visa requirements and access to financial support and fees for students looking to begin their studies in Cardiff in 2018/19 and 2019/20 – **needs to be secured**.



Proposal 5:

Training provision must be **radically enhanced** for sectors **most reliant on EU workers** to ensure recruitment needs can be met in the future.



Proposal 6:

Access to **European Research Funding for the city's universities** must be maintained or enhanced, or – at the very least – replaced with an alternative.



Proposal 7:

Access to programmes which **allow staff and students to work, study and undertake other learning experiences abroad** must continue. If UK Government does not secure this then a specific international mobility programme for Welsh students should be explored by the Welsh Government.



Proposal 8:

Enhancement of the current levels of EU funding for Wales, with at least £330 million a year to be spent on the priorities of the Cardiff Capital Region, complementing the Cardiff City Deal.



Proposal 9:

There must be no rolling back of employment rights and other protections for workers, or the protections for our natural environment which have been secured through our membership of the EU.



Proposal 10:

Cardiff must maintain its success as an international city by continuing to attract international investment, trade, students and major events by developing an international strategy for the city, and for the capital city to be placed at the heart of the Welsh Government's new **International Strategy for Wales.**





This report has been commissioned and endorsed by the Cardiff Public Services Board, which brings together the city's public and third sector leaders, as well as partners in the Higher Education Sector in Cardiff.

Members of the Public Services Board are:

- Cardiff and Vale University Health Board
- Cardiff Third Sector Council
- The City of Cardiff Council
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- National Probation Service
- Natural Resources Wales
- South Wales Fire and Rescue
- South Wales Police
- South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner