Culture, Tourism, Europe and External Affairs Committee

Inquiry - Article 50: Preparedness

Written submission from Angus Council

What impact the Article 50 negotiations have had upon your business / organisation to date?

Limited impact. To date work has focused on establishing an officer group and monitoring developments, information etc. Regular reports are presented to elected members. We have contributed to work nationally on workforce implications for non UK staff members. Uncertainty over deadlines of commitment and spend on EU funded projects has meant rescheduling work programmes and uncertainty for funded staff.

What preparations, if any, are being made by your business / organisation for the range of scenarios which may result from the Article 50 negotiations?

Risk assessment being prepared. Monitoring information being provided from specific sectors eg agriculture. As above planning and profiling work programme and spend on LEADER programme. Analysis of impact on workforce which has demonstrated small numbers affected.

What you consider the impact of a no-deal outcome would be for your business / organisation?

No assessment been made to date. We will await the national response in the first instance, but it is likely to impact local business and external funding opportunities. Uncertainties also remain re impact on legislation

To what extent, the guidance issued by the European Commission and UK Government has been helpful in helping you to prepare for the UK’s withdrawal from the EU?

Guidance collated and shared with officers and elected members but limited use in terms of actual preparations due to lack of certainty at this time.

What further support or guidance you consider the Scottish Government, UK Government and / or European Commission should be providing to enable individuals, businesses and organisations in Scotland to prepare for the UK’s withdrawal from the EU?

Finalising the agreement to enable certainty of response.