Background: The themes of Issues/Risks identified below are based on the updated UK and Scottish Planning assumptions (September 2020). This document will remain live, and regularly updated throughout the response to any “No Deal” EU Exit. The Transition Period will end on 31 December 2020 and it is understood that no request for an extension will be made or EU request agreed to.

Contributing Officers – Jen Watt, Civil Contingencies Officer; Martin Keeley, Environmental Health Manager; Stella Kinloch, Section Head Transactional Services; Derek McLean, Procurement Business Partner; Cameron Taylor, WDLT Health and Safety Co-ordinator; Stephen Brooks, Working4U Manager; Kenny Lang, Joint Services Fleet and Waste Manager; Lynda Dinnie, Facilities Manager; Alison McBride, Strategic People and Change Manager and Michael McGuinness, Economic Development Manager.

| **Boarder Disruption – Martin Keeley and Stella Kinloch – October 2020** | | |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Congestion at sea ports & airports through delayed processes with potential impacts to:   * Ports / Airports * Warehouse distribution centres * Motorway / Trunk Road network * Rail Network | * Funding case to Scottish Government has been submitted through COSLA for LA Environmental Health resources nationally to support the delivery of services related to hub export sites and imports through Border Control Posts and in-land check points. Resource allocation will depend on the need to engage in food import controls and / or enhanced export certification work to support the Scottish food sector. Food Standards Scotland are assisting with resource for export hub delivery and LA mutual aid provision is a consideration * Requirement to directly deliver controls or the requirement to assist other food authorities in these matters (Regional / National Hubs for food export certification or port health controls for food import) * Signposting of Scottish Government EU Exit website providing information on passports / personal travel <https://www.gov.scot/brexit/> | WDC EH Manager is linked in through the Scottish Food Enforcement Liaison Committee to work with groups looking at EU Exit implications. While the position is being led nationally, by DEFRA. The risk-based system developed by the Scottish Food Enforcement Liaison Committee has been accepted for use on a UK basis. WDC EH Manager is linked to the various groups involved (including APHA, Scottish Government, Food Standards Scotland and Food Authorities (Local Authorities) and Port Health Working Groups (Imports and Exports).  Scottish Government is aware of potential bottlenecks in the delivery of the system, with Local Authorities potentially having to resource hubs for delivery of the system. Food Standards Scotland has recruited temporary staff to assist with delivery at hubs. Further funding has been requested for Scottish LAs to fund Export Health Certification (EHC) activities in a no deal scenario.  Through a change in the EH undergraduate education system, funded training (placement) for trainee Environmental Health Officers is now available to LAs.  The Scottish position of certification based on risk for Products of Animal Origin (POAO) has been accepted and adopted as the UK position. Food Standards Scotland in conjunction with APHA and DEFRA are reviewing the further issue of Exports to and Imports from Northern Ireland re certification and checks in the event of a no deal scenario.  Groups are working on the basis of a Reasonable Worst Case Scenario (RWCS). In such a scenario, the national demand for food export Health Certification is predicted to exceed capacity. Food shortages are likely to impact on all businesses. Within the Council work has been undertaken to minimise any potential disruption.  Capacity for import does not exist in Scotland and is limited UK wide. Discussions at a UK level and Scottish level are ongoing to determine the level of need and the development of capacity to meet such need. The set-up of a Border Control Post in Scotland to facilitate trade with Ireland through Northern Ireland is being explored.  The likelihood of WDC becoming a port authority for food is **unknown**. The demand for an establishment of an export hub(s) in WDC also **unknown**.  Information on DPEs and BIPs related to the EU are given here along with a Brexit reference.  <https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official_controls/legislation/imports/animal_en>  <https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/official_controls/legislation/imports/non-animal_en>  <https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/vet-border-control/bip_en>  Network Rail have produced a Risk Management Document, saved along with other EU Exit materials; providing reassurance that measures will be taken to ensure network operation. |
| Return of UK Nationals, currently in residence within other EU countries. | * Consider remit and membership of previous multi-disciplinary Syrian Refugee working group – as risks are similar. | Existing arrangements for the impact areas are in place and could cope with the numbers returning to local area.  At this time there is no indication that this poses a risk to WDC  This position has not changed – Oct 2020. |

| **Disruption to Service – Martin Keeley, Derek McLean, Cameron Taylor, Stephen Brooks, Kenny Lang and Lynda Dinnie – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **WD Impact** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Reduction, delay or stoppage in supply of medicines and medical supplies. |  |  | Please see bespoke HSCP Action Plan. |
| Reduction, delay or stoppage in movement, holding of animals and supply of veterinary medicines / supplies | -Concerns with regards to livestock welfare and disposal | Continued engagement with APHA and DEFRA | This has been deemed a risk. APHA and DEFRA look after the animal movements and it’s under vet control for medicines etc. for farm animals. |
| Reduction, delay or stoppage in supplies of other consumables | * Impacts on capital or infrastructure projects, e.g. new school at Renton * Impacts on other services provided through other nations, e.g. software * Impact to Chemicals (Leisure Trust) * Impact to construction industry due to import of raw material and construction products   - Polyaluminium Chloride (PAC) – supplier: Brenntag UK  -Calcium Hypochlorite (HTH) – supplier: Brenntag UK  -Carbon Dioxide – supplier: Air Products UK | Services to consider supply and projects in line with significant assurance work carried out by Procurement. Supply, etc which is continually monitored.  Continued engagement with Facilities Manager re school and care home provisions. **Refer to Broad Risk**: *Certain types of fresh food may decrease /prices of certain foods many increase*  Check on existing and future contracts in terms of where the risk lies. (service led)  Continued engagement with supply chain for critical contracts to ensure early visibility of import issues  WD Leisure continuing to monitor  WD Leisure continuing to monitor  WD Leisure continuing to monitor | Considerable work carried out by Scotland Excel to provide assurances.  The Corporate Procurement Unit (CPU) sent out a supplier / provider questionnaire however of the suppliers / providers that did respond, those responses were generic. The CPU also sent out questionnaires to the Council’s service areas to ascertain contingency plans should a supplier / provider not meet the specification / delivery due to Brexit.  REG and Legal to check on existing and future contracts in terms of where the risk lies.  Scottish Water / UK Water Suppliers have provided written assurance that their supply will be maintained.  There may be a general knock on risk to 1st tier extractive industry supply chain where raw materials for the construction industry and manufacturing products could be disrupted.  CPU are drafting a clause within the terms and conditions to include within supply and works contracts that not having the appropriate import procedures in place is a contract breach event  Hydrochloric acid is one of the main components of PAC. It has been advised that Scottish Water will be prioritised if shortages become critical. However, PAC and other components that make up the product are all produced in the UK; therefore EU-Exit will not be an issue.  HTH is imported from the USA and this could be affected by EU-Exit. WD Leisure has stocked up a 3 month supply. HTH will be transported in shipping containers with electronic paperwork send in advance to minimise delays.  No change – October 2020  WD Leisure has now discontinued its CO2 contract and solely uses sodium bisulphate for pH control. No disruption to supply is anticipated. |
| Impact upon low income groups as a result of lack of supply of foods or price increase of fuel, food, etc | * Potential welfare requirements (including Welfare Fund) enhanced * Potential impacts upon foodbank/food provision capacity | Engagement with Working 4U/Communities Teams to gauge how foodbanks may be affected / can be linked in with  Consideration on messaging with regards to the type of supplies foodbanks need  Consider the level of social welfare funding available against potential need (W4U - include consideration of fuel poverty)  Continued engagement with local food banks | Risk of additional costs due to welfare needs of the public. WDC has also agreed to provide funding to support two local foodbank charities, though not necessarily as a result of the potential impact of EU- Exit. The food banks have built strong a relationship with the Council. As such, this will enable regular monitoring of potential impacts caused by a No Deal Exit and allow concerns to be raised using appropriate and recognised channels.  Campaigns to encourage donations to West Dunbartonshire Community Foodbanks is ongoing. Activity on the Intranet to encourage officers to donate and highlighting thanks for those who have donated to keep the project relevant.  Foodbanks currently have **sufficient** stock supplies and money to purchase stock if it was to run low. They have highlighted that their social media campaigns have typically led to upsurge in donations, which continues to be the case. The group has contact with the Communities Team with regards community budgeting grants.  Working 4U liaise with local organisations (foodbanks and third sector organisations) providing access to low cost cafes and support for ‘food on a budget’ for people with limited resources. However, restrictions introduced as a result of Covid-19 has reduced the number of community-based cafes and lunch clubs.  The aim is to work with key organisations to develop an action plan that will include action to:   * Raise awareness of the need for services; * promote availability of food and services; * maintain/increase supplies of food and donations to the organisations (from individuals, local business, public and third sector organisations; * Support access to additional funds for the provision of food.   Covid-19 Food insecurity Group was established to address emergency food demands. This infrastructure will remain intact for the foreseeable future and will be used to extend support to those affected by the impact of BREXIT. |
| Fuel Supply Disruption | * Potential requests for Council Resources * Potential impact on Council reserves | Roads / Transportation to consider ensuring Council reserves are at optimal levels and processes in the event of requests from partner agencies | UK and Scottish Government planning assumptions suggests there will not be an impact on fuel levels, etc. Recent discussions with Energy Sector have provided reassurance in this area and confirmed that Scottish stocks are sufficient. Customer behaviour could lead to local shortages in other parts of the country however this is not anticipated.  There will be **no provision** to stock pile fuel. WDC do not have the capacity to store any more fuel. Fuel delivery tankers bring in 8-10,000 litres per delivery as required.  WDC do not envisage any issue with fuel deliveries as supplies are sourced from creditable fuel suppliers.  As based on previous UK planning assumptions the only foreseen potential for disruption to fuel supplies is for London and South East England. This is being associated to traffic congestion & linked customer behaviours rather than supply shortages.  This remains valid (October 2020) |
| Increased unemployment as a result of economic disruption | * Greater number of people in receipt of benefits with additional knock-on demand for support services. Including welfare/debt advice, employability support and discretionary welfare payments | Working 4U will work with strategic partners to ensure information about access to services is widely available  Continued review of services to ensure increasing areas of demand are addressed | Working 4U will coordinate efforts of service providers through joint working with strategic partners in:   * The West Dunbartonshire Information and Advice Partnership * The local strategic employability group |
| Certain types of fresh food may decrease /prices of certain foods many increase | * Potential additional costs for services/that purchase/supply foods to increase by up to 20% due to tariff changes, sterling depreciation and boarder disruption * Impacts on food provision at schools, care homes, etc . | **Short term:** Consider earmarking additional resource, or consider use of prudential reserve if required  **Long term**: Consider building in additional costs into the long term finance strategy based on evidence post- EU Exit | WDC 20-21 budget for supply of food to Education and HSCP is set. Risk of additional costs.  The risk of cost increases arising from EU-Exit has been advised to Council in the budget preparation reports since October 2018. The budget report advises that any price variations will be reported and that it is expected that the Council would manage such price variations should they arise through ongoing budgetary control and, if necessary, use of free reserves.  Facilities Management maintain a very limited stock of tinned and dried food that is maintained year round, in case of single premise emergencies – while this is not EU Exit specific, it could be utilised in the event of a localised issue being experienced.  At this stage, and in line with Scottish Government and CoSLA advice, there is **no intention** to stock pile beyond this contingency as storage capacity as freezer space prohibits this. In addition, nursery and school meals are produced in line with national legislation which details nutrient requirements. Most meals are therefore produced using fresh fruit, vegetables and other produce which has an extremely limited shelf-life and is not suitable for stock-piling.  Additionally, there is a requirement by Scottish Government that in the event of a no deal EU-Exit authorities are required to continue to ensure compliance with national nutritional standards. This could require significant resource input and also sourcing of alternative products.  Without detailed knowledge on the nature of the final EU-Exit arrangements it is impossible to accurately identify the physical or financial impact other than to anticipate significant cost increases for food provisions and therefore increased expenditure in this area by the Council for the provision of nursery and school meals. This potential additional expenditure has been highlighted to CoSLA on our submission of their Brexit Cost template.  In addition, considerable work has been undertaken by Scotland Excel to engage with suppliers in an effort to ensure a robust supply chain where at all possible. |

| **Information & Data Sharing – Alison McBride – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **WDC Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Disrupt in flow of personal data due to legal requirements affecting law enforcement / intelligence sharing between UK & EU | * Delay in PVGs, significant impact on teaching & care staff * SSSC registration requirements | Seek information / assurance / guidance from Scottish Government | Scottish Government Update in relation to PVGs is as follows:  “Disclosure Scotland currently uses arrangements under the Directive and Council Decision to request information from 12 Member States for nationals of those Member States to work in childcare positions in Scotland.  If the UK should leave the EU without a deal then the arrangements will end  In the short-term, recruiting organisations will have to make use of certificates of good conduct provided by the individual.  Disclosure Scotland isn’t involved in that process.  PVG disclosure requests will rely on information held in UK records only, and will be handled in line with the 14-day service level target”  The above remains current (October 2020) |

| **Demonstrations & Disorder – Local Police Division – November 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **WDC Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Increase in protests in relation to: EU Exit   * Irish / Northern Irish tension * Economic Instability | * Increased license requests * Lack of Police / Partner resourcing to events | Ensure awareness with relevant Leads / Officers for this. | Police Scotland are planning for the potential increase for demand for public order policing for demonstrations and protests in relation to EU Exit. Currently, there is no intelligence to indicate that events will not be law abiding.  It is anticipated that, unplanned, short notice demonstrations across the country are most likely to be focussed around large cities with good transport links such as Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Dundee.  Intelligence will be shared by/with Police Scotland as appropriate and mitigations put in place on an ad hoc basis through engagement with relevant partners.  Mutual aid requests for policing support will be considered and actioned in line with well-established processes. As a national force, there is sufficient capacity and ability to flex resources should there be a requirement to do so.  Local engagement through West Dunbartonshire & Argyll and Bute Local Resilience Partnership. |

| **Workforce – Stella Kinloch – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **WDC Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Loss of staff – both highly skilled and lower skilled / entry level  Access to benefits Consider impact of loss of benefits arising from circumstances where low income groups and vulnerable people may be more affected by removal of EUSS on 30 June 2021. | - Impact on Care for People. Agency Staff  - Significant concern in Education regarding supply teachers, learning assistants, probationer allocations and officers with language skills  - Potential impact on school transportation  -Potential risk if contracts are subcontracted companies employing EU-nationals  - In terms of Workforce approx. less than 30 employees require EUSS.  - Impact to UC maybe the most severe flag with no recourse to public funds. | Signposting of key information / support in relation to EU Workers within the Council <https://www.gov.scot/brexit/>  Education is revising processes with regards recruitment to reflect guidance and in relation to engagement with universities on earlier allocation of probationers    Education to liaise with SPT & taxi contractors  Communications via HR Workforce to Managers and Employees direct via online comms. Link to Working 4U to ensure West Dunbartonshire wide comms highlights support and impacts on Benefits where EUSS is not in place by June 2021. | EU Nationals have already been identified within the organisation, letters have been issued. Managers have access to a Right to Work report within HR21. A key element will be to offer continued engagement with all affected parties.  Noting right to work at point of engagement is the evidence requirement. There is no requirement to insist on Settled Status for any EU employees – identifying those of EU origin maybe seen as discriminatory therefore no further action is required by WDC. WMS records providing country of origin remain up to date. HR Assistance remains available to all employees who may require assistance with the application process.  REG to consult with existing contractors to seek assurance of continued project plans or the contingencies they have in place.  WDC HR has identified 31 employees with contractual obligation whose origin is EU or EEA.  A full review of all employee roles and impact on each service area has been undertaken and there is a **low risk** to service delivery as there are no unique or difficult to fill positions identified, nor one single service impacted significantly should EU nationals return to country of origin.  HR Connect Section Head continues to monitor for any change notifications.  **Education –** School taxis and SPT will be addressed by procurement as all contracts are arranged via the Procurement route  Low numbers of employees were identified as EU nationals – support to apply for EUSS made available via HR Connect for advice and guidance.  Low numbers of employees were identified as EU nationals – support to apply for EUSS made available via HR Connect for advice and guidance.  Discretionary funds etc are in place however the citizen or employee will need to make a claim for EUSS as these are safety nets until the person meets the requirements.  The Council will continue to support and offer assistance to aid citizens and employees to complete their status application. |

| **Economic Instability – Michael McGuiness – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad risk** | **WD Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Provision of information to Local businesses | * A review of the potential impacts suggests they have either been covered off already, or that services will not be affected. For example, more or less use of the libraries will not have any significant risk to the service. | Communications and the web team need to be ready to respond proactively to any messages that the wider Council needs to issue following Brexit. Promotion of good sources of information for local businesses to plan and prepare. | The web team have already uploaded information on the Council internet site sign posting local businesses to the guidance supplied by the Scottish Government.    A document produced with a number of key public stakeholders provides useful information in regards to Business engagements from Public bodies.  Business Gateway continue to provide guidance on preparing for Brexit along with Scottish Enterprise communications. .<https://www.bgateway.com/resources/what-brexit-means-for-scottish-businesses> and <https://www.scottish-enterprise.com/support-for-businesses/prepare-for-brexit> |
| The likelihood of an economic crisis has increased and will have major impacts on disposable incomes and employability. The increased likelihood means that an economic is now more likely to occur concurrently with other risks | * This presents a risk to our workforce, our communities and local economy. This will impact our vulnerable communities and hinder local economic growth. This clearly presents a challenge for WD due to the already high rates of deprivation and unemployment. There is also a risk that individuals may require additional support as a result of EU Exit putting more pressure on the local authority. | Working 4U will work with strategic partners to ensure information about access to services is widely available  Continued review of services to ensure increasing areas of demand are addressed | See above and page 6 relating to Increased unemployment as a result of economic disruption |

| **Business Continuity – Jen Watt – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad risk** | **WD Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| Assess impact of no deal EU- Exit on Business Continuity Plans | Potential disruption to services   * Food * Medicines * Staff | WDC have undertaken a full review of all Business Continuity Arrangements  Reporting to CoSLA and Scottish Government as requested  Dialling into teleconferences  Reporting to the Multi Agency Coordination Centre (MACC) (when active | Business Continuity planning remains an operational focus. Any changes pre/post EU-Exit will be reflected into the respective Business Continuity Plans.  CoSLA has recently asked LAs to submit a questionnaire to provide information relating to resilience structures, additional structures and areas of risk.  CoSLA has reinstated EU Exit calls, the Civil Contingencies Officer regularly dials into these meetings, to discuss any arising issues and requests from Scottish Government and CoSLA. |
| Notable risk of disruptive concurrent events happening towards the end of 2020. Covid-19 has not reduced the risk from pandemic influenza, a novel emerging infectious disease and coordinated industrial action. | Many of our officers have worked tirelessly through this pandemic without much leave to date. This may lead to key officers being on leave (as required for wellbeing) as we prepare for the months ahead.  Given the likelihood that we will be required to respond to multiple disruptive events at the same time, this puts significant pressure on our resilience structures and our ability to respond | WDC have produced a suite of Business Continuity Plans and an Essential Services List  Resilience Structures in place. Strategic and Operational Resilience Groups and Resilience Group.  Concurrent Risk Workshop for key officers will be held on the 17th November via MS Teams | Local Authority Resilience Group Scotland (LARGS) has ‘stood up’ EU Exit Transition and Concurrent Risk teleconference which is currently held every Friday.  SRG and ORG discussing allocation of leave, staggering of leave for key roles and ensuring business continuity arrangements are robust.  Additional WoSRRP exercising is taking place alongside that of CCS events. Relevant officers will attend. |

| **Other Considerations - Stephen West, Vicky-Jane Hastings and Patricia Kerr – October 2020** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Broad Risk** | **WDC Impact(s)** | **Action** | **Comments** |
| EU Funds / Grants  Impact on the European Structural Fund | - Ongoing projects, planned projects or staffing that are reliant on EU funding, either directly or indirectly through the Scottish Government  - Impact on outstanding allocations of structural funding committed by Managing Authorities under the 2014-2020 programmes | Both the UK and Scottish Government have provided written reassurance that ESF will be continued in current form until 2023  The previous UK treasury Guarantee was no longer required, following the UK Withdrawal Agreement Bill being approved, the previous guidance was withdrawn) | Under the UK Withdrawal Agreement Bill, the UK will continue to participate in programmes funded under the current 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) until their closure. As described in Articles 137 and 138 of the Agreement.  This applies to all ESF,ERDF & ETC projects signed by end of 2020 with funding ending in 2023  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/continued-uk-participation-in-eu-programmes/eu-funded-programmes-under-the-withdrawal-agreement>  <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/new-withdrawal-agreement-and-political-declaration>  Hilary Pearce Head of European Structural Funds and State Aid Division is fully engaging with other Managing Authority heads across the UK and in relevant UKG departments to ensure her and her team are kept up to date with developments  The most recent letter providing clarification was issued by Hilary Pearce on the 27th January 2020: |
| Other Financial Considerations | -Impact of any fluctuations in the currency rate to expenditure.  -Impact on future economic growth  Impact on any regeneration projects and plans | Ensure council services purchasing though currency exchange remain within budget | Revenue spend  Our transactions are in UK Sterling Pounds (£) but there may be an increase in the cost due to market fluctuations.  WDC are subjected annually to an approx. 3% increase for many ICT systems. An expected increase is built into the budget each year, however due to exchange rate fluctuations there is a lack of certainty and this can lead to an overspend.  This risk of exchange rate fluctuation is higher due to Brexit and would likely to be more volatile with a “no deal” Brexit.  See comments below re reports to Council on the budget-setting process and approach to managing this financial risk.  Capital spend (ICT)  Again WDC transactions are in £ and there may be an increase in the cost if the market does fluctuate.  For capital projects, WDC approach is to adjust the volumes to remain within budget as device prices change every 6 months on the frameworks anyway.  WDC have in the past asked for capital funding approval to be accelerated from future years where we have an urgent requirement and have no budget left.  Costs will be monitored and any variations reported through normal budgetary control processes, which highlight reasons for cost increases.  This remains valid-Oct-2020. |
| Expenditure | - Impact of increasing inflation – costs to the council (excluding food):  e.g. Energy costs; care agency costs | Monitor increases in costs of those identified as high risk/ high volume  Monitor overall position through budgetary control process  **SHORT TERM:** consider earmarking additional resources at the year-end for the risk; or consider use of prudential reserve if required short term.  **LONGER TERM:** consider building-in additional costs into the long term finance strategy based on evidence post-Brexit | Energy bought in advance – short term risk minimal; however could have a longer term impact.  The risk of cost increases arising from Brexit has been advised to Council in budget preparation reports since October 2018 and will continue to be advised. The final budget report each year advises that any price variations will be reported and that it was expected that Council would manage such price variations should they arise through ongoing budgetary control and, if necessary, use of free reserves. |
| Funding Support | - Impact to Council of chancellor revisiting the budget and affecting local government funding settlements | Monitor ongoing Brexit discussions and potential impact on the councils finances & the wider implications of the Scottish economy | Monitoring on news and articles is ongoing, not yet clear as any impact will only really be known once any deal is agreed (if agreed). |
| Capital Receipts | - Capital Receipts do not materialise or are lower than anticipated | Longer term vision on capital programme for both income and expenditure levels  Regular Strategic Asset Management Group updates feeding through to the capital budgetary control report (to both Council and CMT)  Capital Disposal Strategy with longer term vision to allow movement in the assets due sold and timing of those assets  Capital programme being monitored by CMT, Council and Committees on a regular basis  Early identification of possible issues to allow action to reduce spend or identify further surplus assets for possible disposal to minimise shortfall. | Capital receipt opportunities are regularly considered at SAMG and PAMG and as yet it is not known what impact EU Exit will have on housing markets. |