

Helping firms to understand 'Rules of Origin'

Rules of Origin relates to where a product was manufactured and determines the 'economic nationality' of a good for international trade.

Those who trade with the EU need to understand the rules on this under the new Trade and Cooperation Agreement, as firms can trade with the EU without paying tariffs 'only' if their product meets the relevant Rules of Origin.

The Government has [published guidance](#) to explain the most important things that businesses need to understand and comply with, and further [guidance on Claiming preferential rates of duty](#) between the UK and EU is also available.

The Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy is hosting a webinar at 2pm-3pm on Thursday 4 February to support businesses. Members are encouraged to [join via this link](#).

Government provides more resources to help businesses

The Government is inviting businesses to [register to access](#) a series of short on-demand videos relating to 18 topics including importing and exporting, rules of origin, tariffs, data, hiring, and accounting.

A dedicated Business Support Helpline is also available in each of the devolved nations. Opening hours and the relevant telephone numbers can be found on [Gov.UK](#).

Change to UK driving licences and number plates

The EU flag has been removed from all [UK driving licences and number plate designs](#), with the first batches issued from 1 January 2021. While existing licences and number plates will still be valid, the new versions will be issued to everyone renewing a licence or getting one for the first time.

Driving permit not required with UK photocard licence

UK drivers who hold photocard licences will not need an [international driving permit](#) to drive in any of the 27 EU member states, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland or Liechtenstein. UK drivers won't need to display a GB sticker in most EU countries if their number plate has GB or GB with a Union Flag on it.

Government wants to understand impact on businesses

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Michael Gove is chairing a series of weekly [Brexit Business Taskforce](#) meetings with businesses from specific sectors across all parts of the UK to discuss challenges facing traders and to find solutions to outstanding issues.

The Government knows that some businesses are facing challenges with some of the new rules that are now in place and wants to better understand what impact EU Exit is having across the sectors. The BVRLA policy team liaise regularly with Government officials and would like to hear any concerns or issues that members have relating to EU Exit. Email BVRLA Senior Policy Advisor, Thomas@bvrla.co.uk.