

**OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE**

(c) Agree that each portfolio should prepare for the combined effects of COVID-19 and a disruptive exit from the transition period, including consideration of whether staff resources would require the reprioritisation of other work programmes;

(d) Agreed that any new resource-funded expenditure must be limited to absolutely essential responses to both COVID-19 and EU Exit, which would need to be funded through reductions in existing spending or outstanding commitments; and

(e) Agreed that consideration should be given to restarting work on independence and a referendum, with the arguments reflecting the experience of the coronavirus crisis and developments on EU Exit.

**(Action: Cabinet Secretary for the Constitution, Europe and External Affairs; EU Directorate; Readiness and Transition Directorate)**

**Any Other Business**

57. None.

Cabinet Secretariat  
July 2020