

Foreword by the Prime Minister

On 31 January 2020 the UK left the EU. We got Brexit done to take back control, to make our own laws, and to manage our own money.

The United Kingdom's uncoupling from the rules, regulations and institutions of Brussels was never simply about the moment of our departure; the act of Brexit was not an end in itself but the means by which our country will achieve great things.

5 And so that historic night two years ago marked not the final page of the story, but the start of a whole new chapter for our country, our economy and our people.

A future in which we don't sit passively outside the European Union but seize the incredible opportunities that our freedom presents and use them to build back better than ever before - making our businesses more competitive and our people more prosperous.

10 This paper sets out how we'll go about it. Untangling ourselves from 40 years of EU membership, keeping what works, changing what doesn't, supporting new industries, reinvigorating older ones and firmly planting the British flag on the world stage once again.

15 This is a hugely exciting time for our country, one filled with potential and opportunity. The bolder we are, the greater the gains will be for us all. And - as this document demonstrates - this is a government that possesses the ambition and determination the UK needs to succeed now and for many years to come.

The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP



Our Achievements so far

Taking Back Control

The public voted to take back control. This Government has delivered it.

- 20 Our objective has been to restore the UK's status as a sovereign, independent country so that we can once again determine our own future. That means changing our rules and regulations to best serve the people's priorities and returning democratic accountability to our own institutions.
- 25 • **Ended free movement and taken back control of our borders.**
In its place we have introduced a points-based immigration system, focused on skilled workers and the best global talent, with skills and salary thresholds and an English-language requirement. The UK has welcomed thousands of workers with the skills the country needs to support our domestic labour market as we build back better from the Covid pandemic, from doctors and scientists to butchers and bricklayers.
 - 30 • **Restored democratic control over our lawmaking.**
We gave the power to make and scrutinise the laws that apply to us back to our Parliament and the devolved Parliaments so that they are now made in Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh and London, not Brussels. [...]
 - 35 • **Made it tougher for EU criminals to enter the UK.**
EU nationals sentenced to a year or more in jail will now be refused entry to the UK. Under EU free movement we had to allow some foreign criminals into the country who would otherwise have been stopped and turned away. We have now brought the rules for EU criminals who are not protected by the Withdrawal Agreement in line with other foreign
40 criminals. [...]
 - 45 • **Taken back control of our waters.**
The deal we struck with the EU and our new Fisheries Act allow us to chart a course once again as an independent coastal state, bringing more quota for British fishermen and new opportunities for our coastal communities from Lerwick and Peterhead at the north-eastern end of Scotland to Brixham and Newlyn at the south-western tip of England.
 - 50 • **Restored fair access to our welfare system.** We ended the preferential treatment of EU migrants over non-EU migrants, ensuring that wherever people are born, those who choose to make the UK their home pay into the system for a reasonable period of time before they can access the benefits of it. [...]
 - **Committed £180 million to modernise and streamline our import and export controls by creating the Single Trade Window.** This will support our ambition to make the UK the most

55 effective border in the world by 2025 and reduce the cost of trade by streamlining trader interactions with the UK's border agencies. [...]

60 • **Reintroduced our iconic blue passports.** All new British passports are now blue, a return to their original appearance, with the colour first introduced in 1921, and updated to be the most technologically-advanced and secure British passports ever, with the carbon footprint from their manufacture reduced to net zero.

65 • **Enabling businesses to use a crown stamp symbol on pint glasses.**
The Crown Stamp is a proud emblem of our heritage that people remain fond of. We have begun the process of allowing it to be used once again, a fitting tribute to Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee.

Source: HM Government, January 2022