

# Brexit 'no deal' planning - update

Executive Board – 25 March 2019

Working with doctors Working for patients

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## The past week in politics...

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- On Tuesday 12 March, MPs rejected the Withdrawal Agreement for a second time by 149 votes
- On Wednesday 13 March, MPs voted to reject the idea of the UK leaving the EU without a deal under any circumstances. However, that vote was not legally-binding - and under current law the UK could still leave without a deal on 29 March
- On Thursday 14 March, the Commons voted by 413 to 202 to seek an extension to Article 50 - the legal mechanism by which the UK is due to leave the EU

### *Next steps....*

- Possible third vote on Withdrawal Agreement now uncertain following Speaker's refusal to allow a vote on the same motion
- Request for short extension of Brexit date likely to be submitted to EU, perhaps on Thursday 21 March. This will need to be agreed unanimously by EU leaders.

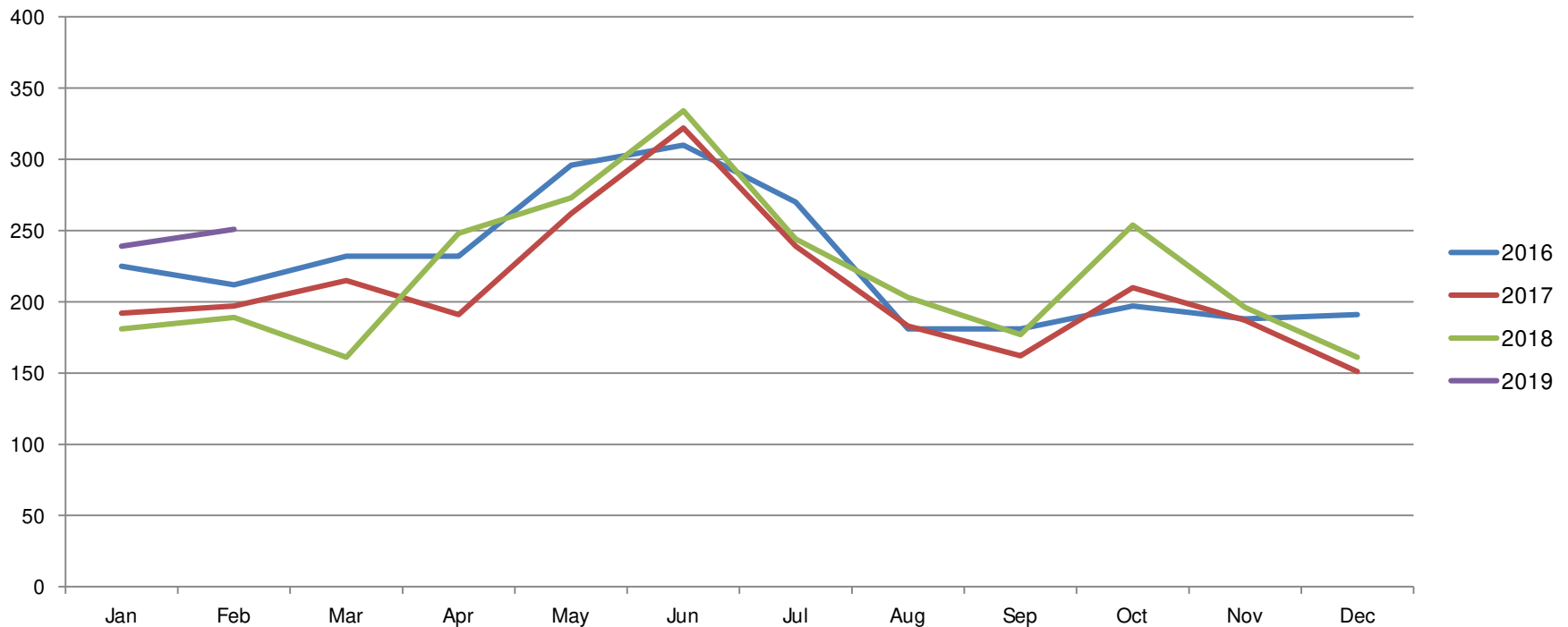
## GMC 'no deal' deliverables to date

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- Extensive input into Statutory Instrument revisions to Medical Act (11 sets of detailed legal & policy commentary over 18 months)
- Briefed to secure the passage of the Brexit Instrument in both Houses of Parliament
- Systems updated and tested – GMC Online, decision tool, Siebel analytics
- Resource modelling completed and initial contingencies signed off by SMT
- Impact analysis completed – documents identified, quantified, assessed and prioritised
- Document updates completed– bespoke tools developed to aid operational teams, tools to track progress developed
- EDI assessment of new route to recognition completed
- Communications plan developed for doctors, stakeholders and media
- Policy reviewed and priority policies updated to support new route to registration
- Operational design of new route to registration
- Clone website constructed ready for 'go live'
- Drafting of advice to doctors to address any short-term challenges they may face
- Communication of new route to recognition to EEA regulators
- Education policy lines to take developed
- Communication with individual employees who hold EEA nationality to alert them to the Home Office EU Settlement Scheme

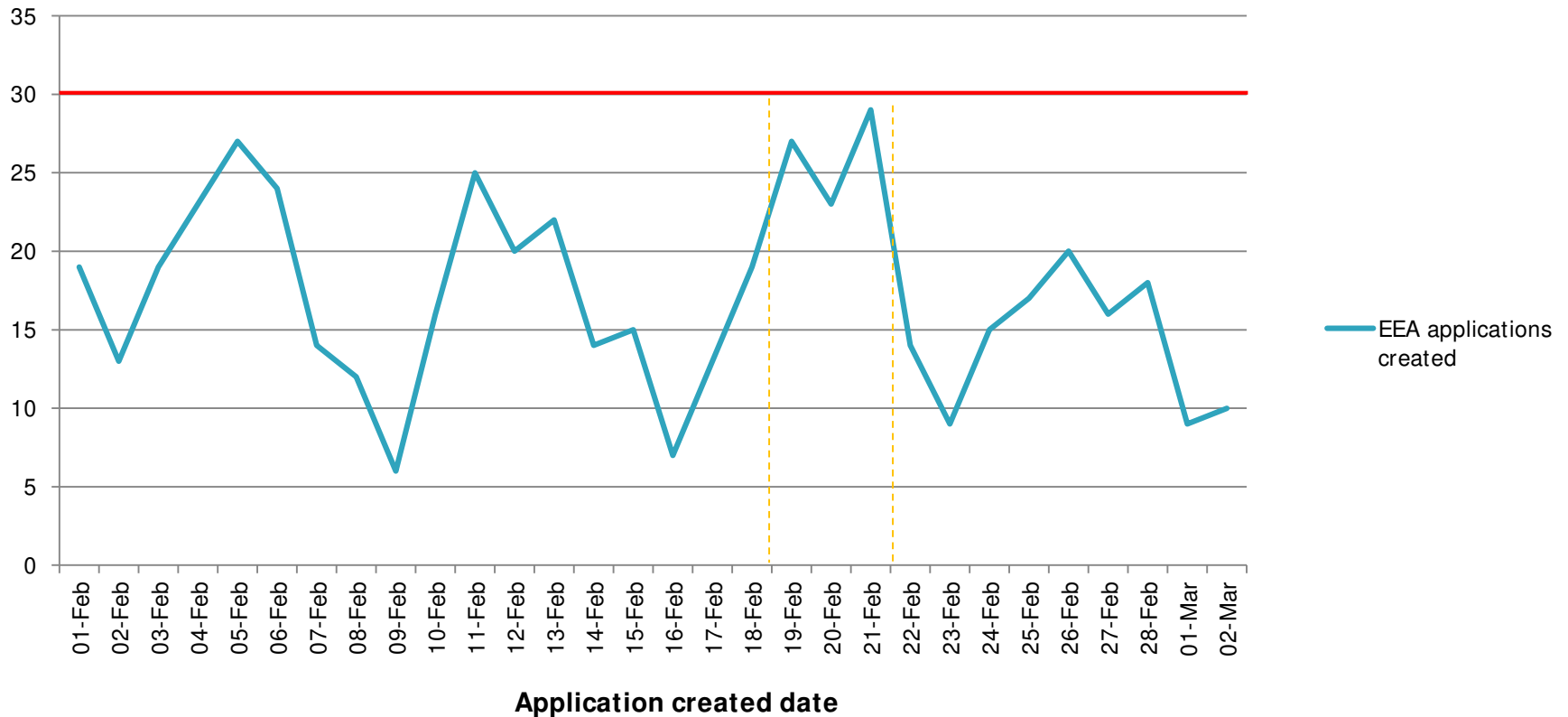
## EEA graduate applications received 2016 – 2019

- The number of applications from EEA graduates received was, generally, slightly higher in 2018 compared to 2017
- However the number of EEA applications received so far in 2019 appears to be a significant increase, as illustrated below:



## Daily EEA applications created – February 2019

- The number of EEA applications created on GMC Online came close to the 30 day alert we created from 19 - 21 February
- However since then they have reduced again



## Go live - arrangements

- A number of activities would need to take place to implement the ‘no deal’ arrangements:

Activity	Team
Update GMC Online – close ‘EEA’ route, make new routes live	IS
Close EEA applications started on GMC Online but not submitted	IS
Publish ‘no deal’ version of website – new registration decision tool, new application guides, disclaimers, and R&R pages updated to reflect change in registration routes	Digital Team
Update automatic emails for applications	CKM (R&R)

- These activities can be completed quickly, i.e. approximately half an hour in duration.
- The Contact Centre operates from 9am – 5pm on Saturdays, and will do so on 30 March. Advisers will need to be clear what arrangements are in place and what advice to give doctors that day.

## Operational decisions taken

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- ‘Go live’ arrangements in the event of a no deal withdrawal on Friday 29 March:
  - DHSC have confirmed that the ‘no deal’ Medical Act will be automatically enacted at 11pm on 29 March in the event of a ‘no deal’\*
  - Take key systems offline immediately at 11pm
  - GMC systems will remain offline for approximately 30 mins so that the changes needed for no deal can be implemented and to build in a buffer in case of any last minute deal or other announcement preventing no deal to emerge
  - Una Lane will give the go ahead to relevant teams to confirm that the systems should be taken offline at 11pm, and again after the buffer to confirm that the no deal changes should be made live
- Communication with doctors:
  - Pre-Brexit (Thursday 21 March): email to doctors with open application, message on application webpages, email to doctors holding T&O registration
  - Post-Brexit (Monday 1 April): email to IMG applicants booked onto PLAB who may benefit from new route to registration

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\*If the date of Brexit changes, the ‘no deal’ Medical Act will automatically be enacted on that new date (if an Agreement is not reached)

## Proposal for SMT oversight

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- UKE&I team will continue to closely monitor external political developments in the week of 25 March and will provide updates throughout the week
- Una to take decision at 11pm on 29 March to 'go live' with website changes
- An oral update will be given at SMT on Monday 1 April
- If required, a SitRep meeting can be convened that week to evaluate the switchover and to address any issues arising