

October 2017

EU Exit and Chemicals Regulation- Briefing Paper

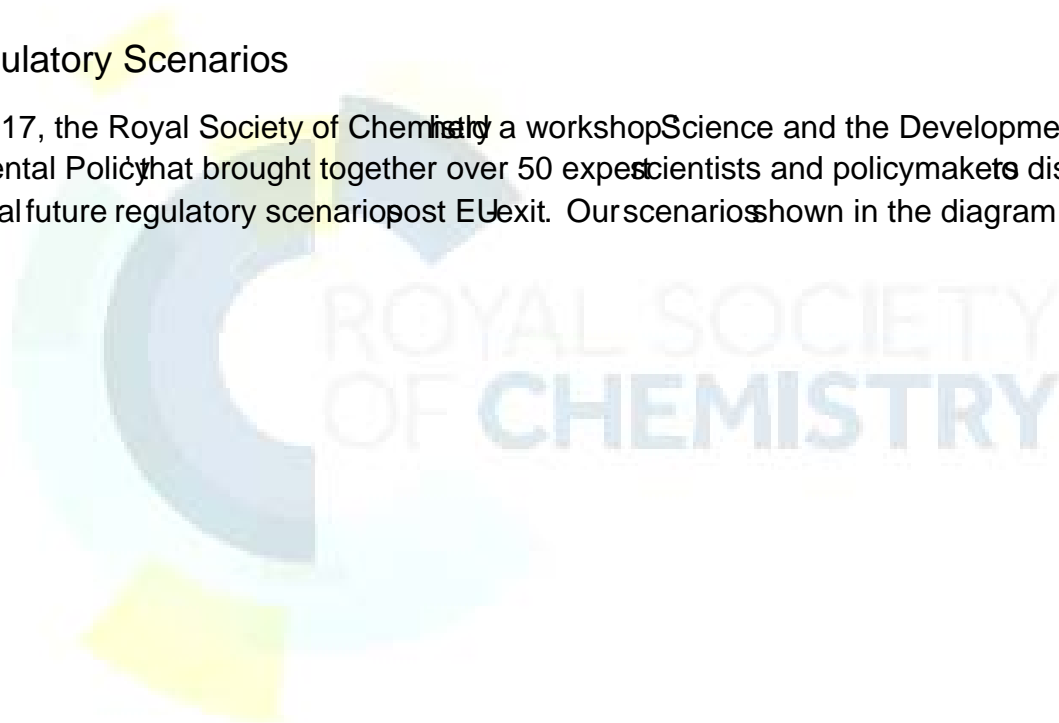
Following our workshop on Science and the Development of Chemical & Environmental Policy
5 July 2017, Royal Society of Chemistry, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London.

The overarching Royal Society Chemistry position is that the UK needs a regulatory system that achieves a balance between

- x nurturing innovation
- x protecting the environment and human health and
- x enabling the UK to trade internationally.

Future Regulatory Scenarios

On 5 July 2017, the Royal Society of Chemistry held a workshop on Science and the Development of Chemical & Environmental Policy that brought together over 50 experts, scientists and policymakers to discuss four of many potential future regulatory scenarios post EU exit. Our scenarios are shown in the diagram below,



Critical Requirements related to Scientific Data and Expertise

What was clear from the discussions at the workshop is that regardless of the outcome of the negotiations and the overarching principles that form the basis for future UK chemicals regulation, the following four elements relating to scientific data and expertise will be critical for our future regulatory systems

1) Chemical Safety Assessment Frameworks Consistent and systematic scientific frameworks are essential to integrate different types of data for performing chemical safety assessments. Some are already established at global level and others, such as nanomaterials safety assessments, are in development. It is crucial that decisions on chemicals are made in a pragmatic and balanced way, using evidence from both chemical safety assessments and cost-benefit socioeconomic analysis

2) Data: The UK will need to define the requirements for the data that underpins the implementation and enforcement of chemicals regulation and then gain access to or generate it to populate chemical safety assessment frameworks

3) Scientific Expertise The UK must be in a position from both the UK and international science bases to enable data generation, interpretation, and evidence gathering. Such expertise resides across sectors in industry, academia, government or consultancies. It is likely that the UK will need to find new ways to facilitate and manage the engagement of experts in a scientific committee structure that is fit for purpose

