

Exporters in plea for roll-out of no-deal plans

Irish exporters pleaded for no-deal contingency planning to be ramped up last night, with a representative group for the industry warning some businesses' Brexit plans would only enable them to cope for six months.

The Irish Exporters Association (IEA) said it cautiously welcomed the deal struck by UK Prime Minister Theresa May with the European Union.

But after political chaos in London yesterday it asked the Government and the EU to "ensure the necessary supports are there for Irish exporters and importers in the event of a would-be crash-out Brexit."

IEA chief executive Simon McKeever said: "While our members have already stepped up their Brexit preparedness and mitigation measures, it is our understanding that in some cases these measures will only mitigate the first six months of Brexit."

Separately yesterday, Ireland's aviation watchdog Cathy Mannion warned that some airlines might still be negatively affected in the event of a no-deal Brexit, despite moves by the EU Commission earlier this week to allow flights to continue between the United Kingdom and the EU in the event of a no-deal Brexit.

Ms Mannion, the commissioner for aviation regulation, told an event in Dublin yesterday that a no-deal scenario might also make it difficult for tour operators to fulfil their obligations to customers.