Nils Bunjes  
nils.bunjes@europa-zentrum.de

Our Reference: 201900009421

13 January 2020

Dear Nils Bunjes,

Thank you for your letter dated 29 November 2019 asking if the 112 emergency service telephone number will continue to be available in the UK after the UK has left the European Union.

Telecommunications, including 999/112 services, is a sector reserved to the UK Government. However, we liaise closely with UK Government on matters relating to 999/112 therefore I can provide the following information:

- The emergency service number 112 will continue to work in the UK after we leave the EU
- While there is an EU law that mandates the use of 112 for emergency calls, the number was originally set up and standardised by a non-EU group - the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT). The UK will remain a member of CEPT after we leave the EU. There are 48 countries who are members of CEPT, and the use of 112 for emergency calls now extends well beyond Europe.
- In the UK, BT is the telecoms operator responsible for connecting calls to the emergency services and is committed to supporting 112 after Brexit. In addition, the telecoms regulator - Ofcom - has rules in place that require all telephone networks in the UK to provide access to 112. These will not change once the UK leaves the EU.

I trust this gives you the level of comfort you require.

Yours sincerely

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

St Andrew’s House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot