



# HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

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Rt Hon David Davis MP  
Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union  
9 Downing Street  
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10 August 2017

Dear David

Thank you for your letter of 9 August, in response to my letter of 1 August. The Committee is grateful to you for the update on the most recent round of Brexit negotiations, and for your response to the questions set out in my letter. We are also grateful to you for repeating your offer to appear before the Committee in October.

We note, however, that if you do not appear until October, three months—almost a fifth of the likely total duration of the negotiations—will have passed since your appearance in July. This would not, given the pace of the developments described in your letter, as well as the reported imminent publication of new UK position papers, be sufficient. You will recall that Michel Barnier has committed to reporting to the European Parliament's Brexit Steering Group both before and after every round of negotiations. If we are to have access to information equivalent to that afforded to the European Parliament, we would expect to hold a session with ministers or officials in each of the four-week negotiating cycles.

The Committee therefore, in line with the Government's responsibilities to Parliament that are outlined in your letter, expects to receive an oral update on the negotiations when the House returns in September. We accordingly repeat our request that you, or a senior colleague, should meet the Committee in the week beginning 11 September, as well as in October and subsequently.

I would be grateful for a response to this letter by 29 August 2017.

Yours sincerely

Lord Jay of Ewelme  
On behalf of Lord Boswell of Aynho