1. I write further to correspondence with your committee clerk with regard to oral evidence published as part of your recent report, *Introducing a statutory register of lobbyists*.

2. In giving evidence to the Committee (Q257, Ev 51), Nigel Stanley of the TUC said of the TaxPayers’ Alliance:

   *One of their main financiers is a tax exile from France who is not even a taxpayer*

3. Whilst I understand that evidence to parliamentary committees is protected by parliamentary privilege, I wanted to take the opportunity to make this brief, formal written submission to the Committee for its consideration and publication, on the basis that what Mr Stanley said is wholly inaccurate and potentially damaging to the TaxPayers' Alliance if it goes unchallenged.

4. Mr Stanley's assertion is a variation on an occasionally-repeated smear (based on a *Guardian* article of 9 October 2009), referring to Alexander Heath, about whom the facts are these: when the TPA was set up in 2004, the founders sought the counsel of several older and wiser individuals, including Mr Heath, a retired teacher and the father of one of the co-founders. He became a non-executive director of the TPA, but Mr Heath has never given a penny to nor taken a penny from the TPA. To explain the French connection, he moved to France in the 1970s when he married his French sweetheart and the couple brought up their children in France. However, he retained his British citizenship and, whilst working in France as a teacher before his retirement, he paid French taxes. *So he is neither a funder of the TPA (let alone one of our "main financiers") nor a "tax exile from France" and he has not in fact been a director of the TPA for three years.*

5. Given this unfounded attack on my organisation by Mr Stanley, I am keen that this letter be published alongside other evidence on the Committee's website in order that this inaccurate statement does not go unchallenged.

*July 2012*