



Treasury Committee

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Jon Thompson
Chief Executive and Permanent Secretary
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Dear Jon

Given the importance of international cooperation in the fight against economic crime, it is extremely troubling to see press reports that HMRC refused to help another country pursue its investigations into money laundering and tax fraud.

The leaked HMRC email about a French investigation into Lycamobile reported by Buzzfeed on 19 April 2018 has raised disturbing questions about HMRC's approach to international efforts in this field. I should very much appreciate your response to concerns about

- HMRC's willingness and capacity to act vigorously on behalf of other countries and to adopt a constructive and proactive approach to requests for UK assistance in investigating economic crime
- HMRC's readiness to undertake their own investigations where there are serious allegations of money laundering and tax fraud
- the implication in the leaked email that HMRC's actions against those suspected of economic crime are influenced by political donations made by suspects, or by high profile connections that they might have
- the security of HMRC information about the investigation of possible criminal activity provided, I assume, in strict confidence by another country's law enforcement agency.

Yours sincerely
Nicky Morgan

The Rt Hon. Nicky Morgan MP
Chair of the Treasury Committee