



Department
for Exiting the
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The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP
Chair, Exiting the European Union Committee
House of Commons
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Lord Jay of Ewelme GCMG
Acting Chair, European Union Select Committee
House of Lords
London
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27 November 2017

Dear Hilary and Michael

The Opposition Day debate motion on 1 November requested the impact assessments arising from sectoral analysis to be released to the Exiting the EU Committee.

Since the start of this process the Government has been clear that there are not, nor have there ever been, a series of discrete impact assessments arising out of our analysis of the 58 sectors. We made this clear during the Opposition Day debate and in the following Written Ministerial Statement laid on 7 November.

The Government has also been clear that it will not release any information which might risk undermining our negotiations with the EU, particularly at this crucial time. This is in keeping with the motion passed by the House on 7 December 2016. Furthermore, businesses which engage with the Government have a right and an expectation that information shared with us in the utmost confidence will remain that way. Given that we have received no assurances from the Committee regarding how any information passed will be used, we have sought not to include commercially, market and negotiation sensitive information. Delivering a successful outcome to our EU exit negotiations for the whole country requires keeping some information confidential for the purposes of the negotiations.

The reports we are sharing with you today set out:

- i. a description of each sector;
- ii. the current EU regulatory regime;
- iii. existing frameworks for how trade is facilitated between countries in this sector; and
- iv. sector views.

They include relevant information from across government. The Government's overall programme of analysis on EU exit is extremely broad. The information provided here is not exhaustive and it is not the final say on any of these issues. You will note that some sectors are aggregated in order to either avoid repetition of information or because of the strong interlinkages between them. Inevitably, having brought together a wide range of information that we believe to be relevant to the motion, the coverage of each sector differs in terms of length and level of detail.

We now consider the motion of 1 November 2017 to have been satisfied and hope you find the considerable amount of information provided here of assistance for the ongoing work of your Committees.

I am sure you recognise that there are aspects of the analyses which may still be sensitive to the negotiations especially in the context of this particular point in time. I would therefore appreciate the opportunity to discuss these sectoral analyses further before any decision is taken to share the information more widely.

I am copying this letter to the Speaker and I am also sharing the reports with the devolved administrations on the same terms.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Davis', written over a horizontal line.

RT HON DAVID DAVIS MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION