



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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22 November 2017

Dear David

Brexit: the Crown Dependencies report – Government response

Thank you for the Government response to the Committee report on *Brexit: the Crown Dependencies*, received on 30 October. The European Union Committee considered this document at its meeting on 21 November.

You will be aware that the Committee is undertaking an inquiry into *Brexit: deal or no deal*. What assessment has the Government undertaken of the specific implications for the Crown Dependencies of a 'no deal' scenario?

How is the Government engaging with the Crown Dependencies in the wake of the 'Paradise Papers' revelations? In light of Commission Vice-President Dombrovskis' statement that the latest revelations "put renewed emphasis on the work the European Commission is doing to fight tax avoidance", what impact do you anticipate that this will have on the EU's discussions on blacklisting? What are the implications for the Crown Dependencies and the Overseas Territories (on which we have written to you separately)? What impact will these discussions have on the Brexit negotiations, and on the Government's obligation to represent the interests of the Crown Dependencies and Overseas Territories in those negotiations?

We understand that further discussions between the Chief Ministers of the Overseas Territories and Robin Walker MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, DExEU, took place on 13 November. What update can you give us on those discussions? What assurance can you give us that, not only are the Crown Dependencies' interests being taken into account in the Brexit negotiations, but that they will be actively involved in the preparation for negotiations?

The response states that there has been an "extensive programme of official-led technical engagement aimed at developing a full and detailed understanding of the Crown Dependencies' interests and objectives on specific issues", including a series of technical roundtables. What further information can you provide on these discussions, and what further roundtables are planned in the coming months?

The response refers to 'Seizing opportunities for the Crown Dependencies'. What post-Brexit opportunities do you have in mind? We would also be grateful for further detail on the discussions that the Government has had with the Crown Dependencies with regard to their involvement in future trade deals, and regarding extending the UK's WTO membership to cover Jersey and Guernsey, as well as the Isle of Man. When do you expect the latter issue to be resolved?

We would be grateful for a response to this letter by 5 December 2017.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Boswell

Lord Boswell of Aynho
Chairman, House of Lords European Union Committee