

# European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Tel (020) 7219 3292 Email [escom@parliament.uk](mailto:escom@parliament.uk) Website [www.parliament.uk/escom](http://www.parliament.uk/escom)

From: Sir William Cash MP

30 April 2020

Victoria Prentis MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

## **13389/19: Recommendation for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on behalf of the EU for the conclusion of a sustainable fisheries partnership agreement and a protocol with Denmark and the Home Rule Government of Greenland (40911)**

We have considered the above documents, noting that the Council Decision was agreed prior to the UK's departure from the EU and that the UK abstained.

We are drawing this document to the attention of the House as politically important for the following reasons: it may be applicable during the implementation period; and it raises post-Brexit policy questions.

We ask that you provide the following information within ten working days:

- your assessment of the likelihood that the EU-Greenland agreement might apply before 1 January 2021 and therefore apply to the UK before the end of transition period;
- the nature of the UK's intended engagement on these negotiations, including how the UK's interests are being protected;
- any aspects of the evaluation of the current EU-Greenland agreement that the Government consider should inform the UK's arrangements for fishing in Greenlandic waters from 1 January 2021;
- the extent to which the future EU-Greenland agreement might affect the UK's own arrangements with Greenland; and

- what work is being undertaken on a UK-Greenland fisheries agreement.

We are copying this letter to Neil Parish MP, Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, the Earl of Kinnoull, Chair of the EU Select Committee in the House of Lords and Christopher Johnson, Clerk of the Lords EU Select Committee; your Departmental EU Scrutiny team; and Les Saunders and Donald Harris in the Cabinet Office.

**CHAIR**