

European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Tel (020) 7219 3292 Email escom@parliament.uk Website www.parliament.uk/escom

From:

21 May 2020

Robert Buckland QC MP
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice
Ministry of Justice
102 Petty France
London
SW1H 9AJ

Proposed Regulations on the taking of evidence and service of documents in civil and commercial proceedings (39870, 9620/18; 39869,9622/18)

Thank you for your letter of 17 January 2020, informing the Committee of the agreement of General Approach texts on 3 December.

The Committee understands from the General Approach texts and from your letters that it is unlikely that before the end of transition either the Service of Documents Regulation will apply to the UK or the UK would opt into the Taking of Evidence proposal after adoption. We have therefore cleared these documents from scrutiny.

However, I would be grateful if you could inform the Committee should this position change in any material respect following the end of trilogue negotiations between the three institutions.

I am copying this letter to Lord Kinnoull, Chair of the House of Lords European Union Committee; Chris Johnson, Clerk of the Lords Committee; Tim Mitchell and Alex Horne (Legal Advisers to the Lords); Les Saunders at the Cabinet Office and Maxine Cristiano, Departmental Scrutiny Coordinator.

CHAIR