

European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

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Port Services Regulation EU Exit SI

The Committee have ask me to thank you for your letter of 11 May 2020 on your intention to lay a draft EU Exit Statutory Instrument (SI) that would amend the ‘retained’ version of the EU Port Services Regulation.¹ The Committee understands that the European Statutory Instruments Committee recommended the Government’s plans to lay the aforementioned Exit SI as a ‘proposed negative’ on 2 June 2020.

Given our predecessor Committee’s interest in the Regulation, I very much appreciate being kept up-to-date with the Government’s plans for its retention. I would like to take this opportunity to commend your Officials for their help and diligence in this regard.

A reasonable length of time has passed since the Regulation was adopted at EU-level and the future of UK policy in this area has undoubtedly been affected by the UK’s withdrawal from the EU. With this in mind, I would be grateful for further information on the following points:

- any impact assessment that the Government has undertaken on the operation of the Regulation since it became applicable in the UK;
- a list of UK ports that the Regulation applies to;

¹ Under section 8 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

- the Government's view on the inclusion of the Regulation—or similar rules—as part of market access and/or level playing field commitments under a potential future relationship agreement with the EU;
- to be kept up-to-date with the Government's plans for the retention—or revocation—of the Regulation after transition; and
- if there are plans to revoke or replace the Regulation, an indication of the powers that would be used to do so.

I am copying this letter to Jessica Mulley and George Wilson in the Commons; Lord Kinnoull and Christopher Johnson in the Lords; and to Margaret Browne, Department for Transport.

CHAIR