



The Rt Hon Penny Mordaunt MP
Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Simon Hoare MP
Chair, Northern Ireland Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: PM/NMP2809
5th December 2022

Dear Simon,

**Scrutiny of Article 2 of the Northern Ireland Protocol and UK Government
legislation**

Thank you for your further letter of 9th November regarding scrutiny of Article 2 of the Northern Ireland Protocol and UK Government legislation.

You specifically asked that I report back to your Committees on how I intend to incorporate scrutiny of Article 2 in the updated guidance, particularly in relation to the Explanatory Notes for primary legislation and Explanatory Memorandum for secondary legislation. Officials in the Northern Ireland Office and the PBL Secretariat are finalising the guidance.

As you know I expect the guidance to be issued before the House rises for the Christmas recess. I will therefore write in the new year with an update on how we intend to incorporate the guidance into the Guide to Making Legislation, and other explanatory material.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, and the Chairs of the Women and Equalities Select Committee, Lords Sub-Committee on the Protocol in Ireland/Northern Ireland, and the Joint Committee on Human Rights.