

# European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

24 February 2023

Rt Hon. Kemi Badenoch MP

Secretary of State for Business and Trade, Department for Business and Trade  
1 Victoria Street  
London SW1H 0ET

Dear Kemi

On 13 June 2022, my Committee launched an inquiry titled ‘Regulating after Brexit’.<sup>1</sup> This inquiry seeks to better understand the post-Brexit regulatory environment against which the Government intends to pursue policy and legislative reforms. Ahead of the launch of our inquiry, we heard in evidence from former Secretary of State for Businesses, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Rt Hon. Jacob Rees-Mogg MP, who described the Committee as his “primary scrutineer” when it came to the Government’s ‘Brexit opportunities’ work.<sup>2</sup>

To date, we have held two background oral evidence sessions as part of our inquiry. As you will be aware, your predecessor, Rt Hon. Grant Shapps MP, was due to give evidence to us on 1 March. Before we turn to our sector specific sessions, it would be good to hear in evidence from you on the Government’s Brexit opportunities plans and related issues (such as the Retained EU Law (Revocation & Reform) Bill).

I understand that it was not possible for our officials to determine a suitable date for your appearance and it was thought best that you receive a formal invitation. Our preference would be to hear from you before the Easter recess. We currently have availability on the afternoon of 22 March at 2:30pm. It may be possible to accommodate your appearance either side of this date.

The Committee’s secretariat is on hand to make the necessary arrangements for your appearance, and to provide further information on our inquiry.

Before your appearance, we have pressing concerns about the progress of the Government’s Brexit opportunities work and request further information on:

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<sup>1</sup> See European Scrutiny Committee, [‘Regulating after Brexit’](#) [accessed 24 February 2023]

<sup>2</sup> European Scrutiny Committee, [Oral evidence: Regulating after Brexit](#), HC 1262 Q2

- what method Departments are using to identify instances of retained EU law (REUL) and who is responsible for cross-Whitehall coordination;
- how many instances of REUL have currently been identified;
- if you have set targets for monthly delivery and can you give us an indication of when the current surveying exercise will be completed; and
- how many civil servants are engaged in your Department in work on REUL, and roughly how many across all other Departments.

In light of the urgency of this exercise, we have been thinking about the merits of the Government appointing a REUL ‘Tsar’; an idea that we look forward to exploring with you in evidence.

We request a response to this letter by 3 March.

With every best wish

**CHAIR**