



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Angus Brendan MacNeil MP
Chair of the International Trade Committee
14 Tothill Street
London
SW1H 9NB

1st December 2020

Dear Angus,

FREEPOR TS INQUIRY

1. Thank you for your letter of 25 November to the Secretary of State for International Trade and the Chancellor regarding the International Trade Committee's UK Freeports inquiry.
2. The government's Freeports policy will benefit communities across the UK by unleashing the economic potential of our ports. The Treasury is working with a number of departments across Whitehall, including the the Department of Trade (DIT), to develop and deliver the policy.
3. I am unfortunately unable to attend the Committee's evidence session due to existing diary commitments.
4. I appreciate the valuable scrutiny work done by departmental select committees and I would therefore of course be happy to provide written evidence to your Committee, jointly with my DIT colleagues, on the opportunities for trade and investment that Freeports can provide.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Barclay', written over a light grey rectangular background.

RT HON STEVE BARCLAY MP