



LORD PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS
THE RT. HON. JACOB REES-MOGG M.P.



The Rt. Hon. Hilary Benn M.P.,
Chairman, Committee on the Future Relationship with the European Union
House of Commons
Westminster
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: JRM/NMP951
13 January 2021

Dear Hilary,

Thank you for the further correspondence on the future of the Committee on the Future Relationship with the European Union and the invitation to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Lord Frost to give evidence to the Committee this week.

I can only restate the position that I set out in my previous letter that, in the Government's view, the Committee's work should come to an end in line with the current temporary Standing Orders, which were agreed by the House. Whilst this means your Committee will be unable to take evidence from either the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster or Lord Frost, the Government will continue to work closely with the House and its select committees in scrutinising all areas of Government policy.

I note your point of order on Monday 11 January and the response from the Chairman of Ways and Means and can confirm that the Government will continue to work cooperatively with any select committee examining the implications of the deal with the EU and other aspects of the continuing relationship between the UK and the EU. I am confident that this will include a significant number of departmental select committees and that, therefore, the Trade and Cooperation Agreement will receive proper scrutiny.

I am copying this letter to the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

With every good wish,

*Yours ever,
Jacob*