



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

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Minister of State for Security
Home Office
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

13 January 2021

Dear Minister;

POST-BREXIT SECURITY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COOPERATION AGREEMENT

Thank you for the letter dated 21 December 2021 which was considered by the EU Security and Justice Sub-Committee at its meeting of 12 January 2021.

We are grateful for the answers to our questions and for the analysis of the two recent, significant data protection judgments from the CJEU. We note that the recently agreed Trade and Cooperation Agreement covering security arrangements with the EU includes various provisions governing the handling of data and the consequences should the UK fall below the EU's standards set out in the General Data Protection Regulation and Directive 2016/680 governing the transfer of data for the purposes of prosecuting criminal offences (for example: Article LAW.OTHER.137: Suspension). We will consider the implications of these provisions (and others) during our current inquiry on Post-Brexit UK/EU security cooperation.

Whilst we note the assessment of the G6 as a useful forum for the UK to discuss shared security and other home affairs concerns, we anticipate that the EU Member States will be keen to discuss such matters within the new institutional framework created by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement, particularly the Specialised Committee on Law Enforcement and Judicial Cooperation.

We were very sorry to learn of the renewed medical problems which required Mr Brokenshire to step back for a time from his ministerial duties. On behalf of the Committee, I send him our very best wishes. In his absence, we look forward to discussing these matters as part of our current inquiry with a Home Office Minister but do not expect a response to this letter.

I am copying this letter to Lord Kinnoull, Chair Lords EU Select Committee; Sir William Cash, Chair of the European Scrutiny Committee; Jessica Mulley, Clerk to the European

Scrutiny Committee; Les Saunders and Donald Harris, Cabinet Office; and Amy Younger, and Laura Evans, Home Office.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Ricketts'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Peter' and the last name 'Ricketts' clearly distinguishable.

Lord Ricketts

Chair of the EU Security and Justice Sub-Committee