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

Sir Bernard Jenkin M.P.,
Chairman of the Liaison Committee
House of Commons
Westminster
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: JRM/NMP984
20 January 2021

Dear Bernard,

Thank you for your correspondence to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster regarding ministers giving evidence to the International Trade Committee for their inquiry into Freeports. I am responding on his behalf.

As you mention, the establishment of Freeports is an important priority for the Government and I am grateful for the work of the International Trade Committee in carrying out their important inquiry into this. Further to the commitment which the Prime Minister made during the recent Liaison Committee evidence session, I can confirm that ministers from Her Majesty's Treasury and the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government have accepted invitations to give evidence to the Committee. I understand that the International Trade Committee will contact both departments in due course to agree a mutually suitable date.

It is of course important that Committees are able to take evidence in a timely way and I would like to assure you that the Government's commitment to scrutiny remains as strong as ever.

I am copying this letter to the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and the Chairman of the International Trade Committee.

With every good wish,

Yours ever,

Jacob.

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