

Lord Ricketts GCMG GCVO
Chair, European Affairs Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

20 May 2024

Dear Lord Ricketts,

Prüm Vehicle Registration Data (VRD) Exchange – Initiating Evaluation Procedures


I am writing to notify you that the UK has implemented the obligations in Title II of Part 3 of the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) in relation to the exchange of vehicle registration data (VRD) and keeper information with EU Member States. The UK is ready to initiate the evaluation procedures under Article 540 of the TCA and Chapter 4 of Annex 39.

Through the Prüm VRD system, law enforcement agencies across the UK will be able to access EU Member States' keeper and vehicle information, including make, model, colour and chassis number. Search results will be returned in under a minute via a secure web portal. This will be of significant benefit in areas where there is substantial throughput of EU-registered vehicles, such as Northern Ireland, Kent and Essex and London.

The UK Chair of the Specialised Committee on Law Enforcement and Judicial Cooperation will write to Commission counterparts to signal UK readiness to begin the evaluation. I will provide an update once the evaluation procedures have concluded.

I have written in similar terms to Sir William Cash, Chair of the European Scrutiny Committee and Lord Foster, Chair of the Justice and Home Affairs Committee. I am copying this letter to Jared Wizniewski, Clerk to your Committee.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tom Tugendhat". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rt Hon Tom Tugendhat MBE VR MP
Security Minister