



HOUSE OF LORDS

European Affairs Committee

House of Lords
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08 May 2025

The Rt Hon Nick Thomas-Symonds MP
Minister for the Cabinet Office, His Majesty's Paymaster General
Cabinet Office
1 Horse Guards Road
London
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Dear Mr Thomas-Symonds,

Thank you for your letter dated 2 May 2025 which was considered by the European Affairs Committee at its meeting of 6 May.

We are grateful for your confirmation that the Tribunal that heard the dispute between the UK and the EU has published its decision. We note that they "identified a procedural error in the decision-making process" pertaining to English waters and, as a consequence, the "UK did not have sufficient regard to the principle of proportionality" as required by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

The Committee welcomes your undertaking to keep us informed about the steps the Government takes to comply with the Tribunal's decision and looks forward to considering this further information in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Ricketts, Chair of the European Affairs Committee