

# European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

24 February 2021

Rachel Maclean MP  
Parliamentary Under Secretary of State  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
LONDON SW1P 4DR

## **COM(20) 789: The EU's Smart Mobility Strategy**

The Committee have asked me to thank you for your Explanatory Memorandum on the above listed document.

In light of the end of the Transition Period—as per the UK/EU Withdrawal Agreement—and the recent conclusion and provisional application of the UK/EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA), the Committee would appreciate if you could provide further information on the following points. These are all directly related to the Commission's Smart Mobility Strategy.

- The Commission aims to propose a revision to current EU car and van emission reduction standards. We are interested to know whether this development would require UK car manufacturers selling vehicles into the EU market to meet these new standards. Could you update the Committee on whether this is the case and, if so, what recommendations you will offer to UK manufacturers who sell into the EU market while also doing international business with other third countries?
- The Commission aims to implement the ICAO Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Civil Aviation (CORSIA) through a revision of its ETS Directive. Through the TCA, the UK and the EU are committed to having carbon pricing mechanisms for aviation recognised in their respective ETS arrangements. Could you update the Committee on whether the Government intends to implement CORSIA and, if so, what impact do you envisage this having on the UK's aviation sector?

- The Commission aims to propose a new initiative on access to car data, through which it will provide a framework guaranteeing fair and effective access to vehicle data by mobility service providers. Can you explain the potential implications of such developments for UK-based vehicle manufacturers and users?
- The EU's Smart Mobility Strategy could affect the substance of EU law in place under the Northern Ireland Protocol, including that relating to vehicle emissions in the event the applicable EU legislation in Northern Ireland is amended or replaced in accordance with Article 13(3) of the Protocol. In addition, the Strategy may lead to the broadening of EU law in Northern Ireland in the event that any legislation arising from the Strategy falls within the scope of the Protocol. Can you provide us with a list of forthcoming proposed legislative acts—trailed in the Strategy—that you believe will engage the Protocol?

We request a response to this letter within 10 working days.

I am copying this letter to Lord Kinnoull and Christopher Johnson in the Lords; Huw Merriman MP, Chairman of the Transport Committee; Darren Jones MP, Chairman of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee; and Les Saunders at the Cabinet Office; and to Margaret Browne, Departmental Scrutiny Co-ordinator.

**CHAIR**