



Department for
Business & Trade

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Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
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5 November 2024

Dear Liam,

Update on UK-EU Competition Cooperation Agreement

Earlier this year, the previous Government wrote to your Committee about the commencement of negotiations between the UK and EU on a Competition Cooperation Agreement. We are pleased to inform you that we have now concluded technical negotiations with the European Commission.

As noted in the previous letter, the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement provides for this separate agreement to be reached to facilitate cooperation on competition matters between the UK's and EU's competition authorities.

The text as agreed by the Parties must now pass through respective UK and EU internal procedures, before it can be formally signed. Should the agreement be signed, it will be formally laid before Parliament for scrutiny under the provisions of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010 (CRaG). We expect this to take place in 2025.

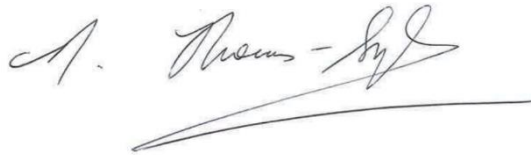
Our officials are also available to provide a briefing to the clerks of your Committee at any point, should that be helpful.

We have written in similar terms to Lord Ricketts GCMG GCVO, Chair of the European Affairs Committee and copied this letter to Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Justin Madders', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

JUSTIN MADDERS MP

Minister for Employment Rights, Competition and Markets
Department for Business and Trade

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Nick Thomas-Symonds', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

THE RT HON NICK THOMAS-SYMONDS

Minister for Cabinet Office
HM Paymaster General