



**Business and Trade
Committee**

Thursday, 5 February 2026

**The Rt Hon Nick Thomas-Symonds MP
Minister for the Constitution and European Union Relations
Cabinet Office
[By email]**

**CC: Sir Chris Bryant MP
Minister of State for Trade
Department for Business and Trade
[By email]**

Subject: Evidence Session-UK Relations with the European Union

Dear Nick,

I write to ask you reflect on appearing before the Committee, alongside the Minister of State for Trade, to provide evidence on the UK's relations with the European Union.

The Minister of State for Trade has agreed to appear before the Committee on 9 March. However, it is our understanding that given departmental roles and responsibilities, he is unable to speak to ongoing UK-EU Reset discussions, and the wider UK-EU relationship.

As you know, the Committee has the lead responsibility for scrutinising the Government's trade policy, and - though I know it is not possible to provide a running commentary on complex negotiations - it would be valuable to explore with you the principles that guide your thinking, and of course to understand ambitions for the new Bill.

I hope you will be able to appear alongside Minister Bryant on 9 March.

I look forward to your response by Thursday 12 February.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Liam Byrne MP
Chair of the Business and Trade Committee**