



Foreign Affairs Committee

House of Commons · London · SW1A 0AA
+44 20 7219 6106 · fac@parliament.uk
www.parliament.uk · @CommonsForeign

From the Chair
Tom Tugendhat MP

Mr Ray Bingham
Partner
Canyon Bridge Capital Partners
45/F China World Tower A
No. 1 Jianguomenwai Avenue
Beijing, 100004 China
By Email

8 April 2020

Dear Mr Bingham,

I am writing on behalf of the Committee to seek information in connection with an inquiry we launched this week into the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's role in preventing asset stripping in UK companies.

We understand that a proposal was to be considered at a board meeting of Imagination Technologies this week relating to the appointment of new directors from China Reform Holdings Corporation, the ultimate owners of Canyon Bridge. We have been informed that the scheduled board meeting was postponed. However, we still have concerns about the future management of the company and the potential for vital technologies and intellectual property relating to security to be extracted from a UK company.

In our inquiry, we will be looking at the Government's – and specifically the FCO's – practices and powers to use legal and political means to intervene in circumstances where there is a potential threat posed to the UK's national security and/or national interest. In this context, I would be very grateful if you would respond to the following questions.

- What assurances or undertakings were given by Canyon Bridge and by China Reform Holdings Corporation about the future ownership and control of Imagination Technologies when it was taken over in 2017?
- What is the purpose of the appointment of the new directors of the company?
- What makes you confident that the new directors will “act fairly as between members of the company” and other responsibilities in accordance with their duties under Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006?
- Are you aware of any plans to relocate parts of the business overseas, or for intellectual property assets to be relocated?
- Do you have reason to believe any such assets could be considered a threat to the national security of the United Kingdom?
- What assurances can you provide in relation to the retention of jobs and intellectual property in the UK?
- What offers, inducements or arrangements have been made in respect of the future engagement of the existing and recently departed executives at Imagination Technologies?

It would be helpful to receive a response as early as possible.

Yours sincerely,

TOM TUGENDHAT MP
Chair

