

European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

3 November 2021

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Conclusion of Working and Administrative Arrangement between the UK and Europol

Thank you for your letter of 28 September 2021 enclosing a copy of the Working and Administrative Arrangement that has been concluded by Europol and the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA). We are pleased to note that the Arrangement will underpin the operational relationship already provided for in the EU/UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement and will provide "a secure basis for a strong and effective partnership" between Europol and the NCA.

You will recall that we have been monitoring proposed changes to the 2016 Europol Regulation and their possible impact on future cooperation between Europol and UK law enforcement authorities under the EU/UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement. We noted in earlier correspondence that the European Commission's proposal includes new provisions which would allow Europol to receive financial contributions from third countries with which it has an agreement. The Minister for Future Borders and Immigration told us in April that he did not expect these provisions to affect the UK's relationship with Europol. We reiterate our request for a further update if this position changes, or if wider developments in the negotiations on the proposed Regulation as they pass through the EU legislative process have consequences for the UK.

I am copying this letter to the Chair (Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP) and Clerk (Elizabeth Hunt) of the Home Affairs Committee; the Chair (Sir Robert Neill MP) and Clerk (David Weir) of the Justice Committee; the Chair (Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP) and the Clerk (Lucinda Maer) of the Joint Committee on Human Rights; the Chair (the Earl of Kinnoull) and Clerk (Nick Boorer) of the Lords

European Affairs Committee; Andrew Englefield of your Department; and Les Saunders and Donald Harris in the Cabinet Office.

CHAIR