

European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

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Prüm data exchanges with the EU: DNA profiles, fingerprints and vehicle registration data

Thank you for your letter of 4 November informing us that the Specialised Committee on Law Enforcement and Judicial Cooperation (established by the EU/UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement) has taken its first Decision, extending until 30 June 2022 the period during which the sharing of DNA profiles and fingerprints for the purpose of criminal investigations may be continued. We look forward to receiving a copy of the minutes of the Specialised Committee meeting as soon as they are available.

We ask to you provide a further update on the timing and outcome of the forthcoming evaluation visit and report which will determine whether the UK can continue to have access to DNA and fingerprint data held by EU and Schengen Member States participating in the Prüm system beyond June 2022. Please also confirm whether the Government intends to proceed with a pilot run on vehicle registration data and, if so, indicate how soon you expect the pilot run and evaluation of this part of the Prüm data exchange system to take place.

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 (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