

# European Scrutiny Committee

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

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From: Sir William Cash MP

17 November 2021

Lord Benyon  
Minister for Rural Affairs and Biosecurity  
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Seacole Building  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

**Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/1064 of 28 June 2021 amending Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/520 with regard to the configuration of the animal identification code for the traceability of certain kept terrestrial animals for the United Kingdom in respect of Northern Ireland (41921)**

We considered your Explanatory Memorandum on the above document at our meeting of 17 November 2021.

We note your view that the existing system of regional codes already enables the identification of NI livestock and therefore that there is no need to apply the new XI code or numeric equivalent. We trust that the Government is raising this issue in the current discussions with the Commission concerning the operation of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

We look forward to an update on this matter as soon as you have progress to report.

We are copying this letter to Neil Parish MP, Chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee and Ben Williams, Clerk of the Committee; Simon Hoare MP, Chair of the Northern Ireland Affairs Committee and Stephen Habberley, Clerk of the Committee; the Earl of Kinnoull, Chair of the European Affairs Committee in the House of Lords and Nick Boorer, Clerk of the Committee; your Departmental EU Scrutiny team; and Les Saunders and Donald Harris in the Cabinet Office.

**CHAIR**