



Department for International Trade

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Dear Angus,

Thank you for your letter of 29 November regarding sharing of information with your Committee.

I am committed to keeping Parliament and your Committee fully updated on negotiations, and other policy developments, as quickly as practicable within the constraints of international negotiations with partner countries.

Regarding the New Zealand Agreement in Principle (AiP), as I outlined when I appeared before the Committee on 24th November, copies of the AiP documents were sent to your Committee on the evening of the AiP. This followed the agreement of the main in-principle details of the deal between the Prime Minister and New Zealand Prime Minister Ardern. We also wrote to all colleagues as soon as possible to update them on the situation.

I am clear that your Committee should have access to documents before the press. I have personally instructed my Department to ensure that we respect this important principle going forwards. I have further instructed my officials to ensure that they prioritise timely engagement with your Committee when policy announcements are being made.

I am also happy to reiterate my commitment to ensuring that embargoed copies of the Australia and New Zealand FTAs, and supporting documentation, are shared with the Committee in advance of publication, where time allows.

I hope that this addresses the concerns that you raised. I look forward to continuing to build a positive and constructive relationship with your Committee as we continue to deliver our ambitious trade policy agenda in 2022 and beyond.

Best wishes,

THE RT HON ANNE-MARIE TREVELYAN MP
Secretary of State for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade