



Department
for Culture
Media & Sport

Minister of State for Digital and Culture
4th Floor
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

020 7211 6000

www.gov.uk/dcms

Sir William Cash MP
Chair of the European Scrutiny Committee
House of Commons
14 Tothill Street
London, SW1H 9NB

CMS 300477/asg
16 March 2017

Dear Bill

5191/17: Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on Exchanging and Protecting Data in a Global World

I am writing this letter in response to the European Scrutiny Committee's post-meeting report on the 8th March 2017 in relation to the European Commission's Communication on exchanging and protecting data in a globalised world.

I welcome the report and its conclusions. In your report you seek confirmation from the Government will allocate sufficient time before the UK withdrawal process to agree any EU-UK data-sharing instruments.

I can confirm that as part of plans for the UK's exit from the EU the Government is considering a range of options for how we might structure, maintain and develop our data sharing relationships with the EU, and with other non EU countries.

Our objective is to ensure continued data flows between the EU and countries outside the EEA, not just to support trade in services, but also to support wider aims, for example our desire for ongoing law enforcement cooperation post exit.

I am grateful to the Committee for considering my EM on the Commission's Communication and I hope that you are now content to clear it.

I am copying this letter to Lord Boswell, Christopher Johnson in the Lords' Committee, Eve Samson in the Commons' Committee, Les Saunders in DExEU, and Pooja Lakhani in DCMS.

Yours ever

Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP
Minister of State for Digital and Culture

