



Department for
International Trade

George Hollingbery MP

Department for International Trade
King Charles Street
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AH

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000

E enquiries@trade.gov.uk

W www.gov.uk

Sir William Cash MP
Chair, European Scrutiny Committee (ESC)
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

3rd September 2018

5191/17 – Commission Communication on Exchanging and Protecting Data in a Globalised World

Thank you for your letter dated 18 July reiterating your committee recommendation for a debate on data flows.

I acknowledge that this policy area is one of considerable interest across the House and I am supportive of a debate at the earliest opportunity.

In the meantime, my department has provided an unnumbered Explanatory Memorandum on horizontal data flows concerning a draft EU proposal setting out horizontal provisions for cross-border data flows and for personal data protection in EU trade negotiations. This EM was submitted on 16 August 2018.

With respect to the question of legal or Brexit implications for the UK of the proposed clauses provisions, the EM makes clear that there are no immediate EU Exit implications for the proposed horizontal data provisions given that, while the UK will no longer be a Member State of the EU during an Implementation Period, market access will continue on current terms between both the UK and EU.

The Government looks forward to the opportunity to debate this new unnumbered EM alongside EM 5191/17.

I am copying this letter to Angus MacNeil, Chair of the International Trade Committee; Lydia Menzies, Clerk of the International Trade Committee; Hilary Benn, Chair of the Committee on Exiting the European Union; James Rhys, Clerk of the Committee on Exiting the European Union; Damian Collins, Chair of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee; Chloe Challender, Clerk of the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee; Lord Boswell, Chair of the House of Lords European Union Committee; Chris Johnson, Clerk of the Lords European Union Committee; Les Saunders, Department for

Exiting the European Union; Edwina Osborne, Department for International Trade and
Agim Zekaj, Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. George". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

GEORGE HOLLINGBERY MP
Minister of State for Trade Policy
Department for International Trade