



Department
for Exiting the
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David Rees AM
Chair
External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee
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Dear David

FUTURE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE EUROPEAN UNION

Thank you for your invitation of 2 July to the former Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union to discuss the future relationship between the UK and the EU with the External Affairs and Additional Legislation Committee. The new Secretary of State has asked me to respond on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

As you know from my previous appearances in front of the EAAL Committee, I am keen to engage with the Welsh Government and the National Assembly as we continue preparations for exiting the EU. Ahead of the October European Council, we are planning two further meetings of the Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations) to discuss a range of exit issues with the Welsh and Scottish Governments. I will also co-chair the next meeting of the Ministerial Forum on EU Negotiations on 17 September, which will focus on Agri-food Trade, Food Safety and Technical Standards, as well as Fisheries. At official level, regular engagement with the devolved administrations continues apace across a wide range of policy areas.

Provided a suitable date can be found, I would be delighted to attend another of your meetings at the National Assembly before your Autumn Half Term recess to discuss the UK-EU future relationship. My officials will be in touch to make the necessary arrangements.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and the Secretary of State for Wales.

*Yours,
Robin*

**ROBIN WALKER MP
PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION**