



# HOUSE OF LORDS

European Union Committee

House of Lords  
London  
SW1A 0PW

Tel: 020 7219 5864  
Fax: 020 7219 6715  
euclords@parliament.uk  
www.parliament.uk/lords

Rt Hon. David Lidington CBE MP  
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster  
Minister for the Cabinet Office  
70 Whitehall  
London, SW1A 2AS

12 December 2018

Robin Walker MP  
Parliamentary Under-Secretary  
Department for Exiting the European Union  
9 Downing Street  
London, SW1A 2AS

Dear Mr Lidington and Mr Walker,

## **ENGAGEMENT WITH THE DEVOLVED ADMINISTRATIONS, GIBRALTAR, OVERSEAS TERRITORIES AND CROWN DEPENDENCIES**

Thank you for your letter, dated 13 November 2018, regarding the Government's technical notice on *Funding for British Overseas Territories if there's no Brexit deal*. The House of Lords European Union Select Committee considered this document at its meeting on 11 December 2018.

Nevertheless, we are disappointed at the lack of clarity in response to some of our questions, notably the lack of any considered response to the specific concerns regarding EIB funding raised with us by the British Virgin Islands and Gibraltar. We also note your statement that "I am not in a position at present to elaborate on our ongoing discussions with the Commission ... but I can assure you that we will raise all points relevant to the Overseas Territories at the appropriate time." Given that the negotiations on the Withdrawal Agreement and Political declaration have now concluded, are you now able to elaborate on these discussions? If not, can you clarify when will be "the appropriate time" to raise these issues with the Commission?

We would be grateful for a more detailed response to these points, as well as an account of the December UK OT Joint Ministerial Council, by 10 January 2019.

*Yours sincerely,*

*Tim Boswell*

Lord Boswell of Aynho  
Chairman of the European Union Committee