



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Lord Marlesford  
House of Lords  
London  
SQ1A 0PW

Dear Mark,

5<sup>th</sup> July 2018

CASH ACCEPTANCE

During the Oral Question on the 4<sup>th</sup> July regarding the impact of bank branch closures and increasing levels of digital payments on the financially excluded, I promised to write to you regarding whether retailers of goods and services are legally obliged to accept cash. I can confirm that there is no legal obligation to accept cash: payment for a good or service is governed solely by the contract between the two parties (i.e. the agreement of the buyer and seller).

A copy of this letter has been deposited in the Library of the House.

With best wishes,  
Mervyn

The Rt Hon. the Lord Bates  
Lords Spokesperson for HM Treasury

