The Earl of Kinnoull
Chairman, European Union Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

28 October 2019

Dear Charles,

Thank you for your contribution to the debate on the UK’s withdrawal from the European Union on Saturday and for your Committee’s continued scrutiny and insight as we prepare to leave the European Union.

As you rightly set out during the debate, the Government has not yet provided a response to the Committee’s report Beyond Brexit: how to win friends and influence people.

In the interests of providing the latest and most comprehensive information to your Committee the Government did not provide a response to your Committee’s report whilst negotiations on a new Withdrawal Agreement were ongoing.

Now that a revised Withdrawal Agreement has been reached and the Withdrawal Agreement Bill has been published, we will be able to provide the Committee with more complete information. The Government will respond to the report at the earliest possible opportunity.

I would of course be very happy to discuss this with you when we meet on Thursday. In the meantime I have suggested to officials in my Department that they discuss with Clerks the practical arrangements for responding to the report in a helpful manner for the Committee. I thank you for your patience on this matter.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

Kind regards,

[Signature]

LORD CALLANAN
MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION