



Department for
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Lord Callanan
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Dear Lord Purvis,

Thank you for your contribution to Monday's 2nd Reading of the UK Internal Market Bill.

During the debate you asked for clarity on the position of English suppliers of barley selling to Scottish distilleries.

It is of course true that English suppliers of barley are able to sell their produce in Scotland and it is exactly this freedom to be able to trade across the UK that this new legislation will protect. Following the transition period, however, there is a risk that future divergence in regulation in different parts of the UK could emerge, which would disrupt these historically successful and important trading relationships. The Market Access Principle that the UK Internal Market introduces will ensure that any future regulatory divergence would not impact negatively upon, or introduce friction into, existing trading practices.

English suppliers of barley can remain confident that the market access they currently enjoy will continue, while Scottish distilleries will see no disruption to their ability to source supplies from across the UK.

Lord Callanan