



Baroness Anderson of Stoke-on-Trent
Baroness-in-Waiting [Government Whip]
and Spokesperson for the Cabinet Office
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

Baroness Smith of Llanfaes,
House of Lords,
London,
SW1A 0PW

17 November 2025

Dear Baroness Smith of Llanfaes,

I am writing to follow up on the exchange we had regarding the UK working towards a balanced youth experience scheme with the EU. You raised the possibility of the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) scoring the scheme as part of its upcoming forecasts.

As you know, the OBR is a non-departmental body and its economic forecasts and analysis are independent. Decisions on which policies to score are their own.

Any decisions the OBR takes will be in line with their published guidance. The guidance sets out how the details of an announced policy measure need to be "sufficiently firm and comprehensive to be included in the scorecard and forecast".

We have agreed with the EU that any youth experience scheme will be time-limited and subject to a cap, and participants will require a visa. Precise parameters of any scheme are now subject to negotiation. The UK has been clear that we would want any scheme to be in line with our existing youth mobility schemes.

The contents of the OBR's latest forecast will become clear when it is published alongside the Budget on 26 November.

Thank you for your engagement on this matter. I will place a copy of this letter in the House library.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Z. Anderson', written over a large, stylized flourish.

**Baroness Anderson of Stoke on Trent
Baroness-in-Waiting [Government Whip]
and Lords Spokesperson for Cabinet Office**