

Stormont Castle BELFAST BT4 3TT

Marie Austin Committee for TEO Room 412 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont BELFAST BT4 3SR

30 September 2020

Dear Marie

Thank you for your letter of 29 May 2020 which followed the briefing session by officials on the 27 May 2020. The Department has noted the member's comments that it is important to ensure that Belfast International Airport would be on an equal footing to other airports on the Island in relation to duty free sales.

Please advise the Committee that securing the best EU Exit locally remains a priority for the Executive. However, the member will wish to note that customs and excise are excepted matters and are the responsibility of the UK Government. Any decision to press for a change to current arrangements will need to be informed by a wider economic impact assessment.

Yours sincerely,

Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer



Committee for the Executive Office

Stormont Castle Ballymiscaw Belfast BT4 3TT

29 May 2020

Dear

BREXIT ISSUES – ORAL EVIDENCE SESSION ON 27 MAY 2020

At its meeting on 27 May 2020, the Committee for the Executive Office received a briefing from departmental officials on Brexit issues.

During the briefing, an issue was raised around Belfast International Airport and duty-free sales following the UK's exit from the EU. The Member who raised the issue was keen for political representations to be made to ensure that Belfast international Airport would be on an equal footing to other airports on the island of Ireland in relation to such sales.

I should be grateful for a response by 12 June 2020.

Yours sincerely

Marie Austin Clerk to the Committee for the Executive Office