

THE PRIME MINISTER

9 September 2019

Jew John J

Thank you for your letter of 24 July and for your kind words regarding my appointment by Her Majesty as Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.

I want to be clear that the UK Government appreciates the special relationship that the UK has with the Crown Dependencies. This is a deep historical relationship in which we work collaboratively together on matters of mutual interest, and where the UK Government does not intervene in the Crown Dependencies' domestic affairs without consent other than in very limited circumstances and as a matter of last resort.

I am pleased to note that you share my view that the Bailiwick has very strong working relationships with UK Government Departments, it is clear that the UK and the Crown Dependencies have developed a closer relationship during our substantive preparations for Brexit. I am keen to further strengthen this relationship after the UK has left the European Union, when the UK Government will be negotiating its own free trade agreements on behalf of the entire British family, including the Crown Dependencies. The UK Government will continue to engage the Crown Dependencies Governments throughout this process as we seek a future relationship with the EU that works for the entire British family.

I acknowledge that you are continuing your engagement with Parliamentarians regarding the subject of public registers of beneficial ownership. The UK Government is unambiguous in supporting the constitutional position that the UK Parliament should not legislate on your behalf on these matters without your consent. The recent joint announcement by the Crown Dependencies that you will implement your own publicly accessible registers of company beneficial ownership underlines your commitment to the fight against financial crime.

I would like to thank you for the offer of a meeting to discuss how the Bailiwick can work with the UK to develop a strategy for the British family after Brexit. Regrettably, my diary does not currently allow for this, but I hope to have the opportunity to meet you in the future.

I look forward to working with you and strengthening the United Kingdom's relationship with the Bailiwick of Guernsey and the other Crown Dependencies.

Deputy Gavin St Pier