

JOINT MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE (EU NEGOTIATIONS) COMMUNIQUE

11 October 2018

The thirteenth Joint Ministerial Committee (EU Negotiations) met today at 70 Whitehall, London. The meeting was chaired by the Rt Hon David Lidington MP, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office.

The attending Ministers were:

From the UK Government: the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office, Rt Hon David Lidington MP; the Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union, Rt Hon Dominic Raab MP; the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Rt Hon Karen Bradley MP; the Secretary of State for Scotland, the Rt Hon David Mundell MP; the Secretary of State for Wales, Rt Hon Alun Cairns MP; the Minister for Immigration, Caroline Nokes MP; and the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Exiting the EU, Suella Braverman MP.

From the Welsh Government: the Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Mark Drakeford AM.

From the Scottish Government: the Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations, Michael Russell MSP; and Minister for Europe, Migration and International Development, Ben Macpherson MSP.

Senior officials from the Northern Ireland Civil Service attended the meeting in the continued absence of a Northern Ireland Executive.

The Chair opened the meeting by summarising the recent developments in EU negotiations and the Ministerial engagement that had taken place since the Committee had last met, including the fourth meeting of the Ministerial Forum on EU Negotiations (MF(EN)).

The Secretary of State for Exiting the EU provided an update on negotiations ahead of European Council and the Committee discussed recent developments. The Committee also discussed the UK Government's position on migration.

The Committee also discussed domestic issues. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Exiting the EU provided an update on the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill and the Committee discussed the ongoing engagement on common frameworks. The Committee agreed further work to ensure progress across the priority areas and on cross-cutting issues.

The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster also provided an update on operational readiness and the Committee agreed to a further discussion in November.