



HM Government of Gibraltar

THE CHIEF MINISTER

Sir William Cash MP
Chairman, EU Scrutiny Committee
House of Commons
London SW1A 0AA

17th March 2024

Dear Sir Bill,

I have seen your letter to Leo Docherty, Minister for Europe. I want you to rest assured that everything is well in terms of our continued negotiations on a UK/EU Treaty in respect of Gibraltar.

As you may know, Minister Docherty is in Gibraltar today. He has enjoyed a very successful visit. As a result, I have issued a statement this afternoon, the most salient terms of which I share with you below.

"I have been delighted to welcome Leo Docherty back to Gibraltar. Minister Docherty has been working hand in glove with the Deputy Chief Minister on matters relating to a potential No Negotiated Outcome of the UK/EU Treaty negotiations in respect of Gibraltar. Similarly, we have been working as closely together on the negotiations and we are confident that we can reach an agreement between the UK and the EU which delivers the result that Gibraltar wants and needs and without any concessions in respect of sovereignty, jurisdiction or control. The UK and Gibraltar are working in unison on both potential outcomes, as is the only responsible way to act, although His Majesty's Government of Gibraltar remains very optimistic that the outcome will be a positive, negotiated outcome that delivers a UK/EU treaty on favourable terms that does not require any compromise beyond what is acceptable to the People of Gibraltar, 96% of whom voted to remain within the EU in the 2016 Referendum. I have been liaising closely with the Foreign Secretary and his office as we move into what now feels like the final stages of this hugely important negotiation, and the UK and Gibraltar have never worked more closely together in delivering the outcome that the People of Gibraltar want"

I shall be in London next Wednesday 20th March and am available that morning if you would have time for me to brief you, or the whole, or part, of the Committee in person. I am happy to do this on a full evidence session if you wish, (although I may still not be able to share much detail on the business end of the negotiations).

Grateful if your office would liaise with mine for a convenient time on Wednesday morning, should you be available and wish to take up my offer.

With very best wishes,

*on ever, and continued
thanks for your interest in Gibraltar matters,*


Fabian Picardo KC MP
Chief Minister