



HOUSE OF LORDS
European Union Committee

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Rt Hon Rhodri Morgan AM,
Committee Chair,
National Assembly for Wales,
Cardiff Bay,
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3 November 2010

Dear Rhodri,

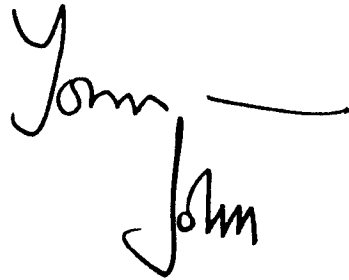
Many thanks for your letter of 25 October, with its kind message on my reappointment.

Our commitment to notify your staff when subsidiarity concerns arise here, and to take account of any views received if time allows, still stands, and is now in operation. On 26 July your staff were informed of dossiers in the Commission's Work Programme 2010 which in our view might raise subsidiarity issues. And on 13 October your staff were informed of concern over the draft Regulation on distribution of food products to the most deprived persons in the Union. In an update on 22 October we indicated that we were preparing a Reasoned Opinion, and this will in fact be debated tomorrow.

The House agreed its first Reasoned Opinion on 20 October, on the draft Directive on the conditions of entry and residence of third-country nationals for the purposes of seasonal employment. We did not alert your staff to this one, because the subject matter is reserved.

As I indicated at the EC-UK meeting in January, we claim no monopoly of initiative in this. Also we scrutinise all EU documents, not just those subject to the reasoned opinion procedure, and we examine all aspects, not just subsidiarity. Therefore, if your committee is concerned about subsidiarity, or any other matter, in relation to any EU proposal, it is welcome to let us know.

I look forward to see you at the next EC-UK meeting in January.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John', with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the word.

The Rt Hon the Lord Roper
Chairman of the Select Committee on the European Union