



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

8 April 2019

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Kevin

Thank you and your co-signatories for your letter of 6 March, in relation to reforming the UK's corporate liability regime for economic crime.

Tackling corruption and economic crime remains a priority for the Government and we continue to deliver against the strategic commitments set out in the five-year Anti-Corruption Strategy, published in December 2017. Under the Strategy, individual Government departments are responsible for implementing specific actions and these actions are tracked by the Joint Anti-Corruption Unit, overseen by the specially appointed Anti-Corruption Champion and an Inter-Ministerial Group.

The first official update on the progress of our Anti-Corruption Strategy commitments was published in December 2018. As well as the creation of a new ministerial role of Security and Economic Crime Minister, an Economic Crime Strategic Board Taskforce has been established to drive the response to economic crime, agree strategic priorities and scrutinise overall performance and impact against it. The Taskforce, jointly chaired by the Home Secretary and the Chancellor, will work with senior figures from the UK financial, accountancy, property and legal sectors to tackle economic crime. It met for the first time in January this year and agreed to develop a jointly owned public-private plan for tackling economic crime before it next meets in July.

Also, the new Economic Crime Delivery Board, chaired by the Permanent Secretary at the Home Office and the Second Permanent Secretary to HM Treasury, aims to tackle economic crime. This Board meets regularly and has overseen delivery of the Government's response to its Call for Evidence on Corporate Economic Crime. The Call for Evidence was issued following concerns that the existing law might not be fit for purpose and sought to establish whether further reform of the law is necessary. This is a complex area of the law, attracting diverse views which have needed careful consideration. This has meant that the Government response has taken longer than expected to issue.

However, I can confirm that the response will be published soon and will set out the Government's position and proposed next steps on corporate criminal liability.

Yours ever
Kevin

Mr Kevin Hollinrake MP