

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Row
London
SW1A 2HQ



8 June 2022

Dear Chancellor,

We are pleased to share with you a copy of our cross-party Economic Crime Manifesto, please find an electronic copy attached. A hard copy should previously have been sent to your Parliamentary office.

For too long, the UK has been the destination of choice for the world's crooks or kleptocrats to launder their dirty money. The National Crime Agency conservatively estimates that money laundering costs us £100 billion a year while fraud is estimated to cost us a further £190 billion annually – that's a total of £290 billion that damages our economy every 12 months. These figures demonstrate the sheer scale of the problem that economic crimes pose to businesses, to our national security, and to our constituents.

We welcome the announcement in the recent Queen's Speech of a new Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill. However, we are concerned that the provisions in this legislation may not go nearly far enough to properly tackle the vast scale of the UK's dirty money problem.

Our cross-party manifesto, produced by the APPG on Fair Business Banking and the APPG on Anti-Corruption & Responsible Tax, lays out a set of pragmatic policy recommendations that must be included in the bill. These reforms, which are supported across the political spectrum in Parliament, would bolster our defences against dirty money. Our manifesto includes recommendations based on four principles for reform:

- **Transparency** - Identify who really owns companies, trusts & assets so that law enforcement, journalists, civil society & more can readily follow the money.
- **Enforcement** - Toughen up policing agencies with enough resource to consistently enforce existing laws & deter wrongdoing.
- **Accountability** - Empower Parliament, journalists, civil society, the courts & whistleblowers to unearth criminality & hold Government to account.
- **Regulation** - Strengthen supervision of the professions so that the enablers of economic crime answer for their actions.

The reforms set out in our manifesto will reinforce Britain's reputation for integrity and make us the new home of clean finance. They will support an international "race to the top", whereby smarter regulation will ensure the long-term, sustainable prosperity of our financial and professional services sectors without negatively impacting upon businesses. By grasping this unique opportunity for global leadership, the Government can ensure that we fulfil our promises to the Ukrainian people and set an example for our global partners. Driving out dirty money is good for business, good for Britain and good for the world.

With effective cross-party collaboration, we believe that we can support you to make the Government's Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill as effective and robust as possible. We would very much like to meet with you soon to discuss this matter – and our manifesto – further. We look forward to your swift response.

Best wishes,

Dame Margaret Hodge MP

APPG on Anti-Corruption & Responsible Tax

Kevin Hollinrake MP

APPG on Fair Business Banking