



House of Commons
London
SW1A 0PW

24th July 2018

WHITE PAPER ON LEGISLATING FOR THE WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to inform you that the Government has today published a White Paper on *Legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the United Kingdom and the European Union*.

The White Paper outlines the proposed content of the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Bill. This Bill is an essential part of our preparations for a smooth and orderly exit from the EU. It will implement the Withdrawal Agreement we reach with the EU in UK law, and will only be introduced once the negotiations have concluded and Parliament has approved the final deal. That deal will include both the Withdrawal Agreement and the framework for the UK's future relationship with the EU, on which the Government published its proposals on 12 July.

This White Paper on legislating for the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU sets out in detail how we plan to legislate for key parts of the Withdrawal Agreement. It covers only those parts of the Withdrawal Agreement that have already been agreed with the EU: citizens' rights, the financial settlement, and the time limited implementation period.

In particular, the Paper sets out how the Bill will be the primary means by which the rights of EU citizens will be protected in UK law. It also sets out how we will ensure that our statute book functions correctly during the time-limited implementation period, and how we will manage the payments to be made under the financial settlement.

We are making good progress in our negotiations with the EU, and discussions are still ongoing on some areas. The final content of the Bill will ultimately depend on the final terms of the Withdrawal Agreement.

Nevertheless, Government is committed to ensuring that there is proper parliamentary scrutiny of the UK's withdrawal from the EU. While the final provisions of the Bill will be dependent on the outcome of negotiations, which have not yet

concluded, I want to give Parliament the opportunity to consider key elements of the the Bill in advance of its formal introduction.

I am placing a copy of the White Paper in the libraries of both Houses and it is available on Gov.uk.

Kind Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dominic Raab". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and a long, sweeping tail on the 'A'.

**RT HON DOMINIC RAAB MP
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXITING THE EUROPEAN UNION**