



The Leader of the House of Lords

The Baroness Harris of Richmond DL
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

22nd February 2010

Dear Angela

During the recent debate on Lord Cope's oral question relating to cross border policing powers, you asked if hot pursuit would be on the agenda for the cross border meeting the following day.

I can now confirm that this matter was not on the agenda for the cross border meeting, primarily because there are no plans by the UK or Irish Governments to adopt Articles 40 and 41 of the Schengen Convention, which provide for cross border surveillance and hot pursuit by police from one state into another.

Having explained the position of the two Governments, it may provide some reassurance to know that, whilst Schengen was not discussed, the Cross Border Working Group did consider other issues relating to cross border co-operation between the two jurisdictions including possible ways to stream-line the process regarding the transfer of evidence between the two jurisdictions.

I hope this information is helpful.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jan Royall', written over a large, stylized flourish.

Jan Royall

House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW