



Home Office

RT Hon Baroness Neville Jones DCMG
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Lord Brett
House of Lords
London
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29 MAY 2010

Dear Lord Brett

IDENTITY DOCUMENTS BILL: GRAND COMMITTEE STAGE

You made reference [Col.786] at Report Stage of the Bill to questions you indicated you had raised during Grand Committee. My understanding from the debate and on subsequently reading Hansard is that you indicated that you would return to these matters at Report Stage. On that basis, I had not written to you and apologise for any confusion.

You raised two particular issues. You asked if the Government had consulted with the Government of Gibraltar on identity cards. I indicated at Report Stage that the Coalition Government had not. On the issue of Identity cards issued by other countries and accepted by the UK, the Free Movement Directive provides that all officially issued cards are considered valid for cross border travel. A list of European countries is attached at Annex A.

I have copied this letter to Lord Hunt, Lord Rosser, Lord Phillips and the Countess of Mar. I will also place a copy in the House library.

Yours Sincerely

PP RT HON BARONESS NEVILLE-JONES DCMG

ANNEX A - Identity Cards In Europe

Austria
Belgium
Bulgaria
Cyprus
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
Finland
France
Germany
Gibraltar
Greece
Hungary
Ireland – considering an “entitlement card” which could include a travel function
Italy
Liechtenstein*
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Malta
Netherlands
Norway*2011
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland*

* = Not in the EU, but within the Free Movement Area.