

Julia Lopez MP
Minister of State,
Department for Culture, Media and Sport,
1st Floor
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

8th February 2023

Request to meet: Unlocking UK-EU deadlock: time for action to get uk's creatives and touring professionals back on tour

Further to your reply to our letter dated of 23 rd December 2022, regarding the above we remain very concerned that the Government doesn't seem to be listening to the real voices of the UK's creatives and touring professionals.

The reality is that the post-Brexit requirements imposed on this vital part of the UK economy is not working and proving to be confusing, bureaucratic, timely and costly. We fear that there is little prospect of the situation easing or becoming less burdensome, with the introduction of the new European Travel Information and Authorisation System (ETIAS).

In your reply, you reference the UK's ambitious approach during the negotiations with the EU on this issue in the Trade and Co-operation Agreement (TCA). Surely, given the negative impact on the UK's creative economy and the reality that many creative and touring professionals are not able to get work, the specificities - and what was actually said by both the UK and EU regarding the need for an exemption to be made in the TCA for touring - should now be fully disclosed and made public? We very much hope that this will be forthcoming.

We were also mystified by your assertion that, 'officials have met with the Carry On Touring group previously'. The Carry On Touring campaign, who have done so much to support and advise those who rely on touring for their living have, in fact, never met any government officials to discuss the very real impact the current arrangements are making on the sector. As requested, in our earlier letter, we would request a Parliamentary delegation to discuss what's needed to unlock the current impasse and/or for you to attend a meeting with representatives and ambassadors of the Carry on Touring campaign.



We believe that Carry On Touring provide a unique insight which needs to be heard. We look forward to meeting you in person and having the opportunity to talk through this most urgent situation.

We will be in touch with your office to arrange this.

Lord Clement Jones

Baroness Bonham-Carter

Baroness Randerson

Rt Hon Ben Bradshaw MP

Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP

Earl of Clancarty

Jamie Stone MP

Kevin Brennan MP

Lord German

Lord McNally

Lord Strasburger

Tommy Shephard MP

Tony Lloyd MP

