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From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

The Hon W McKeeva Bush OBE JP MLA
Leader of Government Business
Government Administration Building
Grand Cayman
KY1 9000
Cayman Islands


10 June 2009

Dear Mr Bush

As part of the Constitutional Modernisation process the Cayman Islands Government made the following proposal:

“After the present modernisation process has been completed, further changes to the Constitution should not be made without the authorisation of a referendum, unless the change is declared by the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition to be minor or uncontroversial, in which case a resolution of Parliament would be sufficient. The UK Government should be invited to agree that it would honour this referendum requirement.”

In general the United Kingdom Government approves the idea that substantial constitutional changes should be supported by the people of the Cayman Islands in a referendum. Accordingly, the United Kingdom Government would normally use its best endeavours to honour this referendum requirement. However, there may be exceptional circumstances where it would not be possible or appropriate to do so, and for that reason the United Kingdom Government must reserve its position on this matter.

Yours sincerely


CHRIS BRYANT