



All-Party Parliamentary Loan Charge Group

www.loanchargeappg.co.uk

Rt. Hon. Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 1AA

4th September 2019

Dear Boris,

URGENT – Loan Charge Review

We are writing on behalf of the All-Party Parliamentary Loan Charge Group.

We welcome your announcement today that you will launch a review of the Loan Charge, following your commitment on 29th June at the Conservative hustings in Carlisle to an independent review and your signing of the letter in March from Conservative MPs to the previous Chancellor, Phillip Hammond, calling for a delay to the Loan Charge and an independent review.

We note that in your response to Ross Thomson's question today at PMQs, that you did not clarify that the review was to be independent, as you had previously stated it should be.

So we are asking you to clarify this as soon as possible. Any review must be independent of HMRC and the Treasury, otherwise it will not fulfil your commitment, nor will it be a genuine review.

We also have a number of important related issues and questions to put to you about the review.

Most important is that the Government should now announce, alongside the review, that the Loan Charge, all associated settlements and any APNs will be suspended. The suspension must be until the independent review has reported and its recommendations have been enacted by the Government.

We are sure you would agree that it would be quite wrong (and legally questionable) for HMRC to seek to continue settlement discussions now that is known that the Loan Charge is to be reviewed. HMRC are keen to say that these are "voluntary" settlements. As such, HMRC must

Chair: Sir Edward Davey MP Vice-Chairs: Ruth Cadbury MP, Ross Thomson MP, Baroness Kramer, Liz Twist MP

Office of Sir Ed Davey, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
contact@loanchargeappg.co.uk

not seek to force people to settle on the basis that if they do not they will have to pay the Loan Charge, when this is now something that may change due to the outcome of the review.

So we urge you now to tell the Chancellor that an announcement must be made that settlements and all APNs related to loan schemes subject to the Loan Charge are suspended, pending the review.

Can you also confirm that this review of the Loan Charge will consider all potential outcomes, including changing the Loan Charge and scrapping it?

Could you tell us who you will ask to lead this review, and confirm they are independent of Treasury and HMRC?

Finally, we also draw your attention to the letter sent to you today on behalf of the families who have tragically lost loved ones due to them taking their own lives facing the Loan Charge. Some of the family member were in Westminster today to support the calls for the Government to suspend the Loan Charge. We urge you to read it.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Ed Davey
Chair



Ruth Cadbury
Vice Chair



Ross Thomson
Vice Chair

On behalf of the Loan Charge APPG

Chair: Sir Edward Davey MP Vice-Chairs: Ruth Cadbury MP, Ross Thomson MP, Baroness Kramer, Liz Twist MP

Office of Sir Ed Davey, House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA
contact@loanchargeappg.co.uk